## Faculty Senate Meeting Thursday, August 31, 2023, 3:30pm

Andrew Yeagley called the meeting to order at 3:31pm. The following members were present:

- Ms. Kayla Adcock Dr. Bale Beach Dr. Lee Bidwell Dr. Chris Bjornsen Dr. Robert Blaisdell Dr. Roger Byrne Dr. Darrell Carpenter Dr. Karla Collins Ms. Meredith Foster Dr. Scott Grether Dr. Scott Grether Dr. Kari Hampton Dr. Eric Hodges Dr. Alec Hosterman Ms. Ashley Long, Recorder
- Dr. Jennifer Hutchinson Dr. Tai Johnson Dr. Roland Karnatz Dr. Chris Kukk Claire LaRoche, J.D. Dr. Jeff Ledford Dr. Dina Leech Dr. Heather Lettner-Rust Dr. Evan Long Dr. Angela McDonald Mr. Adam Paulek Dr. Jeannine Perry Ms. Sarah Reynolds
- Ms. Annette Rosado-Figueroa Dr. Brent Roberts Dr. Larissa Smith Dr. Toni Sorrell Dr. Bruce Speas Dr. Dorothy Suskind Dr. Sarah Tanner-Anderson Dr. Wendy Thompson Dr. Ronda Walker Dr. Haley Woznyj Dr. Andrew Yeagley

Also present were –

Ms. Susan Hines, Ms. Jennifer Beach, Ms. Dana Slater, Ms. Ashley Leslie, Mr. Josh Blakely, Mr. RJ Magee, Dr. Audrey Church, Mr. Jacob Holloway, Dr. Bill Abrams, Dr. Adam Franssen

The minutes from the April 20, 2023 Faculty Senate meetings were approved as submitted.

Dr. Adam Franssen and Ms. Ashley Leslie gave a report on the use of AI in the classroom. Ashley began the presentation by overviewing the various forms of AI while Adam demonstrated ChatGPT. Faculty are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the technology and think about how it might benefit specific departments. At the end of the presentation, a <u>handout</u> was distributed listing the upcoming workshops provided by CAFE and DEC to assist faculty as they learn more about AI and how it fits into the classroom.

Andrew Yeagley asked for Senate approval of <u>2023-24 Senate Committee assignments and appointments</u>. Approval was given via acclamation.

Dr. Sarah Tanner-Anderson reviewed the <u>EPC Report</u> – There were 2 action items to be voted on – both items passed.

(Please log into Curriculog to view each link below)

- 1. <u>Academic Suspension</u> (change in academic policy)
- 2. <u>Admission for Homeschooled Applicants</u> (change in academic policy)

Discussion Item -Introduction of ad-hoc "professional" faculty committee

Andrew explained that the creation of the ad-hoc committee will give the committee a chance to take a better look into the development of a practitioner rank in non-Tenure-track faculty. He explained that having this new rank would give the ability to hire qualified full-time faculty in certain disciplines. Hiring in some of these areas has been difficult, due to lack of faculty with the terminal degree. The new rank would allow qualified candidates who don't possess a terminal degree but do bring substantial professional experience to a continuing, non-tenure-track role. This role could benefit areas in all three academic colleges where hiring a qualified candidate with a terminal degree has been challenging, but whose industry or professional experience would allow for up-to-date and practical disciplinary knowledge in the classroom as well as the opportunity for students to engage with those professional experiences sooner or more often. This option for more flexibility in non-tenure-track roles reflects the most direct path to such a rank. After a lengthy discussion between members addressing the pros and cons of this new position, Andrew closed the discussion by encouraging members to email him with their opinions and/or interest in serving on the committee. He requested that emails be received no later than September 28<sup>th</sup> Decisions about the ad-hoc committee will be forthcoming after emails are received, reviewed and discussed by Senate Exec.

Under Announcements -

The Faculty Bookplate Ceremony honoring 2023 promoted and/or tenured faculty and emeriti faculty will be held in the Greenwood Library Atrium immediately following Senate. Refreshments and beverages will be served, and the chosen books will be on display.

<u>Virginia Children's Book Festival</u> scheduled for October 11-13 is in its 10<sup>th</sup> year with a robust lineup of authors for this year. If faculty would like to volunteer for the event, please reach out to Brent Roberts (robertsbs@longwood.edu)

Dr. Smith announced that in light of the recent incident at UNC, Code Red training is available to academic departments. Faculty can contact Tracie Giles, Emergency Management Coordinator, to schedule that training. The Campus Threat Assessment Team has completed state-wide training and meet regularly to review threatening behavior submissions by faculty/staff.

CBE Dean Search Committee Members are Brent Roberts as chair, Meg Meng, Haley Woznyj and Darrell Carpenter.

Convocation is Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> in the Joan Perry Brock Center. Faculty are asked to RSVP and will lineup in Willett Hall to process.

In response to the "book shortage" that some faculty members are experiencing, Andrew announced that the bookstore is not purchasing as many books as there are students. Students are purchasing books from Amazon and other places instead of the bookstore which has made it difficult for them to predict numbers. In turn, the bookstore is not able to return those books which drives up the price per textbook. If faculty members have concerns with their specific classes, please email Brian Adler, General Manager of the Bookstore (adlersl@longwood.edu) for assistance.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:16pm.

Respectfully submitted, Ashley Long