

AP Faculty Senate

July 19, 2023 – 10 am to 12 pm

Via Zoom

Minutes

Roll

In attendance (35 attendees): Keri Swaby, Jennifer Jones, Janice Austin, Terri Pecora, Amanda Covey, Holli Gardner Drewry, Marlena Lester, Aaron Prussin, Alix Guynn, Andrew Dolbin-MacNab, April Myers, Ariana DiFillippo, Blair Allen, Brandy Morse, Brock Burroughs, Cathy Duerbeck, Chad Proudfoot, Demetria Somervell, Ed Olson, Enrique Noyola, Eric Poff, Evans Lusuli, Jenni Gallagher, Jonathan Bradley, Juliet Dadras, Lauren Pollard, Lujean Babb, Nick Woods, Nicole Connors, Sarah Armstrong, Scott Weimer, Stephanie Trout, Susan Short, Tara Brent, Trey Mayo

Absent with notice: Jessica Crawford, Leanna Blevins

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Administrative & Professional Faculty Senate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University was held on July 19, 2023.

President Janice Austin called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM

Minutes

March minutes to be approved: Motion to approve by Terri Pecora and a second by Marlena Lester. Motion carried.

Old Business

[Beyond Boundaries Scholarship](#) update-Holli Gardner

- \$3095 raised so there will be match from the university
- We will take a fundraising break for a bit
- How will the scholarship be awarded? These are awarded by the university and then hopefully the AP faculty senate will be able to be in contact with

A/P Faculty Professional Development Leave Working Group-Susan Short, Marlena Lester

- [Data evaluation slides](#)
- The survey data are being evaluated currently with the results from the the AP faculty senators and those who were asked to complete from our own senators
- The survey was not designed to distribute to all A/P Faculty classified individuals
- The survey asked about the different options for professional development and the top three choices were degree/certificate completion, a global experience, and developing a special proposal and/or program
- Most respondents choose a time for the professional development to be one month, then 3 months, and evenly distributed though other options
- Respondents also shared how professional development would benefit them and the university
- Respondents would like to have 100% salary compensation for any professional development leave

Constituent Group Representation and Formation Working Group-Nicole Connors

- Working group will start meeting again in August

New Business

Honoric Awards for Faculty-Amanda Covey

- [Presentation Slides](#)
- The faculty support and recognition specialist is a new role at the university to assist with honorific awards
- Background:
 - Association of American Universities (AAU)-VT strives to become a member
 - Composed of America's leading private and public research universities and membership must be earned
 - They determine many rankings for universities
 - National Research Council (NRC)-was created by the National Academies and they collect specific information on institutions and the awards won
 - They created a list in 2006 of prestigious awards, but it has not been updated since then
 - The data that is created is used by the AAU to determine memberships
- Many of our current faculty are underawarded than their peers at other universities and are competitive for the awards, but they are not being nominated

- ICTAS's mission is to move faculty and research forward and a dedicated effort was created to increase our award potential (hence Amanda's new position)
- Three strategies to improve our representation
 - Identify targets
 - Utilizing Academic Analytics database to identify potential awards and faculty who may be eligible for specific awards
 - Identify award paths for early-career faculty and target specific awards
 - Identify awards being won by your peers
 - Share Information
 - Maintain [a website](#) to share resources
 - Connect with other peer institutions
 - Meet with stakeholders within the university to align efforts
 - Support Nominations
 - Create a centralized point of management for limited submission awards
 - Assist with nomination packets
 - Provide guidance on creating packet materials
 - Being a university level liaison to particular societies and associations
- What have we learned?
 - Academic Analytics does have its limitations
 - NRC ranked awards listing are currently outdated and not comprehensive
 - Some faculty are competitive, but are missing key requirements (like memberships)
 - Faculty are humble and/or time restricted and do not have time to pursue them
- What can departments do?
 - Maintain faculty memberships
 - Review the Honorifics [website](#)
 - Please share any faculty who have won awards
 - Make sure that websites are current and include CVs if possible
 - Nominate your peers
 - Encourage faculty to apply to one they are eligible for
 - Create an "awards culture" in your departments that value this endeavor
- Has there been discussions on assistance with funding for memberships so that faculty are eligible? Yes! We are trying to create university level resources, but also making sure that departments are aware so they can assist too

- What can we do to get VT on the AAU list? This new position is the first step and then continue to work with Amanda to nominate faculty awards; more awards will mean more recognition and improved ability to be on the AAU list
- What is the timeline for working with Amanda for a particular award? one month is good, but the more time the faculty member allows is better
- Do you collaborate with Academic Resource Management office tracking these metrics? I am not aware of the group: the group is under Jeff Earley and that unit does a large amount of data tracking
- Amanda has also worked with members of the library

Job Architecture Update-Evans Lusuli

- [Job Architecture 101](#)
- No significant new information is available at this time; many projects are still in process including the Job Architecture and salary structure
- We continue to get input from senior level management and leadership on all components
- There is end user testing also being done
- The website is up to date with the status
- Next month will be a much more in depth update
- The end of the project is currently in sight

University Budget for 2023-2024

- [The VT budget is published](#)

Treasurer's Report

- AP Faculty Senate has \$0 in funds

CAPFA Updates-Janice Austin

- Stephanie Trout will take over for fall 2023
- Janice is wrapping up the last grievance for 2022-2023

Senate Committee Chair Elections (breakout rooms)

- [Current Committee assignment list](#)
- We ask that the groups stay at 15 or so if possible
- New members please join where they feel comfortable

- Please return from the breakout rooms with a chair and/or co chair to report on
- All chairs and co-chairs will be added to the executive board meeting invites

Senate Committee Reports

- Communications Committee
 - Co-chairs: Ariana DiFillippo, Enrique Noyola
- Elections & Nominations
 - Chair: Scott Weimer with a co-chair to be named later
- Policies and Issues-Nicole Connors
 - Chair: Nicole Connors
 - Doodle will come out for fall 2023 meetings
 - Erin Poff will be secretary to take minutes of meetings

Other Updates from Committees and Commissions

- none

Other Topics or Business

- none

Installation of senators, alternates, and officers

- Welcome and thank you for your service!

Announcements

- Consider submitting stories to add to the A/P Faculty newsletter-email Ariana DiFillippo or Enrique Noyola
- [A/P Faculty Senate Governance Calendar](#)

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:13 am

Next Meeting August 16, 2023:

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Jones
Secretary/Treasurer