

2011-2012 Faculty Senate Meeting
October 13, 2011
Heth Hall, Room 014

Members Present: Suzanne E. Ament, E. Kevin Ayers, Roann Barris, Steven Beach, Candice Benjes-Small, Robert Boross, Julia Castleberry, Timothy L. Channell, Joseph Chase, Farrell Doss, Lori Elis, Mary Ferrari, Jake Fox, Kim Gainer, Vince Hazleton, Rhett B. Herman, Katherine R. Hilden, Lucy Hochstein, Margaret Hrezo, Cathy Hudgins, Pamela A. Jackson, Laura E. Jacobsen, Abhay Kaushik, Jerry M. Kopf, Mary LaLone, Laura E. LaRue, Douglas Mitchell, Michael B. Moore, Richard A. Roth, Helen Roybark, Susan L. Schoppelrey, Bob Sheehy, Neil Sigmon, Lauren Smith, Andrea J. Stanaland, Lynne Taylor, Jonathan L. Tso, Edward Carter Turner, Erin L. Webster Garrett, Joseph I. Wirgau

Members Absent: Maggie Bassett, James E. Collier, Blas Hernandez, Basel Saleh, Michael Sinclair, Kenneth Smith

Guests: Dr. Sam Minner

I. Call to Order: 3:33pm

II. A motion was made from the floor to amend the posted agenda to add a report from Dr. Erin Webster Garrett on quality Enhancement Plan. The amendment to the agenda passed.

III. Reports

- a. Provost's report: Dr. Sam Minner's comments included:
 - i. RU is starting the search for the Dean of the Waldron College of Health and Human Services. Dr. Linville will return to the College as a faculty member.
 - ii. The dialog concerning the New College Institute (NCI) is ongoing. The idea that the NCI will be a branch of the RU campus is temporarily off the table due to fiscal issues. RU is one of three universities in the running for developing some of the degrees that the NCI would offer such as an Masters in Math Education, a Masters in Educational Technology and a BS in Elementary Education. The NIC is also interested in an EdD program, although RU does not offer that degree.
 - iii. RU needs a new academic building in order to get faculty and students out of the apartments in which some are now located. This is now his number one building priority for this campus.
 - iv. Dr. Minner, Dr. Roth and Dr. Kay K. Jordan will meet October 21 about changes to the Faculty Handbook.
 - v. He is working to get the new version of the Provost's website up and running soon. Items on this site will include things such as the minutes of the Academic Affairs Leadership Team (AALT) meetings.
 - vi. Dr. Ament asked about the progress of the new wellness center. Dr. Minner responded that he didn't know much about that since this is not an academic building and thus Academic Affairs is not involved in the planning/building process. From what he hears it is "on schedule."

- vii. Dr. Doss inquired about the recent directive from Governor McDonnell to submit to him models for various state agencies to absorb budget cuts. Dr. Minner responded that higher education is exempt from that for now.
- b. At this time the minutes from the September 29, 2011 Senate meeting were considered. The minutes from that meeting were approved as amended.
- c. Senate President's report: Dr. Roth's comments included:
 - i. Last year's motions for Faculty Handbook changes are not at the Board of Visitors as of now because of the changing of the Provost this past summer. These will hopefully be taken to the BOV at their upcoming meeting in November.
 - ii. Dr. Roth will be meeting with the Senate committee chairs before the November BOV meeting.
 - iii. Dr. Roth has invited President Kyle to attend an upcoming Senate meeting as her schedule permits.
 - iv. Dr. Roth invited anyone who would like to do so to come to the regular FSEC meeting on Mondays starting at 11:00 in Davis 027.
 - v. Dr. Roth met with Dr. Webster Garrett about the QEP and asked her to talk with the Senate today about their ongoing efforts.
- d. Committee Reports:
 - i. Campus Environment—Dr. Laura Jacobsen said that this committee discussed the Faculty Morale Survey and the COACHE survey. The CEC has recommended to the FSEC to invite Mr. Roy Saville, Director of Facilities Planning and Construction to a Senate meeting to discuss issues such as the new wellness center and accessibility issues. On Thursday November 10 and Friday November 11 from 3:30-5:00pm the CEC will hold campus-wide accessibility forums. The committee is working to assess campus attitudes towards the Core Curriculum and will invite Core Curriculum Director Dr. Steve Owen to a CEC meeting. They are working looking into the campus drinking culture.
 - ii. Curriculum—Dr. Hrezo gave senators a handout of her report. Points included: Dr. Lauren Smith (with backup from Dr. Webster Garrett and Dr. Hrezo) will be the CC member to serve on UCCRC; the job descriptions for the Core Coordinators await adoption by the BOV of the motions passed by the Faculty Senate in the spring of 2011; Dr. Webster Garrett will serve at liaison to CCAC; the committee met with Ms. Bethany Bodo and Dr. Steve Owen regarding Assessment and the Core Curriculum; the committee is continuing to explore the idea of a foreign language competency requirement for all RU students.
 - iii. Faculty Issues—Dr. Gainer's points included: the FIC is considering ideas for how additional RU funding might be apportioned with respect to faculty salaries; the committee is considering transparency issues in the faculty evaluation process (e.g. evaluations by students); the committee is exploring ideas related to family needs of faculty (e.g. tenure clock issues and families, etc.).
 - iv. Governance—Dr. Schoppelrey said this committee was exploring Faculty Grievance and Faculty Appeals committee issues. They are not yet to the point of making a recommendation about the curriculum path document.
 - v. Resource Allocation—Dr. Beach's points included: this committee is reviewing workload issues in the Colleges; they are looking at the RU 7-17 Plan to see if this committee could contribute to any priorities; they are requesting from the RU

Foundation a report of funds in and out for the past 5 years; Jake Fox will get information on compensation (stipends) for chairs and directors; they are looking into Core A costs and are working with Dr. Steve Owen on a cost-coding procedure; they are considering issues with the “133% rule” and believes it deserves further consideration.

- e. QEP Report: Dr. Webster Garrett’s comments included:
- i. The QEP website is online at <http://www.radford.edu/content/qep/home.html>. She gave a tour of the site to the Senate.
 - ii. The team is making sure that support for faculty development is the priority.
 - iii. The team is reading QEPs at other schools for ideas and comparisons.
 - iv. Two members of the team (Mr. Scott Dunn, Dr. Moira Baker) are currently at the AACU (Association of American Colleges and Universities) meeting.
 - v. The QEP writing team meets every Friday with alternating times of 9am-12noon and 2-5pm. These meetings are open to all.
 - vi. Dr. Ferrari asked if the QEP was “tied hard” to CORE 102 and CORE 202. Dr. Webster Garrett said it was not. Dr. Ferrari also asked if the QEP would “cement” the presence of the CORE classes. Dr. Webster Garrett said that even if the CORE classes disappear the QEP would still be present. Dr. Webster Garrett said that if CORE 202 does disappear then the service learning component would still be present in some other course.
 - vii. Dr. Wirgau asked how much lower the head counts could go in CORE 202. Dr. Webster Garrett said that 15 in these service learning CORE 202 sections is the optimal number of students. She said that the QEP team would have to make a case to the SACS accreditation team to allow for these lower-student-enrollment-numbers sections.
 - viii. Dr. Wirgau stated that he thought we were really the most underfunded school in the state instead of the most efficient in the state.
 - ix. Dr. Webster Garrett said that SACS requires a QEP with an initiative and that RU has to do something. SACS requires some number of students to have some common experience. The QEP team is working now to identify already-existing courses that fit this criterion.
 - x. Dr. Doss asked if SACS specified the percentage of students that must be enrolled in our Scholar Citizen initiative. Dr. Webster Garrett said that Valdosta State University (Georgia) is like us, but that SACS told Valdosta that the few hundred students they had enrolled in their initiative was “too few.” An exact percentage was not given.
 - xi. Dr. Kopf asked if funding from older initiatives could be rerouted to this initiative.
 - xii. Dr. Jackson asked if existing upper-level courses could for this initiative. Dr. Webster Garrett answered in the affirmative if they fulfilled the [initiative’s] criteria.
 - xiii. Dr. Kopf asked if the existing Honors program could be modified to handle this [initiative]? Dr. Webster Garrett answered in the affirmative.
 - xiv. Dr. Hrezo asked if service learning was the QEP focus? Dr. Webster Garrett said that service learning was only one part of the QEP.
 - xv. Dr. Chase expressed his concern that RU’s Faculty handbook and SCHEV measure productivity differently. He said that if RU drops a class size from 20 to 15 per section then “we will get hammered by SCHEV.” Dr. Webster Garrett said that the QEP team is asking for 11 backfill positions to try to allow for this.

- xvi. Dr. Hazelton said that adding 11 faculty will lead to SCHEV expecting a corresponding increase in RU's credit hour production.
- xvii. Dr. Beach said that if we push QEP into upper level classes then we would have to make it up in introductory classes.
- xviii. Dr. Barris said that she teaches one small CORE class, one regular small class and one class of greater than 100 students. That makes her productivity numbers balance.
- xix. Dr. Chase said that some faculty have one class that is a massive lecture. No matter what, somewhere on campus someone will have to make up for those low-enrollment CORE sections. SCHEV says that if we have more credit hour production we get more faculty. However if we have less credit hour production then we get fewer faculty.

IV. Old Business

- a. None.

V. New Business

- a. None.

VI. Announcements

- a. None.

VII. Adjournment: 4:36pm