

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2022, @ 2:30pm

Pamplin 1045 or Via Zoom

Check-In

Senators Present: Montasir Abbas, Diane Agud, Abiola Akanmu, Susan Anderson, Richard Ashley, Paul Avey, Joseph Baker, Arthur Ball, Azziza Bankole, Anna Ward Bartlett, Andrew Binks, Hilary Bryon, Scott Case, Guopeng Cheng, Joshua Clemons, Benjamin Corl, Ashley Dayer, Stuart Feigenbaum, Zhuo Fu, Becky Funk, Scott Gartner, Wesley Gwaltney, James Hawdon, David Hicks, Daniel Hindman, Ran Jin, Brett Jones, Eric Kaufman, Nathan King, Bradley Klein, Vivica Kraak, Leigh Anne Krometis, Evan Lavender-Smith, Justin Lemkul, Jonathan Maher, Jason Malone, Frances McCarty, Rachel Miles, Aaron Noble, Thomas O'Donnell, Robin Panneton, Bruce Pencek, Christopher Pierce, Thomas Pingel, Nicole Pitterson, Robin Queen, Susanna Rinehart, Nicholas Robbins, Thomas Sanchez, Richard Shryock, Cornel Sultan, Steve Thompson, James Tokuhisa, Diego Troya, Kwok Tsui, Layne Watson, Angelica Witcher, Cynthia Wood, Hehuang Xie, Yan Xu (60)

Guest: April Myers (1)

(55 attended via Zoom, 6 attended in person)

Call to Order by Senate Vice President at 2:35 pm

Resolutions with Faculty Senate: N/A

- **CSA 2021-22A:** Resolution to Establish Virginia Tech as a Sanctuary Campus and Expand Protections for Undocumented Students, received: 04/26/22, **due: 05/25/22**, 1st review: 05/06/22, 2nd review: N/A.
- **CSA 2021-22B:** Resolution to Expand Protections for International Students and Establish a Bridge Fund, received: 04/26/22, **due: 05/25/22**, 1st review: 05/06/22, 2nd review: N/A.
- **CSA 2021-22C:** Resolution to Make Student Services More Readily Available for Graduate Students During the Semester and Summer, received: 04/26/22, **due: 05/25/22**, 1st review: 05/06/22, 2nd review: N/A.
- **CSA 2021-22D:** Resolution for Secure Equitable Funding for Cook Counseling, received: 04/26/22, **due: 05/25/22**, 1st review: 05/06/22, 2nd review: N/A.

1. Consent Agenda (Robin Queen)

- Consent agenda included the following items and was adopted:
 - Minutes for April 22, 2022 ([Link](#))
 - Agenda for May 06, 2022

Business Agenda

Old Business

- **Updates from University Council, Commissions and Committees** are available for senators to review. During the meeting, the Commission on Faculty Affairs (CFA) chair provided an update on the commission's activities on teaching evaluation, collection of student feedback, and P&T evaluations.

New Business

- Election of the Faculty Senate Officers
 - Operations Officers, Rachel Miles
 - Vice President, Robin Queen
 - President, Robert Weiss
- Election of the Faculty Senate Commission Chairs
 - Commission on Research, Alex Leonessa
 - Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies, Monty Abbas
 - Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies, Evan Lavender-Smith
 - Commission on Faculty Affairs, Robin Queen (per VP role)
- Election of Faculty Senate Members of Committees and Commissions
 - Climate Action, Sustainability, and Energy Committee, Zhou Fu
 - Climate Action, Sustainability, and Energy Committee, Wesley Gwaltney
 - Commencement Committee, Robert Weiss
 - Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs, Robin Panneton
 - Commission on Equal Opportunity and Diversity, Rebecca Hester
 - Commission on Faculty Affairs, Thomas Pingel
 - Commission on Faculty Affairs, Justin Lemkul
 - Commission on Faculty Affairs, Robin Queen (per VP role)
 - Commission on Faculty Affairs, Evan Lavender-Smith
 - Commission on Graduate and Professional Student Affairs, Arthur Ball
 - Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies, Eric Kaufman
 - Commission on Graduate and Professional Studies and Policies, Monty Abbas
 - Commission on Outreach and International Affairs, Richard Shryock
 - Commission on Research, Alex Leonessa
 - Commission on Research, Steve Rideout
 - Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies, Evan Lavender-Smith
 - Employee Benefits Committee, [CFA REP]
 - Enrollment Management Advisory Committee, Francis McCarty
 - Faculty Honorifics Committee, Renee Boyer
 - Faculty Honorifics Committee, Diego Troya
 - Faculty Honorifics Committee, Kevin Boyle
 - Faculty Honorifics Committee, John McDowell
 - Honor Council (consultation with Provost), Diane Agud
 - Honor Council (consultation with Provost), George Davis
 - Honor Council (consultation with Provost), Scott Gartner
 - Transportation and Parking Committee, Aaron Noble
 - University Committee on International Affairs (New Rules), Ran Jin

- University Council (CAAD), Nathan King
- University Council (Pamplin), A.K. Ward Bartlett
- University Council (CALs), Leigh-Anne Krometis
- University Council (CoE), Masoud Agah
- University Council (FS President), Robert Weiss
- University Council (CLAHS), Evan Lavender-Smith
- University Council (CNRE), Daniel Hindman
- University Council (CoS), Carla Finkelstein
- University Council (CVM), Virginia Buechner-Maxwell
- University Council (VTCSOM), Azziza Bankole
- University Council Cabinet, Robert Weiss
- University Council Cabinet, Robin Queen
- University Council Cabinet, Rachel Miles
- University Curriculum Committee for General Education, Jason Malone

CSA resolutions were all presented by Susanna Rinehart, member of CSA

- All resolutions were brought to the CSA meeting but there were no discussions of the resolutions.
- There was a consensus to discuss the impact to different stakeholder groups
- The resolutions were withdrawn, and the CSA is looking for feedback on these as they consider revisiting these resolutions again next academic year.
- Any comments will be used for discussion in forthcoming years
- The Senators also discussed the way to add comments, allow anonymous comments, and the timeline to comment of the resolutions
- Comments were requested by the end of May 2022 and will be sent to the CSA.
- CSA 2021-22A: Resolution to Establish Virginia Tech as a Sanctuary Campus and Expand Protections for Undocumented Students (S. Rinehart/R. Queen)
- CSA 2021-22B: Resolution to Expand Protections for International Students and Establish a Bridge Fund (S. Rinehart/R. Queen)
- CSA 2021-22C: Resolution to Make Student Services More Readily Available for Graduate Students During the Semester and Summer (S. Rinehart/R. Queen)
- CSA 2021-22D: Resolution for Secure Equitable Funding for Cook Counseling (S. Rinehart/R. Queen)

Open-Floor Discussion

- One senator suggests the topic on the post-tenure review in other States (e.g., Georgia). Faculty would like to hear more details about whether a similar policy is going to be adopted for Virginia.
 - AAUP report regarding the shifts with Georgia's post-tenure review:
<https://www.aaup.org/report/academic-freedom-and-tenure-university-system-georgia>
 - News report on new post-tenure review policy in Florida
<https://www.insidehighered.com/quicktakes/2022/04/20/florida-passes-posttenure-review-law>
- One senator asked if there are any vaccination policy for incoming students. This is still a conversation, but the university cannot require vaccination
- One senator provided an update to regulate the IRB approval process and remove the redundant steps.
- One senator reported the concerns regarding the new telework agreement which may impact faculty. There is also an early deadline to make request on remote working. The reporting will be done through HR.

- Related message from Bryan Garey here: <https://vtx.vt.edu/articles/2022/05/hr-bgarey-new-state-telework-policy052022.html>
- Robin Queen thanked the senate for their work for the 2020-2021 academic year and wished everyone a great summer.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM.