



MINUTES

Date & Time: August 31, 2017 12:30 p.m.

Location: Virginia Beach Student Center, K-304

Senators Attending:

Tom Geary, Chair, Humanities; **Angela Bell**, Health Professions; Diana Branton, Engineering, Math & Industrial Technologies; **Kathy Buhner**, Natural Sciences; **Susan Dozier**, Information Technology & Business; Mark Greer, Natural Sciences; Joseph Wayne Grimsley, Secretary, Social Sciences & Public Services; Alison Harwell, Counseling; Tom Hilton, Humanities; **John Krenzke**, Vice Chair, Social Sciences & Public Services; **Garrison Libby**, Library; **Ellyn Hodgis**, Health Professions; Bob Maynard, Division of Engineering, Mathematics & Industrial Technologies; **Monica McFerrin**, Humanities; and Scott Wade, Social Sciences & Public Services.

Senators Not in Attendance: **Frank Futyma**, Adjunct, Information Technology & Business; **Gary Noah**, Information Technology & Business; Cary Paulk, Adjunct, Humanities.

Guests(s): Fred Stemple, Sarah Lupton, Andrea Palmisano, Mike Kirby, Cecilia Petretto, Laura Sanders, Traci Funcillo, Jennifer Valentine, Laetitia Stone, Sergei Dolgalev, John Gallo, Robyn Browder, Linda Miller, Chris Cartwright, Maureen Cahill, Sonya Landas, Dania Sinabaldi, Peter Kane, Chris Boyle, David Neff, Maura Lansing, Sirje Russell, Frank Hendrick, and more.

I. Call to Order: The meeting began at 12:33 p.m.

II. Review/Approval of March 30, 2017 Minutes: The Senate approved the April 27, 2017 minutes without change at 12:35 p.m.

III. Guests: Associate Vice President for Professional Development Fred Stemple urged faculty to take advantage of the campus Batten Center, which has the following planned:

1. Faculty walk-in sessions for Teaching Portfolio development
2. Online course reviews by the Batten Center to improve class quality
3. Quality Matters (QM) fused into eight-week online courses

Co-Director of Student Activities Sarah Lupton urged faculty to take advantage of the Student Center including the Fitness Center and a movie theater to show class films.

IV. Chair's Report: The chair described the following:

1. Provost Summers discussed at a May Provost Leadership Team meeting that many students are not being dropped on time; some are not being withdrawn from classes despite never showing up, causing financial aid issues for the college.
2. The April 5K race attracted over 135 runners, including a few faculty members, and over 250 sign-ups. The inaugural race was deemed a success.
3. Chief Academic Officer Daniel DeMarte will hold this semester's campus Open Dialogue meeting on Thursday, September 14 at 12:30 p.m. in K-320.
4. There is a vacancy on the Virginia Beach Faculty Senate for an adjunct faculty member.

IV. *Old Business:*

- A. **New Faculty Academy:** Monica McFerrin has become the new head of the New Faculty Academy, and the academy content and schedule will be transparent to faculty as needed. Jeanne Hopkins is the head of the new Adjunct Faculty Academy.
- B. **Faculty Leads Pilot Update:** Faculty program and discipline leads met this summer to schedule spring 2018 classes, begin discussions of insertion points, and plan further meetings in the fall.
- C. **Professional Development Funds and Travel:** The chair discussed changes to faculty professional development funds for this academic year. The \$225 allotment for each faculty member is gone, but each full-time faculty member still has \$1,675 in CPDF funds. Adjuncts have \$800 available per academic year. Provost permission is not required for out-of-state travel.

V. *New Business:*

- A. **Enrollment:** As of August 25, 2017, TCC enrollment declined by 6.5% and Virginia Beach enrollment declined by 7% compared to enrollment figures from August 2016. The college continues to review methods to increase enrollment.
- B. **Security Incident/Lockdown:** The Senate discussed problems with a campus lockdown during a summer security incident. The timing of the alert sent to faculty and students, the message relayed by security regarding the incident, the failure of the alert to reach some faculty and students, and the confused response to a lockdown were discussed as problematic. The chair extended an invitation to Matthew Baumgarten and Provost Michael Summers to find ways to improve future security/lockdown situations.
- C. **Testing Center Hours:** The campus Testing Center reduced its hours in August 2017 due to budget cuts, creating a “limited window” for students to take exams in the testing center. Faculty expressed concerns regarding availability of the testing center.
- D. **Academic structure/Communication in shared governance:** An English instructor said that she represented faculty members upset with how the administration has handled the dean reorganization. She, on behalf of the group, criticized poor communication regarding the announcement of the Guided Pathways programs, a lack of shared governance in creating and implementing Guided Pathways, and problems of implementation especially regarding the choice of a few Pathway Deans. She said her group desired an “operational pause” in the implementation of Guided Pathways, a more democratic method of selecting faculty committees to assure independence from the administration, a demand for wider dissemination of TCC information, an apology for an insensitive email sent by President Edna Baehre-Kolovani to the Virginia Beach engineering department, and the use of Faculty Development Days to explain upcoming TCC plans. An engineering instructor also complained of Baehre-Kolovani’s email reply to the Virginia Beach engineering department’s request for a delay in implementation of Guided Pathways until more faculty involvement occurred. Other instructors raised their concern with unqualified Pathway Deans to run departments of which they had no experience. The lengthy discussion led to the **TCC-Virginia Beach Faculty Senate passing five motions to be presented to the College-wide Faculty Senate for endorsement:**

1. **A review and vetting of the online faculty by the Online Learning Committee (Passed unanimously)**
 2. **Collegial, respectful, civil, professional, courteous responses to faculty requests (Passed unanimously)**
 3. **An apology to faculty for the tone and content of the email response sent July 25, 2017 in response to the Engineering faculty's email (Passed unanimously with one abstention)**
 4. **Use of Faculty Professional Development Days to openly discuss upcoming plans that are clearly and completely identified (Passed unanimously with one abstention)**
 5. **An operational pause for implementation of Guided Pathways until faculty gives substantial feedback (Passed unanimously with 5 abstentions)**
- E. **Online Audit:** The Faculty Senate discussed the review and vetting of online TCC courses earlier in the guest appearance by Fred Stemple.
- F. **Student Verification:** Faculty Senators said they would like clarification about the requirement to verify authentication of students in online courses.
- G. **Reward and Recognition:** CAO DeMarte said he wants the Rewards and Recognition subcommittee to do a better job connecting faculty rewards with accomplishments at the college.
- H. **Faculty Advising:** Due to the length of the meeting, the Senate tabled any discussion on the new faculty advising plan.
- I. **Faculty Salaries:** Due to the length of the meeting, the Senate tabled any discussion on basing TCC faculty salaries on the college region's cost of living expenses.

VI. Items from the Floor

- A. Monica McFerrin urged that the Senate recommend that TCC should award posthumous certificates to students who died before nearly completing their certificates, just as TCC does with posthumous college degrees.

VII. Next College Senate Meeting – Thursday, Sept. 7. Meet and greet at 1:30 p.m., meeting at 2:00 p.m. – Norfolk campus, Martin 2610.

VIII. Next VB Senate Meeting – Thursday, September 28 at 12:30 p.m. in K-322 (Student Center) unless attendance issues require a bigger room.

IX. Close: *The meeting closed at 2:55 p.m.*

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne Grimsley
Secretary, Virginia Beach Campus Faculty Senate