Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, November 4, 2014, from 4-6 p.m. Student Commons Forum Room, MPC

Attendance: Present  Alcaine(EDU alt for YaoYing), Alford(ARTS), Alvarez(HAS), Andrews(BUS), Artello(WS), Bachmann(SOM), Bedell(StAff), Brookman(SOM), Brown(NUR), Carroll(SOM), Cates(UC), Chen(EDU), Colello(SOM), Crislip(HAS), Davis(VCU-L), Dragoeascu(SOM alt for Jones), Easley(ARTS), Falyar(AHP), Fauri(SWK), Freyer(ARTS), Ghaphery(VCU-L), Goerzig(WS), Honnold(HAS), Huang(PHA alt for Hylton-Gravatt), Israel(ARTS), Jallo(NUR), Kaziewicz(UC), LaRose(SOM), Lee(BUS), Lister(SOM), McCracken(ARTS alt for DeAngelis), McVoy(SOM), Nadpara(PHA alt for Morgan), Nicholson(HAS), O'Connell(SOM), Ottens(SOM), Patton(ARTS), Pellegrini(DEN alt for Octave), Purie(SOM), Rapchick (StAff), Rector(HAS), Rhodes(EDU), Robnault(EDU), Rodriguez(HAS), Sabik(SOM), Saladino(HAS), Secret(SWK), Seinfeld(SOM), Sims(HAS), Slough(BUS alt for Baranoff), South(HAS), Street(HAS), Totah(HAS), Vijayakumar(BUS alt for Smith), Wagner(AHP), Wayne(EGR), White(VCU-L)

Absent  Chestnut(HAS), Coble(DEN excused), Conlon(SWK), Dodson(SOM), Gannaway(SOM), Harrison(HAS), Hobgood(SOM), Marinello(SOM), Parsons(SOM), Ratliff(SOM), Shriar(WS), Smith(UC), Weaver(SOM), Wickham(SOM), Zhang(EGR)

Procedural Items: The meeting was called to order by President Nicholson; agenda was reviewed; minutes of September 30 Faculty Senate meeting were approved.

Report on Corporate Sponsored Research Exception: Vice-President for Research F. Macrina provided a written and oral report on the annual corporate sponsored research exceptions:
- 58 requests for exceptions between 5/09 and 10/14; 42 requests approved; 16 denied
- 11 requests for exceptions between 11/13 and 10/14; all approved; 4 for extension of confidentiality, 3 for delays in publication, 3 for incorporated publication delay, 1 for exclusion of collaboration agreement for marking-up of confidential material

Dr. Macrina noted that this process works well, in both spirit and procedure; exceptions were received well by all stakeholders.

The office of research has been rebranded and is now the Office of Research and Innovation to celebrate and acknowledge the innovative accomplishments of VCU researchers. Several new positions have supported the office, which has been actively engaged in promoting VCU innovation and been successful in influencing business decisions to locate in this area. Dr. Macrina distributed a list of several innovative initiatives during the past 4 years.

Great Place Initiative: Maike Philipsen, co-chair of the Great Place Initiative (GPI), reviewed a GPI Action Update handout that summarized the activities undertaken by the GPI to address the challenges and action items generated by GPI last year. Compensation, recognition, trust and communication were key challenges. (See power point presentation on Faculty Senate website for more information) Responses to senators’ questions:
- The project is ongoing but will spin-off new projects. There will be a new climate survey administered
- Assessment of the impact of the GPI will be based on a project by project assessment. For example, a survey is administered after the Faculty Club
- GPI will continue to communicate its activities and consider regular updates to faculty
- Individual units have dealt with the survey results in different ways; some are having unit meetings to deal with it; others are not. W. Mitchell, VP for Inclusive Excellence is spearheading the effort to have units address the concerns brought to light by the GPI

Faculty Senate representatives on the GPI are J. Pellegrini, H. Alford, and R. Hargraves who can be contacted for additional concerns or questions.

Senate Task Force Re-focusing Quest: H. Alford and M. Secret reported on the University’s Focus Quest initiative. We are at the midway point of the plan and it is time to take a close look at our accomplishments and the remaining goals and aspirations to ensure that the university is positioned to complete Quest in the strongest
position possible. Four representative groups of the university community (Faculty Senate, Council of Deans, Staff Senate, and the Student Government Association have been asked to review the Quest plans and make recommendations for the remaining priorities. Alford and Secret are co-chairing the Faculty Senate Focus Quest Task Group, have solicited volunteers to serve on the task force, and asked for additional volunteers, particularly from the MCV campus. This is a very quick turnaround task force (due date to Provost Office is Dec. 15) with much of the background information provided. The task force has three meetings scheduled in November and will present a draft of their recommendations at the Dec 2nd Faculty Senate meeting to get additional input prior to the final submission to the Provost Office.

**Senate Budget and Planning Committee:** D. Fauri presented the notes from the October 28 Faculty Senate Economic Status, Budget, and Planning Committee meeting (see attachment to these minutes) and commented that this committee is working well with the involvement of several faculty senators. Fauri commented on the University Budget Advisory Committee (UBAS) which was established as a venue for faculty overview and input into current university budget process. Another goal of the UBAC is to educate faculty about the process so that they are suitably informed as the University initiates a new budget model within the next 203 years. The New Budget model is a future-looking, revenue-driven model provides a positive outlook of how to diversify university revenues. There is both a university committee for policy input and a university task force for implementation details concerning the New Budget Model. D. Fauri represents the Faculty Senate on the UBAC and the New Budget model Committee. Budget issues should be reviewed at the January 27, 2015 Faculty Senate meeting.

**Faculty Senate of Virginia/Higher Education Advocacy Day:** B. Andrews reported that VCU hosts this event to advocate for issues on behalf of the faculty in Virginia universities and colleges. Advocacy Day is AAUP function. January 15, 2015 (flyer attached to minutes for detailed information) is the date for this all day event, but faculty senators can come and go during the day. There will be a pre-meeting for faculty senators to review the talking points for legislative meetings. Andrews noted that AAUP and VCU Faculty senate work together to identify the issues of focus for Advocacy Day; we are advocating for post-secondary education in the state and not lobbying or speaking on behalf of VCU budget request or other VCU specific issues. Faculty Senators were invited to accompany Andrews to a meeting of the VCU Faculty Senate in Williamsburg on Saturday Nov 8, 2014.

**Faculty Senate Alumni Relations and Community Outreach:** J. Alcaine reported on the recent VCU Alumni meeting that he attended. Items discussed at the meeting included: acknowledgement of MCV and VCU as a consolidated system and of VCU School of Dentistry; the 2015-2016 funding campaign is underway with plans to get to the next level of alumni giving; STAT (Students Today, Alumni Tomorrow, https://www.vcualumni.org/Join/STAT/) as an effort to ‘grow’ future alumni from current students.

**Update from Provost Office:** Interim Provost Wiencek is in Orlando FL to receive the 2014 C. Peter Magrath University Community Engagement Award for VCU’s Pharmacist Collaborative Care and Outreach in the Community program. The award is given by the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU) in recognition of outstanding community outreach and engagement partnership efforts by a four-year public university.

G. Campbell, Vice Provost for Learning Innovation & Student Success, reported on current activities relating to the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) which is linked with our Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) reaffirmation

- The QEP stretches over 10 years and is directly tied to student learning, learning outcomes
- the revised QEP which is a more focused and doable plan was submitted to SACS in July and we are awaiting reply
- A QEP task force, made up of representatives of all units, has been formed which will direct the QEP implementation; co-directors are Danielle Dick (Psychiatry) and Jeff South (Robertson School of Media and Culture)
- The Gen ED (general education) task force will evaluate work on QEP to answer the questions re: how did we get to the learning outcomes; how do we take advantage of new technology to provide an opportunity to make connections
- We will be doing re-design of Tier 2 curriculum
• We want to consider what we can do without thinking about what we can’t do when thinking of curriculum revisions
• Ways to avoid turf wars among different curricular units is for folks to take longer view on curriculum revision, not trying to solve all the problems of integrative thinking by offering courses, and locate the learning at the learner level rather than in response to the divisional/department requirements

President’s Report: President J. Nicholson thanked faculty senators for volunteering for sub-committees and university appointments. This increases the visibility and the impact of the Faculty Senate.

President Nicholson discussed the recent concerns and questions about the administrative bonuses and the follow-up from the September 30, 2014 Faculty Senate (FS) Meeting. As requested at the September meeting, the FS leadership group discussed the issue and sought additional information about the BOV decisions to grant the bonuses:
• The Board of Visitors (BOV) sets the salary level for top administrators with a model used at most universities; this is a corporate model and used as an incentive by the BOV to hold administrators accountable
• VCU is limited by state law about what it pays to presidents of public universities in the Commonwealth; recent bonuses approved by the BOV were part of the contract worked out several years ago based on various metrics; the administrators are paid full or a portion of the contract bonus depending on how well they met their metrics
• A substantial amount of money for the bonuses comes from the MCV foundation, not state money
• President Rao makes substantial gifts to the university and at least some of these gifts may become public
• The administrative intent is to increase salaries for all faculty; numerous conversations are underway about faculty compensation

Comments from the audience:
• FS needs to continue to discuss these issues about the budget and administrative raises so that all involved can be open and transparent
• If the bonuses were part of the contracts, and the contracts are a matter of public record, we should have not been surprised when the bonuses were awarded
• It does not seem quite fair that the faculty and staff who are also meeting their metrics did not get raises or bonuses
• While it is important for FS to be aware of and educated about budget issues, it is the responsibility of the administration and the BOV to be transparent about the decisions they make
• The university needs to do a better job of communicating with the press so that the details of budget issues are reported accurately
• The BOV needs to be aware of the damage that these administrative bonuses have done to faculty morale
• We need to know how the new budget model extends to the President and other administrators

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by
Mary Secret, PhD
Recording Secretary
November 16, 2014
Faculty Senate Economic Status, Budget, and Planning Committee Meeting

Introductions: Brian Daugherity, Humanities & Science, Vice Chair; Jennifer Wayne, Engineering, Julio Alvarez, Humanities & Science; Andrew Ottens, Medicine, June Nicholson, Ex Officio, David Fauri, Chair.

1. Special Guest Presenter: Pamela Curry, Associate Vice President for Budget Operations

Presentation: The Budgeting Process at VCU: Ms Curry presented an overview of the budgeting process at VCU, including current processes, the functioning of the University Budget Advisory Committee and the role of the New Budget Model Committee and the Task Force reporting to it in developing a new budget model for the university over a two to three year period. Matters regarding the relationship of the University to State Government were also addressed. Here is the link to JLARC material mentioned that was to be forwarded to the Committee.
http://jlarc.virginia.gov/meetings.shtml

The presentation was very useful, and the Committee appreciated the assistance of Pam Currey in informing it of current budget processes.

2. Discussion

1. How can the Faculty Senate Budget Committee be involved and contribute this year?

It was mentioned that Joslyn Bedell was serving on the Task Force and David Fauri on the Steering Committee for the New Budget Model planning process and could inform the Committee about progress as it occurred.

The Governor’s Budget proposal will become public about December 17 and made available to the Committee for review. Comments may be sent to the Faculty Senate Leadership Group for consideration for use in the January 2015 Faculty Senate meeting.

University Budget Advisory Committee (UBAC) will receive VCU Vice Presidents’ priorities proposals in January and information on this can be made available to the Committee. David Fauri serves on UBAC.

March will likely be the key legislative decision month this year for final budget decisions by the General Assembly.

2. Next meeting tentatively scheduled for Tuesday November 25, 4:00 PM.

It was determined that a meeting in November would not be held and that a later meeting, perhaps in January would prove more useful in preparation for the late January 2015 Faculty Senate meeting. The Chairperson indicated that meetings would be held to a minimum and that electronic means would be used whenever possible.

The Committee Membership, 2014-2015

Chair: David Fauri, Social Work/ dfauri@vcu.edu /
Vice Chair: Brian Daugherity, H&S/ bidaugherity@vcu.edu / 828-4498
Jennifer Wayne, Engineering/ jwayne@vcu.edu /828-2595
Joslyn Bedell, Student Affairs/ jbedell@vcu.edu /828-0649
Brent Smith, Business/ bsmith@vcu.edu / 828-7161
Christopher Wagner/ Allied Health/ ccwagner@vcu.edu / 363-7044
Julio C Alvarez, H&S/ jalvarez2@vcu.edu / 828-3521
Andrew Ottens, Medicine/ akottens@vcu.edu /628-2972
Higher Education Advocacy Day

January 15, 2015
Schedule of Activities

Feel free to contact the VCU organizers. Pat Cummins’ e-mail address is pcummins@vcu.edu, her cell phone is (804) 536-0429, and her home phone is (804) 893-3490. Bob Andrews’ e-mail address is randrews@vcu.edu and his cell phone is (804) 512-9681.

WHERE TO MEET. 730 E. Broad Street, 4th floor conference room across from elevator

WHERE TO PARK. Parking for VCU faculty is available in N deck. Other parking is readily available in public lots and at meters throughout downtown.

8:40 A.M. Coffee available in 4th floor conference room
(730 E. Broad Street – known as the Theater Row Building)

9:15 A.M. Welcome by VCU Faculty Senate President, AAUP President, and FSVA President (730 E. Broad Street – 4th floor conference room)

WHO?? Legislative updates

9:45 A.M. Distribution of promotional materials (730 E. Broad Street – 4th floor)

10:00 A.M. Visits to legislative offices Capitol complex – 2 blocks from 730 E. Broad

TBA Presentation of the AAUP Colonel Michael S. Harris Award

12:00 Noon Light lunch available (730 E. Broad Street – 4th floor conference room)

1:00 P.M. Visits to legislative offices

4:30 P.M. End of visits

Information on legislative offices to visit will be available when you arrive. All faculty are welcome. If possible, confirm your participation plans with pcummins@vcu.edu and Brian Turner bturner@rmc.edu to help us plan better for visits and food.