Minutes


Nick Stone opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.

Secretary’s Report: It was moved and approved that the Secretary would not read the minutes from the previous meeting since the minutes are available online. The minutes were approved.

The Treasurer’s Report was read and approved.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Last Lecture Series: Raymond Major was added as a member of the Last Lecture Series Committee. Nick informed members of the Faculty Association that the Last Lecture Series idea originated with Jim Bohland. Ideas were tossed around regarding how the Series should work. The following suggestions were offered:

A. Involve the Alumni Association
B. Hold the event on Reading Day-May 1st
C. Charge a small fee for the event-maybe $5.00
D. Request donations from the College represented by the selected speaker
E. Ideal number of participants, 100-150
F. Provide light refreshments

The following arrangements were made:

A. Jim Bohland’s office will contribute a portion of the budget, which we estimate as less than $1,000.
B. The Faculty Association will pay for the plaque given to honor the speaker
C. Barb Bennett and the Office of Outreach will provide support (help locate a venue for the event) and funds
D. The Last Lecture Series Committee will meet again before the next Faculty Association meeting to finalize plans

Three Semester Plan: Dave Trauger reported on the progress of the Committee. Questions raised by the Committee included: Which colleges, which courses, which faculty, and what will the Three Semester Plan look like in the National Capital Region? Dave stated that the goal is to get a variety of departments to participate in the pilot. Dave provided copies of the proposal created by the Committee. Raymond Major agreed to
make the proposal available on the NCR Faculty Association website. The following issues were raised during the ten minute discussion that ensued:

A. What will be the affect on mandatory vs. optional full-time enrollment status?
B. How will it affect Visa status?
C. How will we shift from the current plan to pilot plan?
D. Will Banner accommodate the change, and will it conflict with HR policy?
E. Should it be treated as an internal audit issue?
F. Can the pilot be used with Programs that already use an informal 3 semester plan?
G. If the pilot is only used on a small scale will it have a significant impact?
H. How can we solicit endorsements from program chairs?
I. What are the incentives for Blacksburg to support the plan?
J. How will summer funding be affected?

**ACTION ITEMS:**
THE THREE SEMESTER COMMITTEE WILL DRAFT A LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT TO PROGRAM CHAIRS
DISCUSS HR ISSUES WITH DEAN DEPAUW AND REQUEST INPUT FROM BLACKSBURG VIA DEAN DEPAUW ON HR ISSUES

**Space Committee:** Tom Grizzard informed the Faculty Association that his Committee will have a draft proposal available by the end of the week. The draft proposal will be a letter to Blacksburg administrators signed by faculty in the NCR. The Committee suggested:

A. Treat all space in the NCR as part of a common pool
B. The proposal should be sent to The Institute for Policy and Governance
C. Use a model of space allocation in the NCR that is similar to the Blacksburg model
D. Include letters from NCR faculty outlining frustrations over space use in the region.
E. Circulate the draft electronically

**Graduate Honor System:** Dave Trauger provided a report of the Committee’s work since the last Faculty Association meeting. A copy of the report will be available on the Faculty Association website. The Graduate Honor System Committee’s recommendations were adopted by the Faculty Association.

**ACTION ITEMS:**
COMMITTEE WILL WORK WITH MARIJA TELBIS-FORSTER TO RECRUIT GRADUATE STUDENT VOLUNTEERS TO SERVE AS MEMBERS OF THE GRADUATE HONOR SYSTEM
PROVIDE INFORMATION ON TOP HONOR CODE INFRINGEMENTS
The following issues were raised regarding the Graduate Honor System:
   A. How should faculty advise students of honor code regulations?
   B. How do we make faculty more aware of options available to help students
      avoid honor code violations especially with regards to plagiarism?

The following suggestions were made:
   A. Invite Marija Telbis-Forster and Debbie Cash to next Faculty Association
      meeting to provide information on resources available to students and faculty
   B. Provide faculty with a copy of the graduate student packets that include
      information on the honor code

**Graduate Education Vision for the NCR:** The Committee agreed to post a “Best
Practices” page on the Faculty Association website. The Committee’s idealized version
of graduate education in the NCR includes the following:
   A. Growth and a unified presence
   B. The ability to tackle issues of graduate culture
   C. Regular interchange with Blacksburg campus
   D. Strong community identity

The meeting was adjourned at 1:30pm

Minutes respectfully submitted by Beverly Bunch-Lyons,
Secretary, NCR Faculty Association