

Minutes
Commission on Faculty Affairs
December 2, 2022
10:30 am – 12:00 pm
Burruss 330E and Zoom

Commission Members Present: R. Queen (presiding), D. Agud (Faculty Senate), N. Connors (A/P Faculty Senate), R. Fricker (ex officio), E. Kaufman (Faculty Senate), E. Lavender-Smith (Faculty Senate), L. Learman (Dean), A. Lee (Undergrad Senate rep), J. Lemkul (Faculty Senate), J. Merola (Faculty Senate), T. Pingel (Faculty Senate), R. Miles (Faculty Senate).

Absent with Notice: R. Blieszner (Dean), V. Kraak. (Faculty Senate), L-A. Krometis (Faculty Senate).

Absent: Grad/Prof Senate rep., Staff Senate rep.

Guests: R. Gabriele (Provost's Office), A. Myers, (Office of the VP for Governance and Policy), E. Plummer (Provost's Office).

Quorum: R. Queen called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m. A quorum was present (50%+1 of current membership = 8).

1. Adoption of Agenda. Members of the commission voted unanimously to adopt the agenda.

2. Approval of November 18, 2022 Commission on Faculty Affairs (CFA) Minutes. A motion was made, seconded, and minutes were approved.

3. Reports from Senates. No reports.

4. Old Business.

A. Discussion of Provost's Office of Faculty Affairs – Vision, Mission, and Values.

R. Fricker continued a discussion regarding the focus of the office of faculty affairs. Commission members expressed appreciation for the framework that outlines the current work and future goals of the office including a focus on personal and professional wellbeing. Suggestions include expanding offerings dedicated to building skills that support the pursuit of excellence and partnering with the Faculty Senate on advancing a university-wide understanding of the concept and application of academic freedom. R. Fricker invited additional feedback and suggestions.

6. New Business.

A. First Reading of Resolution CFA 2022-23A: Resolution to Revise Language in Faculty Handbook Regarding Emeritus or Emerita Designation. R. Queen invited commission members to consider and offer feedback on the emeritus/a resolution. Nominations for emeritus/a are considered and moved forward by departments and colleges; and through vice presidential areas for nominations of A/P faculty. Nominations are rarely not approved. Commission members discussed that appeals of denials are considered by the dean or vice president. The resolution will be considered at the next meeting of the Faculty Senate. The commission will consider a second reading of the resolution in the New Year.

B. Discussion of Faculty Types. R. Queen invited the commission to consider the faculty labels used by the university to describe various faculty roles. The implementation of the new university shared governance structure provides an opportunity to discuss and review impacted policies, procedures, and practices. For example, the shared governance structure has included revisions to the role of university council, senates, commissions, and committees. Commission members considered the complexities associated with representation of diverse faculty types in the university's shared governance processes. For example, the libraries and extension are comprised of continued-appointment and a/p faculty; the school of medicine includes faculty employed by Carilion Clinic and the university; research faculty may be on sponsored funding that impacts their ability to serve in governance (based on percent of effort requirements). In addition, the faculty senate continues to respond to its role in representing and serving faculty members through the senate's standing reconciliation, review, and ethics committees.

7. Open Discussion. No items were considered in Open Discussion.

8. Adjournment. There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded, and members of the commission unanimously voted to adjourn at 12:00 pm.

Next meeting: January 20, 2023 10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.