Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, October 2, 2012 4:00 PM
Court End Room, Larrick Student Center, MCV


Excused: Baechle, Gordon, Morgan, Reid

Absent: Cowles, Dodson, Fritton, Graham, Green, Groudreau, Hackney, Hammerersley, Hibben, Luzar, Kaplan, Marinello, McCracken, McGee, Nasim, Stewart, L, Wickham

Procedural Matters
• Meeting was convened at 4:00 pm by President D. Fauri
• Agenda was reviewed and accepted as presented
• Minutes of Meeting of Sept 4, 2012 Faculty Senate meeting were approved as presented

Information Items

Guest, Ed McLaughlin, new VCU Director of Athletics, spoke as an invited guest. He shared the goals of the athletic department including competition at a high level with integrity; emphasis on student athletes who can succeed academically and will be held to a high standard. Motto = “athletes will graduate and will behave”. A report about the department’s activities will be forthcoming in March, 2013. In response to question about possibilities of football program, intent is to take care of current athletic responsibilities before added new programs. D. Fauri complimented the Athletic Department on the advising they provide and noted that Marilyn Miller if the new FS representative to Intercollegiate Athletic Committee

J. Nicholson distributed a draft list of representatives to various committees and thanked everyone for taking on these responsibilities. All committee chairs are filled except for Academic Programs and Research. Senators were asked to talk with June who reminded senators that they could sit on more than one committee and asked them to speak with her regarding any committee responsibility or membership. We had an excellent response to the request for volunteers to serve as the FS representative on the university Substance Abuse Committee and all names were forwarded.

P. Cummins provided an update on the AAUP meeting with President Rao on Sept 29, 2012. AAUP continues to promote tenure, faculty senate, shared governance, academic freedom. President Rao iterated his strong support of AAUP. Our major AAUP event is working with Faculty Senate of Virginia to sponsor Advocacy Day in January, 2013.

D. Fauri reported on the Faculty Senate involvement with the Board of Visitors(BOV), the history of relationship between BOV and FS, and routine BOV processes. The immediate past president of the FS is the representative to the BOV while the current president serves as alternative. State law that prohibits faculty and students from voting at BOV. A good deal of BOV time relates to Budget and considerations of submitting a university budget in line with public funding; D. Fauri sits on the University Budget Advisory Committee meetings which are time intensive. We will need to consider a realistic plan for FS to be
involved in the budget process next year. L. Corey shared the BOV’s awareness that, given how faculty research money is less available, they may want to provide faculty recognition for grants submitted as well as grants funded.

D. Fauri asked for a Senator to volunteer to serve as Corresponding Secretary Spring semester when Marilyn Miller is on academic leave. M. Miller reviewed the duties of this position, including maintaining attendance rosters and absences, contacting deans for the selection of new senators and alternates, and attending leadership meetings.

**Action Item**

D. Fauri reviewed the procedure for the vote on the Virginia Commonwealth University Faculty Mediation and Grievance Procedure revision, noting that the required one month time period for discussion had occurred. V. Robnolt distributed the revised document, summarized the e-mail responses she received this past month about the recommended revisions, and shared some minor revisions had been made to the document. A friendly amendment was made and accepted to include the procedure for future revision of the document in the current revision. This procedural item had inadvertently been omitted from the revised document. Several senators commented positively about the revision and expressed gratitude to Robnolt and the committee for their work. A motion was made to accept the Virginia Commonwealth University Faculty Mediation and Grievance Procedure, October 2, 2012 revision; the motion passed by full consensus of the FS.

**Guest Speakers**

David Hanson, Vice President for Finance & Administration described the new budget process (mission based budgeting), provided a history of the need for and development of this type of budgeting, discussed the University Budget Advisory Committee, noted the type of information that could be found on this office’s website, and responded to questions about sequestration, loss of jobs, and a rainy day fund. The revised biennium budget included requests for additional money for faculty and staff, for Massey Cancer center, for innovative research and for financial aid.

Dr. Laura Moriarty, Vice Provost for Academic & Faculty Affairs, noted that SACS accreditation requirements now had 2 parts, 1 part for compliance requirements and the 2nd part for a Quality Enhancement Plan. Dr. Joseph Marolla, Vice Provost for Instruction and Student Success, highlighted important aspects of the plan: that universities should be improving themselves in some way; that the emphasis should be on student success and student learning outcomes; that the plan dovetails with QUEST; that we have until next December to implement the plan.

Dr. Beverly Warren introduced Dr. Wanda Mitchell, VCU’s first Vice President for Diversity & Equity who spoke briefly about the university community’s responsibility for building inclusive practices.

Dr. Beverly Warren reviewed the history of the current process to revise the Faculty Promotion and Tenure Policies and Procedures and presented a power point that outlined the recommended revisions to the document (available at www.provost.vcu.edu under “Announcements & Events. The report was well received. Faculty senators were referred to the Provost’s website for detailed information about the recommendations and were encouraged to attend one of the public hearings scheduled for October and November.

D. Fauri adjourned the meeting at 6:05.