

Administrative and Professional Faculty Senate

June 16, 2021

3:00 p.m.

Zoom Meeting: Sign in at <https://virginiatech.zoom.us>
with VT username (PID) and passphrase.

Meeting ID: 870 6572 8099

Senators Present: Blair Allen, Nikeshia Arthur*, Janice Austin**, Lujean Baab, Jeri Baker, Tara Brent, Monica Crouse, Holli Gardner Drewry*, Greg Fansler, Jon Greene, Stephen Henninger, Exree Hipp III, Jennifer Jones, Stephen Kleiber, Marlena Lester, Alex Parrish, JP Paul, Katie Polidoro, Chad Proudfoot, Megan Seibel, Susan Short, Keri Swaby*, Stephanie Trout, Danny White

Alternates Present: Amanda Covey*, Mark Dennis, Cathy Duerbeck, Joell Eifert, Rob Emmett, Nancy Gruber, Jennifer Hundley*, Theresa Johansson, Sue Kass, Meghan Marsh, Brandy Morse, Shane Ryan, Jenni Schoner, Susan Volkmar, Scott Weimer, Nicholas Woods

Absent with Notice: Pascha Gerni, Justin Grimes, Terri Pecora, Stephanie Hovsepain

Guests: Lori Buchanan, Marc DeBonis, Shernita Lee, Ken McCrery, Scott Midkiff, and April Myers

Holli Gardner Drewry called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m. with a brief welcome. A quorum was present.

New Business

Google Workplace changes presentation

Vice President for Information Technology. Scott Midkiff, Chief of Staff for the Division of Information Technology, Ken McCrery, and the Director for Collaborative Computer Solutions, Marc DeBonis shared the details and timeline for upcoming business model changes to Google G Suite for Education. In February of 2021, Google announced that they were changing the name from Google G Suite for Education to Google Workplace for Education. In April they are adding additional versions of that product. And then by the end of this year, they are going to change the way they provision storage from an unlimited storage allotment to a quota pooled storage allotment. Starting in July of 2022, Google will enforce these quotas or storage limits. Marc shared that he expects these changes to have an impact to all Virginia Tech students and employees, as well as alumni and retirees and other affiliated users. An added challenge is that we have 53,000 shared drives and many department auxiliary email accounts to manage. Virginia Tech along with other colleges and universities are communicating their concerns regarding the quotas and functionality to the Google Customer Advisory Board.

What this means for Virginia Tech is that we will need to determine how we want to handle the upcoming storage quota since as of February 12, 2021 we were using 5,939 terabytes which is significantly above the 650 terabytes limit of the free Education Fundamentals plan. The Division of IT has formed a steering committee to manage this transition including analysis of data storage and how this may affect the alumni vt.edu email for life promise. It was noted that extension needs to have representation on the steering committee. Other possible options to consider include Microsoft 365, where we have up to five terabytes of storage space per user in OneDrive. Contact Marc (marcd@vt.edu) with questions or see the project webpage at <https://it.vt.edu/projects/GoogleWorkspace.html>. There is also a #google Slack channel. To check storage use go to <https://one.google.com/storage>.

Senate Officers Election

In response to discussion about the place of CAPFA and the AP Faculty Senate within VT Governance, April Myers shared some history and upcoming changes that will affect the AP Faculty Senate. While the AP faculty, faculty, staff, and undergraduate and graduate student senates now serve in advisory roles this structure is expected to be changed in the coming academic year. For now, the AP Faculty Senate has the option to review any resolutions that come to university council from a commission and can provide comments on those resolutions. April is working on revisions to the University Council constitution and bylaws to incorporate the AP Faculty Senate as well as anticipated changes for the senate role and representation at University Council meetings. The current proposed University Council membership from the AP Faculty Senate are the president, vice president, secretary, and one additional AP Faculty Senator.

After considering the election process used by the faculty and staff senates and with advice from Alex Parrish, former Staff Senate President, the senators decided to use a two-step process during the next month to run the election. First there will be an option to self-nominate or to be nominated using a Google form. Senators are asked to confirm a nominee is willing to serve prior to nomination. Next the anonymous election will be held using a process similar to what was used for the senators' election this spring. In response to a question about senator's terms and their eligibility to run for office the senators agreed that anyone that is willing to serve is eligible to run regardless of if they are in a one-, two- or three-year term.

Greg Fansler shared an overview of the AP Faculty Senate officer positions as outlined in the [constitution and bylaws](#). During the election process senators need to remember that the vice president will be ex officio the chair of CAPFA. The vice president candidates are not restricted to only current CAPFA members. But, when considering nominees for the officer positions, additional administrative AP faculty are not eligible to serve on University Council due to administrative faculty already having significant representation. Janice Austin reminded the group that CAPFA will be comprised of all senators once we finalize the transition from the current members to members appointed by the AP Faculty Senate.

Chad Proudfoot suggested that the senate should install an interim president to preside during the next month in order to have somebody in place that can lead what we're doing until the elections are completed.

Chad offered a motion that Holli Gardner Drewry serve as the interim president of the AP faculty senate and preside over the election of permanent officers to take effect by the July meeting. Second by Greg Fansler and a host of other senators. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Business/Discussion

Discussion regarding filling the open senator positions from athletics (two open terms plus up to three alternates) and administration (one open term and up to three alternates). Danny White agreed to work within athletics to recruit additional senators. Holli will send Danny the athletics write-in candidates from the spring election.

Regarding openings for AP Faculty on university committees and commissions, Holli recognized April for keeping us on track to have these positions filled. Vacancies for 2021 were filled as part of the election held this spring. These positions will be appointed by the AP Faculty Senate going forward.

Blair Allen, asked about the duties and responsibilities for the staff senators themselves, one of them being the communication with their constituent areas. It was agreed that to help senators reach all AP faculty members senate meeting minutes will be forwarded to the AP faculty email list. Senators could then work from within

their area to identify themselves and to be available to hear feedback and answer questions. Other ideas were to set up a LinkedIn group and a Slack channel. The senate secretary and communication committee will take the lead on these efforts. April shared that the communication plan for governance activities will include senate activities and that her office can assist with including senate news in campus notices.

Regarding the day and time for future meetings, setting the time from 3 to 5 p.m. was based on other governance meetings using a similar time or during lunchtime. The reasoning was that once we are able to meet in person that will allow people to leave their office, come to a meeting, and then leave to go home versus needing to navigate getting back to the office and parking. The plan is to continue to also have the Zoom option for attendance. The day of the month for the meeting, the third Wednesday of the month, is in the bylaws but going forward it will be up to the senate to set the meeting time.

For future consideration:

- Ask for a non-voting representative from the AP Faculty Senate on the Board of Visitors.
- Consider allowing CAPFA voting members that are not Senators to be voting members of the Senate as we transition. April advised that it would be in order to do this with an internal resolution since it will be a bridge from the old to new process of appointing CAPFA members.

Announcements

- Farewell to JP Paul. JP will be leaving Virginia Tech on July 5 and has accepted a position at Murray State University as Director of Development.
- The next AP Faculty Senate meeting is July 21, 2021 from 3 to 5 p.m. Future meetings have been added to the VT Governance calendar and will use the same Zoom meeting info. Any Virginia Tech community member with a vt.edu address, can join the meeting.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

*Commission on Administrative and Professional Faculty Affairs (CAPFA) members

**University Council Representative for AP Faculty