

Administrative & Professional Faculty Senate
Wednesday, October 20, 2021
Via Zoom

Roll

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

Minutes

The regular meeting of the Administrative & Professional Faculty Senate of Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University was held on Wednesday, October 20, 2021 via Zoom.

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

Minutes of September Meeting

The Secretary-Treasurer presented the minutes from the September 2021 meeting, and moved that they be approved. Lujean seconded the motion, and it was duly approved.

Special Election Results

The President announced that Andrew Dubs had been elected to fill the two-year vacancy in Athletics, and that Sharon Lewis had been elected to the one-year vacancy. It was also announced that Ken Smith was elected to the one-year vacancy from General Administration.

New Business

Executive Committee Report

The President reported that the Executive Committee had met and discussed the Senate vacancies. The committee had decided that it was best to move up those who were alternates into the Senator positions, and to shift folks up into the longer terms so that the previous alternate would fill the shortest term. This should not be an issue once all elections are held for the same number of years.

The President reported that Executive Committee also voted to support CUS Resolution 2021-22A, which needed action prior to the Senate meeting.

Disposition of Resolutions

The President facilitated a discussion about how the Senate should proceed to take action on the various resolutions to be presented as a part of the University governance structure moving forward.

A motion was made by Alex, seconded by Janet that any future resolutions (except those originating from CAPFA) which come to the AP Faculty Senate for consideration be sent to the Policy & Issues Committee at the outset and distributed to the whole Senate with a comment period of five working days, and then be referred to the Policy & Issues Committee to determine how to move forward with the resolution. After discussion, the motion carried.

Presentation

The Senate received a presentation from Evan Lusuli, Compensation Director from Human Resources on the University's Job Architecture project.

CAPFA Resolutions

The Vice-President (President of CAPFA) described the makeup and purpose of CAPFA for new Senators. The Vice-President then presented seven resolutions from CAPFA to add AP Faculty Senate representation to various committees/commissions of the University. The Vice-President then moved, on behalf of CAPFA, to accept and endorse Resolutions 2021-22B through 2021-22H. This motion carried.

Communication Committee Report

The committee chair reported that the committee met on October 13, and has been focused on building communication templates. The committee would like to put together a quarterly newsletter for AP faculty, and that initial issues could contain information informing AP faculty members about the Senate, its purposes, etc. The committee would welcome stories from faculty members to include in the newsletter.

Policy & Issues Committee Report

The committee chair reported that the committee met on October 7. It has been speaking with representatives from Human Resources about how to engage the Senate. The committee has recommended that a liaison be designated with HR, and to have HR treat the Senate as a constituency.

The committee reported that it had discussed concerns about the performance management project. It reported that HR realizes the activity report isn't performance management, and are looking to change that to a new tool.

The committee discussed the role of restricted positions. Some are restricted due to funding, others due to an expiration date. It will work with HR to develop better communication about both.

The committee also reported that it had discussed research positions and their variations. There are currently 103 different types of research positions. HR is looking at how to work those under the job architecture project. The Office of the Vice-President for Research and Innovation maintains around 1/3 of the research positions. It is working to reclassify many of those by November, and then work toward others.

Elections & Nominations Committee Report

The committee chair reported that the committee is working to develop an offsite election protocol. It is also developing an online form to be made available on the website for faculty members to express an interest in nominations. With Qualtrics going away, the committee is looking at QuestionPro as a possible alternative for a form. The committee is also working to have better definitions in order to help faculty members understand what category they represent.

Commission on Undergraduate Studies & Policies

The commission reported that it has approved new majors in Commercial Development & Investment, Residential Development & Investment, Financial Planning & Wealth Management, and FINTEC.

Other Business

Temporary CEOD Rep

The President reported that we will need a temporary representative to serve on the CEOD, as our current representative is on maternity leave. This temporary position will last until January 2022. Anyone with interest should contact the President or Vice-President.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Senate will be November 17, 2021.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Jeri offered a motion to adjourn, seconded by Leanna. Without objection, the meeting was adjourned at 11:28 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Chad N. Proudfoot
Secretary-Treasurer