Faculty Senate Meeting

Thursday, November 13, 2014

Library rooms 209 A&B

Dr. Lehr called the meeting to order at 3:30 and thanked the College of Education and Human Services for the snacks. He reminded Senators to furnish written reports to their colleagues with a copy to the Senate secretary, and he asked them to initial or sign an attendance sheet that was making the rounds.

The following members were present:

Dr. Ayse Balas	Mr. Jeff Halliday	Dr. Ken Perkins
Dr. Stephanie Buchert	Dr. David Hardin	Dr. Jeannine Perry
Dr. David Buckalew	Ms. Amanda McLellan	Dr. Tim Pierson
Dr. Phil Cantrell	Dr. David Lehr	Dr. Sarah Porter
Dr. Mary Carver	Dr. David Magill	Dr. Chris Register
Dr. Audrey Church	Dr. Brett Martz	Dr. Sean Ruday
Dr. Kevin Doyle	Dr. Sara Miller	Dr. Mary Stebbins
Ms. Hannah Fielder	Dr. Jake Milne	Dr. Chris Swanson
Dr. Jackie Hall	Dr. Claire Mowling	Dr. Larissa Tracy

Not attending were Dr. Jennifer Apperson, Dr. Paul Barrett, Dr. Paul Chapman, Mr. Ken Copeland, Ms. Cynthia Crews, Dr. Alix Fink, Dr. Susan Lynch, Dr. Kelly Nelson, Ms. Suzy Palmer, Dr. Leah Shilling-Traina. Also present were Dr. Bill Abrams, Ms. Joanna Baker, Ms. Lori Blackwood (Space and Real Property Manager), Mr. Thomas Frisbie-Fulton (Campus Architect and Director of Campus Planning and Development Department), Mr. Jerry Jerome (Facilities Planner), Ms. Virginia Kinman, Dr. Jo Morrison (faculty representative to the University Master Plan Steering Committee), and Ms. Sharon Perutelli.

The minutes for the Senate meeting on October 9 were approved as posted.

For EPC Dr. Abrams moved the approval of revised language for the policy dealing with repeated courses to read:

Students are allowed five course repeats for which the original grade is excluded and the most recent grade earned, even if it is lower, will be included on GPA calculation. This means you can retake the same course five times, or retake five different courses, or any other combination.

Starting with the sixth repeat, both the original and the new grade will be included in grade point average calculations, but only the second enrollment will count in earned hours.

Only course work taken at Longwood University can be used in the repeat grade calculation. Transfer credits do not replace an earned grade. The repeat policy does not apply to courses which have an alternate repeat policy stated in the course description. Retaking a class can extend the time it takes for a student to graduate. Students do not earn additional cumulative credit (and may lose cumulative credit) when they retake a course which can affect athletic eligibility.

All enrollments and grades appear on the transcripts regardless of repeat status. Grades for repeated courses after the fifth repeat are designated on the transcript with an 'A(verage)' in the repeat column of the transcript, to signify the grade is calculated in the grade point average. Prior to Fall 2011 repeated courses were designated by an "R" e.g. RA, RB, RC, RD and RF.

The motion passed.

Dr. Lehr invited Mr. Jerome to introduce the people who were present for the discussion of the Master Plan development. Mr. Frisbie-Fulton explained that they were still in the data-collection phase and wanted feedback about research program requirements and other academic needs, housing, recreation, campus infrastructure (transportation, roads, safety, etc.) and wanted to be sensitive to cultural history, integration with the community. Athletics is one of the tree top priorities in developing the plan. There must be a business plan to support these needs. Particularly the committee wants to know how best to get feedback and recommendations from faculty. One suggestion was attendance at department meetings. Emails to Masterplan@longwood.edu are appropriate ways to provide feedback.

Faculty responded with a variety of questions and needs—office and classroom space, a 500-seat auditorium/performance space, consideration of hybrid and online learning, team-based classrooms, and there was also concern for preserving the natural beauty of the campus.

Dr. Lehr reported for the CAS dean search committee that more applications were coming in and that there were applicants who looked strong. The committee will refine the list after exams.

Dr. Lehr asked faculty to relay to their constituencies that Petra Visscher is looking for faculty interested in expanding the study abroad opportunities to a full semester woven into the curriculum. If interested, please volunteer.

Dr. Milne reported on the recent meeting of the Faculty Senate of Virginia. Longwood fared better than its sister institutions in the recent budget cut, suffering a 2 ½ % cut while others were cut 5%. A number of institutions seem to be experiencing tension between faculty and administration. Virginia Community College enrollments are declining, which raises issues for the four-year institutions to which many of those students transfer. Salary issues are on everybody's minds. Other public colleges are grappling with Title IX issues and are having as difficult a time as Longwood is. JMU, however, has tasked a faculty committee dealing with Title IX issues with working on policy.

There are two bills before the legislature which the Faculty Senate of Virginia is supporting, and institutions are asked to consider supporting them as well. The first would establish a 50 % tuition waiver for children of full-time faculty for any public college in Virginia. The second deals with the need for regulation of for-profit universities which at present have little oversight.

Under new business, Dr. Pierson reported on a recent meeting hosted by the attorney general on Title IX. One of the big challenges is the definition of consent. There has been a definite uptick in reported cases this year, 47 to date at Longwood.

Dr. Tracy announced a graduate student research symposium tomorrow, and Ms. Baker announced the CCCAS undergraduate showcase scheduled for Friday, Nov. 21.

Dr. Buckalew cited the recent article in the RTD about JLARK's findings about soaring college costs. Faculty were concerned about the high priority given athletics in the development of the master plan (see above) and wondered whether that priority was feasible. JLARK is concerned about high student fees at Longwood to support athletics and other non-academic services and building construction. The possibility of a Senate resolution was mentioned.

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Susan May