



Virginia Beach **MINUTES**

Date & Time: February 25, 2021 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

Wendy Buie, Counseling

Maureen Cahill, Arts and Humanities

Chris Cartwright, Engr, Science & Math

Sam Duncan, Arts and Humanities

John Gallo, Engr, Science & Math

Kimberly Jones, Public and Prof Services

Laurie Lawson, Engr, Science & Math

Jared Oliverio, Computer Science and IT

Amy Shay, Health Professions

Senators Not in Attendance:

Cheryl Nabati, Library

Tom Williams, Arts and Humanities

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

**II. Chair's Report**

- A. It is time to nominate faculty members to fill eight upcoming vacancies in the Virginia Beach Faculty Senate.
  - 1. Before the next Faculty Senate meeting in March, current Senators whose terms are expiring should notify their constituents of the upcoming vacancies, solicit nominations for the positions, and hold elections.
  - 2. There was discussion about whether Senate Faculty positions should be filled by pathway or by discipline. It was agreed that this issue needs to be reviewed in the future.
- B. The Virginia Beach Leadership Team met on December 4, 2020.
- C. The Virginia Beach Faculty Party, hosted by the Faculty Senate, was held via Zoom on December 11, 2020.
- D. The Faculty Learning Institute was held January 5 – 7, 2021. The institute focus was on diversity, equity, and inclusion. The sessions were well-attended.

- E. The Academic Affairs Council met on January 22, 2021.
  - 1. The new faculty academy will be open to all faculty, not just new faculty. Courses attended may be applied for promotion credit. Details are being worked out.
  - 2. Faculty Professional Development Day will be on November 2, 2021.
  - 3. TCC's COVID dashboard will be updated every Friday.
  - 4. Other topics discussed included current enrollment data, implementation of the new schedule offering 5-, 10-, and 15-week courses, an accelerated degree program, charges for the TCC information systems committee, and an upcoming review of academic programs.

**III. Review/Approval of November Minutes:** November 2020 minutes were approved.

**IV. New Business**

- A. TCC Faculty Senate website should be available to faculty soon. It was available to some faculty members at the time of the meeting, but not all.
- B. TCC faculty members are working on recommendations to revise VCCS-29.
- C. There was a suggestion that the Princess Anne Building (A) be unlocked during some hours. It is an inconvenience to have to call and wait for security to open the doors for those who need to access the mailroom and duplicating center.
- D. There was concern that some faculty members were being pressured to adopt textbooks for classes, even when the faculty teaching the classes did not see the need for them.
- E. There was discussion about the college's timeline for offering more face-to-face classes as COVID restrictions are eased. Some had heard that 25% of the classes being offered in summer 2021 would be face-to-face and 50% of the fall classes would be face-to-face, but no one at the meeting was aware of any definite declaration about this issue. Issues that faculty felt needed to be answered as plans are being made to offer more face-to-face classes were 1) how face-to-face classes will be assigned to faculty and 2) what the college's protocols for face-to-face classes will be regarding cleaning, facial covering, and social distancing for faculty, students, and staff.
- F. Someone pointed out that the schedule for 10-week summer classes was actually 11 weeks long. A thought was that this was to accommodate the two Monday holidays that will occur this summer.

**V. Division Reports:** No reports

**VI. Old Business:** None

**Next College Senate Meeting – March 4, 2021 at 2:00 pm, Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

**Next VB Senate Meeting – March 25, 2021 at 12:30 pm, Virtual Meeting via Zoom**

***Close: Meeting adjourned at 2:12 pm***

Respectfully submitted, John Gallo, Secretary