

2011-2012 Faculty Senate Meeting
November 3, 2011
Heth Hall, Room 014

Members Present: Suzanne E. Ament, E. Kevin Ayers, Roann Barris, Maggie Bassett, Robert Boross, Joseph Chase, James E. Collier, Farrell Doss, Lori Elis, Mary Ferrari, Jake Fox, Kim Gainer, Vince Hazleton, Rhett B. Herman, Blas Hernandez, 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, Teresa O'Bannon, Richard A. Roth, Helen Roybark, Basel Saleh, Susan L. Schoppelrey, Bob Sheehy, Dr. Neil Sigmon, Lauren Smith, Kenneth Smith, Andrea J. Stanaland, Lynne Taylor, Jonathan L. Tso, Edward Carter Turner, Erin L. Webster Garrett, Joseph I. Wirgau

Members Absent: Steven Beach, Candice Benjes-Small, Julia Castleberry, Timothy L. Channell, Kevin LoPresto, Douglas Mitchell, Michael B. Moore, Michael Sinclair

Guests: President Penelope W. Kyle, Mr. Roy Saville

I. Call to Order: 3:33pm

II. The minutes from the October 27, 2011 Senate meeting were approved as amended.

III. Reports

- a. Director of Facilities Planning and Construction: Mr. Roy Saville reported on the current plans for campus construction. His comments included:
 - i. The new building for the College of Business and Economics is on schedule to open in the fall of 2012. It has approximately 116,000 square feet and cost approximately \$40 million.
 - ii. The Moffett Hall renovation is ongoing.
 - iii. The selection process is ongoing for the architectural and engineering firm (A/E firm) for the upcoming Washington Hall renovation.
 - iv. The Center for the Sciences is in the design phase. A Construction Manager (CM) has been hired. The "CM at risk" bidding process used in this is preferred over pure open bids. In this process the owner, A/E firm, builder and the CM are in a non-adversarial working relationship. This building will have 115,000 square feet, will cost approximately \$49 million, and will be located in the Curie Hall parking lot. It is schedule to be occupied in July of 2014.
 - v. Plans for the new fitness center re being negotiated with the Virginia Bureau of Capital Outlay Management (BCOM) for a balance of openness and fire code restrictions. The location is still undetermined. Five sites on the west side of campus are under consideration. If this is started in the spring of 2012 then it could be completed within 14 months after the start.
 - vi. The "6-year plan" submitted in the spring of 2011 lists future building plans by biennium. First biennium: Renovate Whitt, construction of a new academic building Phase I, and renovate Curie Hall. Second biennium: New academic building Phase II, Porterfield renovations, addition to Waldron Hall, and Bolling renovations. Third

- biennium: Renovate McConnell, renovate Pocahontas Hall, one new residence hall, and another new residence hall that is a “PPEA” (Public-Private Education and Infrastructure Act) process.
- vii. In a PPEA process a private developer first builds the building. Then RU leases it for a certain number of years. At the end of this lease time RU would then own the building. This is favorable since the private developer does not have to go through BCOM for its approvals.
 - viii. Mr. Saville emphasized that moneys for building projects are disbursed as the projects go along so long as the state is satisfied with the progress of the project.
 - ix. President Kyle said that faculty should give input up the chain about possible priorities if people do not agree with this list.
 - x. Dr. Jacobsen asked about the possibility of a parking garage though a PPEA plan. President Kyle answered that a parking garage at RU would have to charge perhaps \$150-\$250 per month in order to have it pay for itself. Virginia Tech is charging \$350 or \$450 per year to park in its deck, but it has three times the faculty and student population and thus could charge less per space. She feels that faculty and staff should have priority and that students should use the shuttle buses when they park in more remote lots. There is a lot at the Burlington building that’s available but almost always empty.
 - xi. Mr. Saville said that it would cost about \$22-\$25 thousand per space to build a parking garage. It’s actually cheaper to operate an academic building than it is to operate a parking deck.
 - xii. Dr. Kopf asked about whether state funds could be used for a parking deck. Mr. Saville responded that state law does not allow state funds to be used for parking. The state will not fund a parking building or land for parking.
 - xiii. Dr. Ament asked about audible traffic signals. President Kyle said she thought this was a good idea and that she would work on this idea.
 - xiv. Dr. Hochstein asked about parking spaces under a building. Mr. Saville responded that this was considered with the new COBE building but that it would have cost around \$2 million and would have only had 50 spaces.
 - xv. Dr. Fox asked if the RU shuttles are now running every 15 minutes. Mr. Saville said that he was not sure, but it seemed like they were around a lot.
- b. Committee Reports:
- i. Campus Environment—Dr. Laura Jacobsen reminded senators of the accessibility forums to be held November 10 and 11 in The Bonnie, 3:30-5:00pm. She asked everyone to remind their constituents of these forums.
 - ii. Curriculum—None.
 - iii. Faculty Issues—None.
 - iv. Governance—None.
 - v. Resource Allocation—None.
- c. RU President’s Report: Comments by President Kyle included:
- i. Funds for the COBE building and the new science building are in the current bond referendum.
 - ii. The group of public university presidents is trying to get the Governor to do and bond referendum in his term. Her #1 priority is a new academic building.
 - iii. RU’s own in-house 7-year plan became our current 6-year plan.

- iv. Current higher education legislation is “monumental.” It’s a sea change in the state for higher education, something akin to a “system plan” but not a system. In a system plan funding is set by Richmond but the university presidents would not be able to go to Richmond and advocate for their own universities. Smaller and non-research schools are not advantaged under this type of plan.
 - v. The governor wants an additional 100,000 new graduates eventually.
 - vi. The governor wants more money for retention and students to spend a shorter time in school. For example UVa has a 4th year to Masters program in place.
 - vii. President Kyle said that she will try hard to get RU funded to Base Budget Adequacy (BBA) levels. The state will try to get every school to its BBA.
 - viii. RU could do well in this funding with non-traditional students.
 - ix. President Kyle, Richard Alvarez and Lisa Ridpath have sat in on HEAC (Higher Education Advisory Committee) meeting to gather information. There seems to be a dividing line in the state institutions that breaks down along student numbers and number of degrees awarded. The line appears to be JMU and larger, and then RU and smaller. She pointed out that William and Mary was in this latter group with RU. These head counts are critical in the Governor’s goal of achieving those additional 100,000 degrees.
 - x. Dr. Roybark asked how the current state educational climate might affect RU this year in terms of the BBA? Lisa Ridpath responded that, based on in-state (94% of students) and out-of-state numbers RU should have 62% of its budget coming from the state. Currently RU is funded by the state for only 39% of its budget. Overall RU is at 92-94% of its total BBA funding. The bottom line is that RU has experienced a \$24 million drop in funding from the state (“general fund” funding) but has only recouped \$18 million of this through “non-general fund” sources (tuition and fees).
- d. At this time a motion was made from the floor to extend the adjournment time to 5:00. This motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.
 - e. Dr. Kopf asked if the state’s priority was to change that 39% general fund support to the state-recommended 60% for BBA? Ms. Ridpath answered that she did not know if that was the state’s priority.
 - f. Dr. Hazleton said that it was his experience that it was not good to wait around for the state to fix things. He asked if RU could recruit more out-of-state students. President Kyle said that RU’s recruiters are going through the “northeast corridor” because their in-state tuition and fees are higher than our out-of-state costs. She is seeking donations to fund faculty chairs and other items. She said that it would cost \$250 thousand to fund a Presidential Scholarship for one student. As for what makes a difference in where a student decides to attend college, she said that the “change-mind number” is about \$5,000 per year in aid for that student.

IV. Old Business

- a. None.

V. New Business

- a. None.

VI. Announcements

- a. None.

VII. Adjournment: 5:00pm