

Report of Faculty Senate Executive Council Meeting with President Kyle
Wednesday, September 2, 10:00am

The Faculty Senate Executive Council (FSEC) had a productive conversation with President Kyle, raising issues including:

- As a follow-up to conversations earlier in the summer, the FSEC inquired as to the status of a dedicated space for faculty to gather (e.g., a space similar to the former Faculty Club space in Heth where food and beverages could be available). President Kyle is working with Facilities Management to identify a space that is suitable, and indicated that an interim space may be located before a permanent space can be available.
- Pursuant to an e-mail detailing the University of North Carolina system's budget vis-à-vis administrative growth, members of the FSEC raised the question of how the Radford University administrative structure has grown relative to faculty numbers. President Kyle has requested data from Human Resources on historical trends on administrative positions and will share it with the FSEC when it is received.
- Pursuant to a request from the FSEC, the President agreed to prepare an updated organizational chart that can be posted online.
- The FSEC inquired about the status of the federal stimulus funds. President Kyle reported that the Commonwealth of Virginia has not submitted its request yet and as a result there were still some "unknowns" about precisely when the money would be received. President Kyle also reported that she and Richard Alvarez (Vice President for Finance and Administration) were planning to recommend that stimulus allocations follow the top several priorities identified by the University Planning and Budget Committee, this being contingent on forthcoming news regarding the impact of any state-mandated budget reversion.
- President Kyle encouraged the FSEC to work with Richard Alvarez to determine an answer to a question that was posed regarding how increases in general fund revenues received between 2005-2010 have been allocated.
- Members of the FSEC inquired as to whether it would be possible to meet with Rector Thomas Fraim of the Board of Visitors. President Kyle agreed that this would be appropriate and to communicate the invitation to Rector Fraim and to arrange a meeting time.
- The FSEC and President Kyle discussed internal governance. The FSEC and President Kyle agreed that it would be appropriate to develop a more current and updated web presence for internal governance. Institutionalizing this would be appropriate to consider in light of the University's webpage redesign. In the interim, the FSEC agreed to post materials pertaining to internal governance, including committee minutes and documents. Committees will be notified that these materials should be submitted to the Faculty Senate Secretary for posting.

In addition to the above items, the FSEC and President Kyle discussed the potential upcoming budget reversion, and the importance of ensuring that planning for the reversion is open, transparent, and well-communicated, as well as the importance of the university community being prepared to engage in careful planning when the final reversion number and processes are received.

Report of the Faculty Senate Executive Council Meeting with Provost Stanton
Friday, September 4, 2009, 9:00am

The Provost and the FSEC engaged in a collegial discussion of a number of issues, including:

- Preparedness issues pertaining to the novel H1N1 flu virus.
- An update on the Equipment Trust Fund. It appears that, for the time being, monies from the Equipment Trust Fund will remain available. Radford University's requests will go out on the coming Wednesday, and Provost Stanton reported that constituents have been consulted about the University's request. A total of \$1.6 million was requested, and it is expected that between \$1.1 and \$1.2 million will be funded.
- Following up on the topic of trends in administrative positions and the development of an organizational chart, as the FSEC had discussed with the President, the FSEC requested of Provost Stanton an academic affairs organizational chart and a description of the recent history of academic affairs administrative positions. Provost Stanton agreed to provide these materials to the FSEC.
- The FSEC and Provost revisited the issue of the academic affairs decision matrix, which had been discussed at a number of other meetings over the course of the summer. The matrix is not meant to change any element of internal governance, but rather to reflect current guidelines in a way that clarifies the constituencies that must be consulted pursuant to various types of decisions, while also providing for a means of recording a written record of all decisions (posted on the Provost's web site) and a means to allow constituencies to appeal decisions.
- The FSEC had an informative discussion of issues related to budget planning. The FSEC and Provost agreed that all academic affairs budget information should be shared openly. Recognizing that the impacts of a potential reversion, based on the amount, would have serious consequences for Radford University's budget, the FSEC and Provost agreed that the faculty must have a central role in collaborating in the planning of any actual budget reductions.

In addition to the above items, the FSEC and the Provost spoke about reversion planning, following the same theme that the FSEC discussed with President Kyle. These discussions included the potential upcoming budget reversion, and the importance of ensuring that planning for the reversion is open, transparent, and well-communicated, as well as the importance of the university community being prepared to engage in careful planning when the final reversion number and processes are received. Provost Stanton reported that at the Council of Deans meeting, he instructed Deans to talk to their Chairs and faculty to identify principles and/or priorities that should be protected in anticipation of planning for the anticipated budget reversion.

Faculty Senate Executive Council Meeting with Rector Fraim

Wednesday, September 9, 2009, 10:00am

The Faculty Senate Executive Council met with Rector Fraim to discuss a variety of issues, including an open conversation about faculty concerns from the prior academic year and budget issues currently facing the institution. The FSEC and the Rector found the discussions to be a useful means of sharing perspectives and opinions, and agreed that more regular communication would be beneficial and useful.