

Spring General Faculty Meeting
Thursday, March 26, 2015
3:30 p.m., Wygal 204

Dr. Lehr called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. The minutes of the opening faculty meeting of August 22, 2014, were approved as posted.

Dr. Lehr called for nominations for a representative to the Faculty Senate of Virginia. Dr. Sarah Porter nominated Dr. Jake Milne. The nomination was seconded. There was a motion to close nominations and Dr. Milne was elected by acclamation.

Dr. Lehr called on Dr. Sharon Emerson-Stonnell to give an update on the Academic Core Curriculum Committee. She recognized all committee members in attendance and expressed gratitude for their work. She provided a power point presentation that outlined the guiding principles and timeline for implementation. Five members of the committee are expected to attend the AACU Institute on General Education and Assessment during summer 2015. In the 2015-16 academic year, faculty will begin course creations to be reviewed by the committee. By summer 2016, course development will begin and adoption of programs and courses by EPC is expected in 2016-2017. Implementation of new general education is expected in academic year 2017-2018.

Dr. Lehr called on Dr. Abrams to present the AAUP salary study. He stated that continuing faculty had a mean increase of 3.08% this year but the overall faculty salary actually decreased by .6% this year. Longwood had a 4.2% increase in faculty this year. Compared to other state schools, Longwood continues to rank at the bottom in average salary. The Governor has approved a 2% salary increase effective August 2015. The complete annual salary survey can be viewed on the senate web site at http://www.longwood.edu/assets/senate/SalaryStudy_2014-15.pdf and http://www.longwood.edu/assets/senate/Salary_Summary_2014.pdf

Dr. Lehr summarized the work of the Senate for this academic year noting the many course and program changes from EPC and recognizing Dr. Bill Abrams for his service as Chair to EPC. He also noted:

- Senate's role as a communication hub to colleagues in academic departments
- teamwork with the Academic Core Curriculum Committee in redesigning General Education
- support of language in course syllabi for mandatory reporting under Title IX Requirements

He then recognized senate members in attendance for their assistance and support.

Dr. Lehr welcomed remarks from Dr. Ken Perkins. He stated his appreciation of support from faculty over the years. He has picked out an office in the Advancement area and will be working with fund raising efforts. He looks forward to working with faculty to raise private funds. He has enjoyed working with Dr. Joan Neff, incoming Provost, and is excited about his working relationship with her.

Dr. Lehr invited remarks from President Reveley. President Reveley shared that he had recently examined SCHEV data, noting that most Virginia public institutions have experienced a loss of enrollment over the last two years. JMU is up 4.6%, due to increasing the size of the freshman class. Longwood is at the top with a 5.4% increase in enrollment over the last two years. Longwood also had a 7.8% increase in full-time faculty during this time period. Our freshman class has stayed the same size over the past two years and we are keeping sophomores and juniors proving high retention rates. He is working to close the gap on faculty salaries which remains a forefront issue for the Board of Visitors. He noted with concern the case of our missing student this semester and the untimely death of two other students this academic year. He recognized retiring faculty member, Dr. Bob Webber and also recognized Dr. Lehr for his work as chair of faculty senate. He then noted the successful conclusion of the search for a new provost with the hiring of Dr. Joan Neff and thanked Dr. Lehr for leading the search committee. In closing, he recognized the efforts of the Academic Core Curriculum Committee, stating that this is the way higher education processes should work – they are doing it right.

Dr. Lehr adjourned the meeting at 4:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Perutelli