

Administrative & Professional Faculty Senate
November 17, 2021
Via Zoom

Roll

Roll for the meeting was taken and recorded via the Senate's Google Form.

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Administrative & Professional Faculty Senate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University was held on Wednesday, November 17, 2021..

President Holli Gardner Drewry called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM.

Adoption of Agenda

Upon motion of Lujean Baab, duly seconded, the agenda was adopted.

Minutes of August Meeting

Upon motion of Susan Short, seconded by Terri Pecora, the minutes of the August 2021 meeting were approved.

Minutes of October Meeting

Upon motion of Keri Swaby, seconded by Terri Pecora, the minutes of the October 2021 meeting were approved.

CAPFA Resolution 2021-22A

The Vice-President (Chair of CAPFA) presented this results of this resolution to the Senate. The purpose is to establish the AP Faculty Senate president as a representative to the Board Of Visitors. This was passed by committee, and approved by the BOV. The term for the President to begin serving in this representative capacity begins in March 2022.

CEOD Temporary Representative

The President reported that CEOD is in need of an AP faculty member to serve temporarily while the current representative is on leave. Lujean Baab volunteered to serve in this capacity.

Resolution Response Updates

The President reported that, so far, the Senate has responded to every resolution with which it has been presented. Lujean reported that the Policy & Issues Committee will be presenting a revised version of the resolution response form, which was updated based upon input from senators. She emphasized this is an important function of the senate, and encouraged people to

respond since there had been a low response rate this time. It was suggested to present resolutions by title rather than only by number.

University Shared Governance Presentation

Bob Hicok presented to the Senate an overview of the new university governance process, and answered questions from senators.

Alternate Senators Assignment Procedure

The President suggested to the senate that it adopt the procedure that, when senators must be absent from a meeting, that the senator contact an alternate and ask them to attend the meeting. This would necessarily involve some coordination from within the constituent groups, but should be able to work well. Once an alternate is found, then senators should notify the President and the Secretary-Treasurer. There was general agreement that this procedure seemed workable.

Juneteenth Resolution Draft

A draft of a resolution to permanently recognize Juneteenth as a no-class holiday was presented to the Senate for any thoughts and feedback. This would be similar to how Labor Day was added as a no-class holiday around five years ago. It was suggested that “enslaved people” may be a better term to use in the resolution other than “slaves.” It was discussed that this holiday would likely follow the same procedure as other holidays as being observed on a weekday if the actual holiday falls on a weekend.

Communications Committee

The committee did not meet between the last Senate meeting and the present meeting. Nominations are currently being sought for the various faculty academies, and having AP faculty representation is encouraged.

Policy & Issues Committee

The current major task of the committee is working on guidelines for responses to resolutions to act on during its next meeting.

Elections & Nominations Committee

The committee is working to update the nomination form to also serve as an “interest form” to let people connect with the Senate. The committee is discussing recommending changes to the bylaws to allow greater flexibility with regard to the timeline of accepting nominations and filling vacancies. The committee is working to invite non-voting members to attend Senate meetings. There was also some discussion of possible changes to the Constitution.

The Senate discussed the issue of AP faculty members being confused about what positions AP faculty hold and the kind of constituencies they are a part of for representation purposes. After

some discussion, the President offered to create a special working group to develop some guidelines and definitions to assist in this effort moving forward.

Announcements

- The President announced that Brandy Morse is leaving her position in Student Affairs and has taken a new position with Engineering, so this will be her last meeting as a Senate alternate.
- The President informed the Senate that Michael Dunn with University Planning & Architecture had invited the Executive Committee to view a presentation on the new Student Life Village. While the committee members could not attend, a video will be provided to all senators and alternates. Mr. Dunn is soliciting feedback, and would like for any comments to be submitted by December 3.
- The President and Susan Short both praised Jeri Baker for her presentation at the University Council meeting regarding Transportation & Parking. The President mentioned that Jeri will be invited to repeat this presentation to the Senate in the near future.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:16 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Chad N. Proudfoot
Secretary-Treasurer