Radford University Faculty Senate
Committee Objectives
Academic Year 2008-2009

Introduction

The following committee objectives have been developed by the Faculty Senate Executive Council. Numbers corresponding to an objective do not indicate its importance or priority. All objectives should be considered important, and the committee should attempt to accomplish all objectives. Also, these objectives are not intended to be all-inclusive – any committee member, other Senators, and the Faculty Senate Executive Council (FSEC) may refer other issues to the committee for consideration and action. Feel free to form sub-committees as needed to address specific objectives more expeditiously.

Campus Environment Committee

1. Re-administer the Faculty Survey in the spring semester, and make a report of the results to the Faculty Senate with a comparison to 2001 and last year’s survey.

2. Provide a report to the Faculty Senate regarding current admission standards, student profiles, and current recruiting strategies.

3. Report to the Faculty Senate about existing policies regarding instructional space planning (cf. Building and Grounds Committee), the university’s Master Plan (cf. 7-17 Strategic Plan), and identify criteria to guide decisions for future planning purposes.

4. Liaise with the University Committee on Childcare regarding the implementation and results of the Childcare Survey, and report to the senate.

Curriculum Committee

1. Select one member to serve on the Undergraduate Catalog Curriculum Committee.

2. Identify and report to the Faculty Senate curriculum implications of RU's 7-17 Strategic Plan.

3. Review the proposals for the University Core A courses and make a recommendation to the Faculty Senate.

4. Review current process used for the approval and awarding of academic credit for Study Abroad courses and programs and report to the Senate any changes needed to enhance programs and student participation.

Faculty Issues Committee

1. Review and report to the Faculty Senate the results from the Faculty Workload Study.

2. Conduct a faculty survey about and recommend changes to the following sections of the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook:
   1. Faculty Evaluation, including the role of collegiality and other non-quantified criteria (§1.4.1);
   2. criteria and processes for promotion (§1.6) and tenure (§1.7);
3. Formulate a recommendation for the conduct of exit interviews of departing faculty by an appropriate academic office.

Governance Committee

1. Review and identify any needed modifications to the Faculty Senate Constitution and By-laws, including election processes, committee responsibilities, offices, etc.

2. Complete and report data pertaining to the annual evaluation of Deans.

3. In collaboration with the Provost, provide input to the revision of the university's Internal Governance policy and structure.


Resource Allocation Committee

1. Working with the Provost and the Vice President for Finance and Administration, review the academic goals of RU's 7-17 Strategic Plan and provide recommendations to the Faculty Senate regarding priorities.

2. Working with the University Planning and Budget Committee and the Vice President for Finance and Administration, review and report to the Faculty Senate RU's budget allocations across divisions and colleges for 2003-2008, including a five year trend comparison.

Other Information

Please notify the Faculty Senate President and Secretary of meeting times and rooms for each committee.

At each Senate meeting, the Chair of the committee will be asked to provide a brief report on its most recent meeting, including issues currently being addressed, pending action items, and motions that need Senate review and action. Committee chairs will meet with the FSEC near the end of each semester and provide an update on the committee’s current progress.

Please provide as much advance notice as possible to the Senate Secretary regarding motions, resolutions, etc., that you plan to introduce at a meeting. To submit a motion, please use the form posted on the Faculty Senate website. It is the responsibility of the committee chair to make a motion from the committee, and to remove it from the table when scheduled on the Senate Agenda.

If you have any questions regarding your committees, please let me know!

Steve Owen
ssowen@radford.edu
(540) 831-6786
307 Adams Street (next to the Bonnie), Office 6D
On Internal Governance at Radford University

Radford University has a strong commitment to collaborative governance among the constituencies of the University community. We believe in teamwork because the results are longer lasting and of higher quality than what one person can accomplish alone. There must be many leaders on a university campus, leaders who are visible, speak often to articulate both issues and values, stand publicly for what is important, and commit themselves to the overall welfare of the University community.

Through a collaborative governance process, individuals and the University can harmonize their goals and set a course for mutual achievement. The willingness to listen to all ideas, to respect competing concerns, to evaluate the merits of many alternatives, and to communicate helps build consensus.

A successful collaborative governance process enables the programs and services of the University to improve in an atmosphere of trust, respect, and open decision making among colleagues. It allows the University to address complex issues, to remain open to discovery, to adapt to changing needs.

(Source: Radford University Internal Governance System Document)