

Original Version of Motion

MOTION: The Faculty Senate instructs the Executive Committee to invite President Penelope Kyle to appear before the Senate at the earliest possible date,* for the purpose of discussing unanswered questions raised by her most recent visit to the Senate and issues unresolved since her first visit this semester. Chief among these unresolved issues are the faculty's rapidly eroding trust in the administration, our grave concerns with the prevailing culture of leadership at Radford University, and the growing lack of confidence in our leaders.

*Debate on the motion can include discussion of when that would be—its next regular meeting of Oct. 8, or an earlier special meeting on, say, Sept. 29 or Oct. 1.

RATIONALE: Following the visit of President Kyle and Vice-President Pomerantz to the Senate on Sept. 17, the Senate passed, by a vote of 39-2, a motion condemning the manner in which the leaders of the New Student Programs office had been summarily terminated. That vote itself indicated, in no small part, the dissatisfaction of senators with the answers they had received from the President and Vice-President to the questions asked. The motion sought some appropriate response and redress from the administration and the Board of Visitors. The written apology from Dr. Pomerantz, delivered by email and briefly available on the RU homepage, typifies the inadequate responses and staggering lack of leadership emanating from President Kyle's office: it took Vice-President Pomerantz thirty years, by her own admission in that apology, to learn that an effective leader in an academic community does not treat honored and trusted professional colleagues as though they are criminals; yet this *mea culpa* is supposed to cancel any consequences for her own behavior, substitute for genuine accountability, and restore faith in both her leadership and that of the President. Since President Kyle's first meeting with the Senate this semester and her second meeting last week, there has been no increase in transparency concerning the policies that will guide the university in its present fiscal crisis. The Faculty Senate remains gravely concerned about the quality of the university's leadership and the judgment of its top administrators. We must responsibly represent faculty who are experiencing a deep crisis of mistrust in the institution's leaders. The purpose of this motion is, therefore, to extend an invitation to President Kyle to meet with the Faculty Senate to address the unanswered questions raised during her appearance at last week's meeting and to discuss—openly, honestly, and frankly—the crisis of trust in the present leadership of our University.

CO-SIGNERS:

Dr. Mary Atwell
Senator, Criminal Justice

Dr. Moira P. Baker
Senator at-Large, CHBS

Dr. Gwendolyn O. Brown

Senator, School of Communication

Dr. Paula Brush
Senator, Sociology

Dr. Patricia Easterling
Senator at-Large, CEHD

Dr. I-Ping Fu
Senator, Department of Foreign Languages

Dr. Reginald Shareef
Senator, Political Science

Dr. Rick Van Noy
Senator, English

After First Friendly Amendment

MOTION: The Faculty Senate instructs the Executive Committee to invite President Penelope Kyle to appear before the Senate at the earliest possible date,* for the purpose of discussing unanswered questions raised by her most recent visit to the Senate and issues unresolved since her first visit this semester. Chief among these unresolved issues are the faculty's rapidly eroding trust in the administration, our grave concerns with the prevailing culture of leadership at Radford University, and the growing lack of confidence in our leaders.

*Debate on the motion can include discussion of when that would be—its next regular meeting of Oct. 8, or an earlier special meeting on, say, Sept. 29 or Oct. 1.

RATIONALE: Following the visit of President Kyle and Vice-President Pomerantz to the Senate on Sept. 17, the Senate passed, by a vote of 39-2, a motion condemning the manner in which the leaders of the New Student Programs office had been summarily terminated. That vote itself indicated, in no small part, the dissatisfaction of senators with the answers they had received from the President and Vice-President to the questions asked. The motion sought some appropriate response and redress from the administration and the Board of Visitors. The written apology from Dr. Pomerantz, delivered by email and briefly available on the RU homepage, ~~typifies the inadequate responses and staggering lack of leadership emanating from President Kyle's office: it took Vice-President Pomerantz thirty years, by her own admission in that apology, to learn that an effective leader in an academic community does not treat honored and trusted professional colleagues as though they are criminals; yet this *mea culpa* is supposed to cancel any consequences for her own behavior, substitute for genuine accountability, and restore faith in both her leadership and that of the President~~ **cannot be considered to be the appropriate response called for by the Faculty Senate. It neither answered the questions nor addressed the issues raised by our colleagues. Moreover,** since President Kyle's first meeting with the Senate this semester and her second meeting last week, there has been no increase in transparency concerning the policies that will guide the university in its present fiscal crisis. The Faculty Senate remains gravely concerned about the quality of the university's leadership and the

judgment of its top administrators. We must responsibly represent faculty who are experiencing a deep crisis of mistrust in the institution's leaders. The purpose of this motion is, therefore, to extend an invitation to President Kyle to meet with the Faculty Senate to address the unanswered questions raised during her appearance at last week's meeting and to discuss—openly, honestly, and frankly—the crisis of trust in the present leadership of our University.

After Second Friendly Amendment

MOTION: The Faculty Senate instructs the Executive Committee to invite President Penelope Kyle to appear before the Senate at the earliest possible date, for the purpose of discussing unanswered questions raised by her most recent visit to the Senate and issues unresolved since her first visit this semester. Chief among these unresolved issues are the faculty's rapidly eroding trust in the administration, our grave concerns with the prevailing culture of leadership at Radford University, and the growing lack of confidence in our leaders.