Opening Faculty Meeting

August 22, 2014

9:00, Grand Dining Room, Dorrill Dining Hall

Dr. Lehr called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The minutes of the spring faculty meeting on March 27, 2014, were approved as posted.

Dr. Lehr called for nominations for the faculty representative to the Board of Visitors. Dr. Audrey Church was nominated. Dr. Abrams moved that nominations be closed. His motion was seconded and passed. Dr. Church was elected by acclamation.

Dr. Lisa Kinzer reported for the Faculty Status and Grievances Committee. The committee heard three cases this year. Members for the coming year are Ruth Meese, Steven Isaac, Bill Abrams, Michelle Parry, and Lisa Kinzer, chair. Alternates are Derek Taylor, Rhonda Brock-Servais, Craig Challender, and Chris Register.

Dr. Lehr recognized Dr. Emerson-Stonnell who reported for the Core Curriculum Committee. She explained that the "white paper" posted on the Senate web page was a summary of the preliminary work the committee did last year. This year the committee will focus on the goals of general education and learning outcomes. There will be five opportunities for faculty to share their ideas with the committee about characteristics all students should possess by their graduation and other ideas. The first is this Tuesday in the Nance Room at 3:30. There will also be four lunch meetings—September 3, 4, 8, and 9.

Dr. Lehr introduced President Reveley who welcomed new faculty. He mentioned the honor the Board of Visitors bestowed on Dr. Jordan and announced that Dr. Jordan will be the convocation speaker. He talked about the health of the University as indicated by flow of students, the increase in applications of both in-state and out-of-state students, his commitment to a third round of raises this fall, the opportunity Longwood has to lead in the revision of general education to suit the needs of the 21st century, and the importance of philanthropy to the institution. He suggested that the faculty could help in shaping the academic priorities that would guide fundraising efforts.

President Reveley announced that Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Ken Perkins would be stepping down from that office at the end of this academic year despite his own pleas for Dr. Perkins to stay on. Dr. Perkins has spent 8 years in cabinet-level positions and is eager to return to the classroom and to help with academic fundraising. President Reveley is asking Dr. Lehr to serve as chair of a search committee undertaking a national search.

Dr. Lehr introduced Dr. Perkins who talked about the importance of rigor in the classroom and what that meant to grateful students looking back on their college experience. He thanked Drs. Fergeson and Lehr for their service to the Faculty Senate and emphasized the good working relationship between his office and the Senate and especially the Executive Committee.

Dr. Lehr called on Dr. Alvarez who talked about the Big South initiative to encourage student research. She explained that during the semester the faculty would learn more about the opportunities for students to present work at a symposium.

Ms. Palmer reminded faculty that library access after 9:00 p.m. would require swiping their ID cards.

Dr. Tracy announced a Junior Faculty Teacher-Scholars program to support teaching and research at Longwood. There will be an information meeting on Thursday, August 28 at 5:00 in the Library atrium.

Susan May