



RADFORD UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF VISITORS
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING
10:00 a.m.
Thursday, May 9, 2013
Martin Hall - Board Room
Radford, Virginia

APPROVED

MINUTES

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT

Honorable J. Brandon Bell, Chair
Mr. Milton C. John, Vice Chair and Vice Rector
Mr. Matthew B. Crisp
Ms. Ruby W. Rogers
Ms. Mary Waugh Campbell
Dr. Laura J. Jacobsen, non-voting faculty advisory member
Ms. Linda K. Whitley-Taylor, Rector (*entered meeting at 10:45 a.m.*)

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Ms. Nancy E. Artis
Mr. Anthony R. Bedell
Mr. Stephan Q. Cassaday
Ms. Sandra C. Davis (*entered meeting at 10:50 a.m.*)
Dr. Kevin R. Dye
Mr. Darius A. Johnson (*entered meeting at 10:18 a.m.*)
Ms. Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham
Mr. Michael A. Wray
Ms. Emily Redd, non-voting student advisory member

OTHERS PRESENT

President Penelope W. Kyle
Mr. Richard S. Alvarez, Chief Financial Officer and Vice President for Finance and Administration
Mr. Joe Carpenter, Chief Communications Officer and Vice President for University Relations
Mr. Danny M. Kemp, Chief Information Officer and Vice President for Information Technology
Dr. Sam Minner, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Dr. Deborah J. Robinson, Vice President for University Advancement
Dr. Mark Shanley, Vice President for Student Affairs
Dr. Ebenezer Kolajo, Assistant Vice Provost of Academic Assessment

Mr. James Pennix, Dean of Admissions
Ms. Lisa H. Ridpath, Associate Vice President for Finance and Administration
Mr. Ronald C. Forehand, Senior Assistant Attorney General, Commonwealth of Virginia
Ms. Michele Nieroda Schumacher, Secretary to the Board of Visitors
Radford University Faculty and Staff

CALL TO ORDER

The Honorable J. Brandon Bell, Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. on Thursday, May 9, 2013, in the Board Room in Martin Hall.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mr. Bell asked for a motion to approve the May 9, 2013, meeting agenda as published. Mr. Matthew B. Crisp made the motion and Ms. Mary W. Campbell seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Bell asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the January 28, 2013, meeting as distributed. Mr. Matthew B. Crisp made the motion and Ms. Campbell seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

REPORT TO THE BOARD OF VISITORS FROM THE FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE

Dr. Laura J. Jacobsen, non-voting faculty advisory member of the Board of Visitors, stated that because it is at this spring meeting of the Board of Visitors that tuition and fees for the upcoming year are set, her report would focus on the enrollment challenges and some of the consequences of underfunding in terms of academics and the need for financial resources from the faculty's perspective. Dr. Jacobsen's report is attached hereto as **Attachment A** and is made a part hereof. Lengthy discussions were held concerning the student faculty ratio, the class size of incoming freshmen, faculty salaries, tuition increases and the need for creative solutions to meet the financial challenges faced by all institutions of higher education, including Radford University.

ACTION ITEMS

Faculty Tenure Recommendation:

Dr. Minner noted in recommending tenure there is a very thorough process that the University follows including but not limited to input from the faculty, department chairs, and the deans, and that the list of the individuals for whom the University is requesting tenure have met the requirements. The Committee then discussed the faculty tenure recommendations and Mr. Bell asked for a motion to approve the faculty tenure recommendations to go forward to the Board of Visitors for approval. Mr. Crisp so moved and Mr. Johns seconded and after discussion the motion carried. A copy of the Resolution of Tenure Recommendations is attached hereto as **Attachment B** and is made a part hereof.

Amendments to the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook:

The Committee also discussed the proposed change to the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook, namely amending sections 1.8.2 and 1.9.2. to move merit pay issues from the Grievance Committee to the Appeals Committee. Dr. Minner noted that the reason for the change is that merit pay is associated with the faculty annual review, and if there are any disagreements regarding the annual faculty review these disputes are brought by the faculty member to the Appeals Committee and not the Grievance Committee. Mr. Bell asked for a motion to approve the recommendation to amend the Teaching and Research Faculty Handbook to go forward to the Board of Visitors. Ms. Campbell so moved and Mr. Johns seconded and after discussion the motion unanimously carried. A copy of the Resolution of the Amendments to the Teaching and Faculty Handbook is attached hereto as **Attachment C** and is made a part hereof.

Faculty Leave of Absences:

The Committee discussed the proposed faculty leave for three (3) faculty members. Mr. Bell proposed approval of the Faculty Leave. The motion was seconded by Ms. Campbell and after discussion was unanimously carried. A copy of the Resolutions are attached hereto as **Attachment D, Attachment E and Attachment F** and are made part hereof.

Discussions were then held as to whether or not the approval of faculty leave should also be delegated to the President, and it was decided that this would be taken up at the Board meeting.

REPORT FROM THE PROVOST

Dr. Minner provided the Committee with the academic highlights from the six Colleges and the McConnell Library, which is attached hereto as **Attachment G** and made a part hereof.

Dr. Minner then announced the faculty promotions effective August 10, 2013, which are attached hereto as **Attachment H** and made a part hereof. He also informed the committee that Dr. Sylvester Thompson of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics was awarded faculty emeritus status by President Kyle. Dr. Minner also noted that the search for a new Dean of the College of Business and Economics is underway, and it is anticipated that the search will be global. Dr. Minner stated that the University's external accreditations have been good, including the institutional Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) accreditation. He also updated the Committee on the three major areas that he has focused on this year, specifically, deepening the undergraduate experience through creation of the office of undergraduate research, innovation and new programs especially in the graduate area, and enhancing the work environment to enable retention and recruitment of good faculty.

Mr. James Pennix, Dean of Admissions, provided the Committee with an enrollment update which is attached hereto as **Attachment I** and made a part hereof. Discussions were then held concerning recruitment of in-state and out-of-state students and what factors students consider when making a decision to enroll in a particular college or university.

Dr. Minner then introduced Dr. Ebenezer Kolajo, Assistant Vice Provost of Academic Assessment, noting that he was hired a few months prior to the May 2013 Board meetings, and is responsible for academic assessment and is the SACS liaison. Dr. Kolajo then provided a report on the Office of Academic Assessment and measuring institutional effectiveness by measuring a graduating senior's satisfaction with faculty interaction and mentoring, coursework, and overall satisfaction with the institution. A copy of Dr. Kolajo's report is attached hereto as ***Attachment J***.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the Committee, The Honorable Brandon Bell, Chair, adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted

Michele N. Schumacher
Secretary to the Board of Visitors