



Virginia Beach **MINUTES**

Date & Time: October 29, 2020 12:30 p.m.

Location: Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Virginia Beach Senators Attending:

Chair: Dania Sinibaldi, Engr, Science & Math

Vice Chair: John Krenzke, Social Sciences

Melanie Basinger, Health Professions

Maureen Cahill, Arts and Humanities

Sam Duncan, Arts and Humanities

John Gallo, Engr, Science & Math

Kimberly Jones, Public and Prof Services

Laurie Lawson, Engr, Science & Math

Cheryl Nabati, Library

Amy Shay, Health Professions

Tom Williams, Arts and Humanities

Senators Not in Attendance:

Wendy Buie, Counseling

Jared Oliverio, Computer Science and IT

Chris Cartwright, Engr, Science & Math

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:30 PM.

II. Review/Approval of September Minutes: September minutes approved with corrections.

III. New Business

A. Designated Senator needed

1. One more Virginia Beach senator must be designated to represent the Virginia Beach campus Faculty Senate at the TCC College Faculty Senate.
2. Current designated senators are Dania Sinibaldi, John Krenzke, John Gallo, Melanie Basinger, Sam Duncan, Laurie Lawson, and Tom Williams.

B. Remote learning issues

1. Issues discussed were keeping students engaged and losing students in the remote learning environment.
2. Senators noted that students were not well prepared for this environment and discussed ways TCC could support them. Some suggestions:
 - a. Faculty or student services could call students before the semester begins and do a short trial class on Zoom and/or demonstrate how to use Canvas.
 - b. Faculty could also contact Matt Blanchard in the Distance Learning division of Academic Affairs for assistance.

C. Food bank volunteers: TCC is looking for faculty volunteers for its new food bank operation

- D. Strategic planning: The Office of Institutional Effectiveness continues to conduct surveys collect input to prepare a new strategic plan. Faculty participation is requested.
- E. Special fund for remote learning hardware
 - 1. TCC has money available to purchase hardware to use for remote learning.
 - 2. The TCC Faculty Senate is currently conducting an email survey of faculty to determine needs to provide to the Distance Learning Office.
- F. Faculty advising
 - 1. There was confusion regarding faculty advising training requirements following an email to faculty by the Vice President for Academic Affairs.
 - 2. There is a need for faculty advising training to address changes that have been made since the last formal in-person training was conducted over a year ago. Suggestions included video training and question and answer sheets that faculty advisors could access on their own time as needed.
 - 3. Kia Hardy is the Dean of Advising for Student Affairs college-wide.
 - 4. EAB Navigate is not available to all faculty.
- G. CoVid reporting
 - 1. Some senators expressed concern that information about recent CoVid occurrences on campus were not being provided to faculty. This is of special concern to those faculty who are teaching in-person.
 - 2. The Senate discussed and unanimously passed the following motion to be presented to the TCC Faculty Senate:
“That administration share with faculty any COVID cases or exposure with faculty weekly, to include: number of cases (including zero), campus and building, timeframe, and actions taken by the college.”

IV. Chair’s Report

- A. TCC College-Wide Senate
 - 1. The TCC Faculty Senate met on Oct 2nd.
 - 2. Enrollment, college communication issues, the necessity of an organizational chart with responsibilities, and remote learning support were discussed.
 - 3. No motions were made.
 - 4. The next meeting will be on Nov 5th.
- B. Academic Affairs Council Staff meetings
 - 1. The Academic Affairs Council Staff met on Sept 25th and Oct 16th.
 - 2. Enrollment issues, performance based funding metrics, the virtual student center, early alert, strategic planning, the Academic Affairs Canvas site, the spring schedule, textbook planning, Title IX changes, faculty advising updates, program viability and academic planning were discussed.

3. Enrollment data suggests that many students prefer to enroll in courses that last fewer than 16 weeks.
4. TCC would hold a “mini-mester” from Nov 11th through December 18th.
5. The next meetings are Nov 13th and Dec 11th .

C. TCC Faculty Senate Executive Committee

1. The TCC Faculty Senate Executive Committee met on Oct 16th.
2. TCC recently established a committee primarily comprised of deans to investigate textbook selection. Faculty need to be properly represented on this committee.
3. There was agreement that faculty should not be pressured to serve on committees.
4. TCC is currently in the process of fielding many new initiatives. There was agreement that past initiatives should be reviewed before new initiatives are implemented.
5. The committee felt that the TCC website should show a student, not an authority figure, on its opening page.
6. There was discussion that TCC’s administration may be top-heavy despite the decline in student enrollment.
7. There were questions about how TCC campuses will continue to maintain connections with their communities now that there are no longer campus provosts.
8. The Virginia Beach Faculty Senate proposed having a Zoom get-together as we miss the connectedness.

D. Faculty Senate communications site

1. The TCC Faculty Senate is developing a Canvas site for faculty. The new site is designed to provide easy access for faculty to information primarily of interest to faculty including organization charts, forms, and faculty advising information.
2. The site is expected to be available early next year.

V. Division Reports: No reports

VI. Old Business: None

Next College Senate Meeting – November 5th, 2:00 pm, Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Next VB Senate Meeting – November 19th, 12:30 pm, Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Close: Meeting adjourned at 2:37 pm

Respectfully submitted, John Gallo, Secretary