

**Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**7-9 PM, Pamplin 32**  
**Tuesday, October 12, 2010**

**Senators Present:** L. Abbott, D. Agud, N. Arav, J. Arditti, O. Balci, J. Bassett, K. Belanger, B. Benham, J. Chen-Yu, C. B. Cloyd, L. Cooper, L. Dalgren, M. Ellerbrock, H. Farrar, J. Floyd, B. Hausman, T. James, R. Jensen, B. Jones, J. Kuypers, O. Lanz, T. Larson, G. Long, S. Martin, T. Martin, M. Maycock, M. McGehee, J. Merola, M. Moseley-Christian, M. Paretti, D. Parker, M. Patil, B. Pencek, H. Quesada-Pineda, W. Reed, H. Renard, L. Resler, S. Rinehart, D. Russell, E. Satterwhite, M. Scheneller, D. Smith, Y. Stivachtis, C. Stovall, J. Tokuhisa, E. Vance, J. Watson, J. Wilkins, A. Zajac

**AGENDA**

1. Introduction

The meeting was called to order by President Mike Ellerbrock at 7:00 PM.

2. Approval of Agenda

A motion was made to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and passed.

3. Virginia Tech Carilion School of Medicine and Research Institute

In attendance at the meeting were M. McNamee, D. Wubah, J. Finney, M. Friedlander, and C. Johnson. They came to speak about VTC and to answering questions posed by the Senators concerning VTC.

- Provost McNamee spoke on the partnership and investments of Virginia Tech with other colleges, VCOM and now VTC. He cited the upward growth of NIH funding at VT. He also addressed formation of the VTC board (of which VT makes up ~30% of the members) and the inclusion of the VTC Dean as a member of the Deans Council.
- Dean Johnson spoke about the pedagogy that is being used in the school. The curriculum was described as a “patient centered” approach and will use both problem based learning and value domains. The Dean stressed the school is a four-year degree, contrary to the early information that the school was a five-year program.
- Dr. Friedlander (Research Director) spoke on the biomedical research side of the school. He explained that faculty at the school have appointments in the departments at VT. He also spoke the collaborative effort involving brain imaging, of which VT is the lead center for several institutions.

Senators posed several questions to the group about the nature of the school, its interaction with the university, hiring, growth and the Division of Health Sciences. Responses from the speakers are summarized below.

- Hiring – there is a need for faculty in statistics and computer science.
- Travel to VTC-RMS from Blacksburg – the Smart Bus service will be expanded. Webcasting and video will play an important part in facilitating communication with VT faculty and VTC.
- Funding – The Provost responded that both VT and Carilion are putting \$70M each into the venture. VT is using non-state funds. With overhead and tuition, it is expected that VTC will be self-sufficient.
- Division of Health Science – The division is, at the moment, a virtual division. It is a placeholder for the forthcoming research and education area. It will help VT develop new policies, procedures, and programs in the Health Sciences.

#### 4. Proposal to Create an Online Archives for Faculty Papers

Philip Young (Cataloger, University Library) was invited to the Faculty Senate to discuss an opportunity for changing the process of the dissemination of graduate research. This proposed work (not a University Library initiative) would involve the creation of digital archive of manuscripts at Virginia Tech. Unlike current journals, this archive would be open access. If popular with universities, such open access archives could reduce the amount of funds libraries currently spend on journal subscriptions.

Questions from the Senate addressed issues of copyright, the peer review process, and the impact on the P&T process. As the dialogue continued, Young noted the journals would still serve as the primary point of publication and peer review, but would be asked for permission to have the accepted work also placed on the VT servers. On the issue of copyright, several Senators stressed that copyright is between the author and the publisher; the university should not be invited into this agreement. Other Senators expressed concern on the lack of peer-review of the archived data (if it were locally reviewed and not-peer reviewed) and the effect it would have of the P&T process.

Young mentioned that two other universities (Ivy League and mid-west) are investigating the use of an open-access digital library. Senators asked that Young supply more information on the implementation and usage of these archives so that the Senate might be able to form an opinion on the matter.

#### 5. Election of Senate Officers

Ellerbrock and Long presented the need for the election of a Senator to the office of Secretary/Treasurer. This office was not filled in the May 2010 elections. Over the summer, Ellerbrock, Smith, and Long asked Senator Sarah Karpanty to consider the office. A motion (and a second) to nominate Karpanty came from the floor. The vote was unanimous for the election of Karpanty.

As noted in the May 2010 meeting, now Vice-President D. Smith indicated she would not be available to be considered for the office of president of the Faculty Senate in 2011-12. She accepted the nomination of Vice-President in May with the assurance of the Senate she would not be asked to undertake the position. Although not specified in the Faculty Senate Constitution or By-laws, the Senate has operated under a "succession model" for many years. The model had been the movement from Secretary Treasurer to Vice-President to President. This model was helpful in acclimating the officers with the administrative personnel and functions of the university.

In order to help prepare a new FS President for AY 2011-12, Ellerbrock had asked Senator Bruce Pencek to assume a position of "President Elect" per approval of the Senate. A motion was made (and seconded) to make the temporary position and nominate Pencek. The vote was unanimous for the creation of the position and the election of Pencek. He will be eligible to be nominated as the candidate for President for AY 2011-12.

#### 6. Current Business

- Commissions - Ellerbrock reported we have 32 senators on commissions
- Outside Employment of Graduate Students – Long, Martin and Ellerbrock reported on the outcomes from a meeting with Dean DePauw on this issue. In Spring 2010, this issue came before the Faculty Senate (CGSP-10E Resolution). The FS was in strong opposition to the resolution. However, the resolution did pass a BOV vote. Based on the feedback of the Faculty Representative to the BOV (G. Long), the BOV did instruct the Dean to work with the FS on the matter of notification of the student's advisor, in cases where the external work was impeding the student's progress. To that end, Dean DePauw has drafted a set of guidelines that will permit notification. This plan will be presented to the BOV in the November 2010 meeting.
- Faculty Parking During Football Games – The FS officers are meeting with University Parking to discuss this issue of game parking interrupting classes and the parking revenue produced by the football program. On the issue of Thursday night classes, there are over 150 classes taught after 5PM at VT. The Faculty Senate is curious about the revenue generated by football parking and if there is any contribution toward the total cost of university parking (as borne by students, staff and faculty.)

## 7. Future Business

- CUS dissolution – Commission members are asking that CUS be disbanded. A resolution is forthcoming. J. Tokuhisa will present details in a future FS meeting.
- Computers in the classroom – Long discussed the issue of computers in the classroom. As faculty know, students often use computers in the classroom for activities not related to classwork or note taking. This activity is a distraction to neighboring students, and ultimately the instructor. Long noted that CNS states that wireless cannot be switched off in a classroom. Senior administration at VT asks that computers not be banned from a classroom. The motion for CFA to review Policy 6330 and include computers, mp3 players and cell phones as sources of distraction to the class was made (seconded) and passed.
- COE Bubble – The FS is requesting more information on the “freshman bubble” from CoE and its impact on the departments that provide service course to Engineering majors. Information will be shared at a future meeting on the process that led to the bubble, and means by which the administration can curtail a future bubble from CoE or any college at VT.

Respectfully submitted,

Gary L. Long 11/02/10