

FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

April 24, 2018

IN ATTENDANCE:

Masoud Agah, Biko Agozino, Diane Agud, Robin Allnutt, Susan Anderson, Richard Ashley, Arthur Ball, Bonnie Billingsley, James Campbell, Virgilio Centeno, Alan Esker, Ellen Gilliland, Tracy Gilmore, Nicolin Girmes-Grieco, James Hawdon, Bob Hicok, Kathy Hosig, Eric Kaufman, Bradley Klein, Bettina Koch, Eric Lyon, Margarita McGrath, Cayce Myers, David Radcliffe, Ford Ramsey, Susanna Rinehart, Hans Robinson, Todd Schenk, Brett Shadle, Richard Shryock, Eric Smith, David Tegarden, Jim Tokuhisa, Diego Troya, and Bruce Vogelaar. (35 senators).

ABSENT:

Monty Abbas, Alan Abrahams, Mehdi Ahmadian, Gregory Amacher, Osman Balci, Jacob Barney, Michael Borowski, Carlyle Brewster, Bryan Brown, Tanyel Bulbul, Robert Bush, Stefan Duma, John Ferris, Joseph Gabbard, William Galloway, LuAnn Gaskill, Sierra Guynn, Roger Harris, Sara Jordan, Roberto Leon, Chang Lu, Zachary Mackey, Shelley Martin, Mike Nappier, Sean O'Keefe, Philip Olson, Doug Patterson, Anita Puckett, John Richey, Tina Savla, Manisha Singal, Gary Skaggs, Stephen Smith, Ryan Speer, Jim Spotila, Divya Srinivasan, Dean Stauffer, Cornel Sultan, Benjamin Tracy, Kelly Trogdon, Dwight Viehland, Layne Watson, and Ryan Zimmerman. (43 senators).

1) Agenda

The agenda was unanimously approved.

2) Minutes

The minutes were unanimously approved.

3) VT Open Access Policy

Virginia Pannabecker, Research Collaboration and Engagement at Virginia Tech, University Libraries, gave an update on the VT Open Access Policy. Information about the policy can be found at <https://sites.google.com/a/vt.edu/cor-oa-policy-working-group/>.

4) Discussion on release of ad hoc committee report on P&T

The senate discussed the pros and cons of the release of the ad hoc committee report on irregularities in several cases from the 2016-2017 P & T cycle.

Prior to this discussion, the senate went into closed session to discuss details of those P & T cases.

Coming out of closed session, a motion to release the report, with the addition of a summary of actions taken by the administration since the report was written, was unanimously passed.

5) IRB (Institutional Review Board) status

Eric Kaufman gave an update on the use of WIRB (Western Institutional Review Board), a commercial provider Virginia Tech contracted with to help process VT IRB's backlog. He said the overall response to WIRB was not good, as that company is a better fit for medical research. Hans Robinson suggested contacting faculty to learn what their WIRB experiences have been. While some senators gave examples of the difficulties of using WIRB, others felt that it was an improvement over IRB, which one senator said "is broken."

Hans will send out an email to faculty asking for input on the status of IRB/WIRB. If the responses warrant it, he will create a forum on Canvas and forward information collected there to the administration.

6) SPOT and instructional assessment workgroup

Volunteers and nominations were sought for a workgroup charged with developing recommendations for appropriate use of SPOT scores, and for proposing improvements and alternatives for assessment of instructional effectiveness. Sheryl Ball, John Ferris, and Bettina Koch either volunteered or were mentioned as possible participants.

Hans said that he would contact Osman Balci and ask for a report Osman wrote some years back about the use of SPOT scores.

7) Engaging with the strategic planning process

After a discussion about the level of Faculty Senate involvement in the strategic planning process at Virginia Tech, it was agreed that Hans Robinson would contact Menah Pratt-Clarke and inquire about the possibility of senate participation in that work.

8) Adjournment

Faculty Senate adjourned at 6:53.