Faculty Representative’s Report to the Board of Visitors

RADFORD UNIVERSITY

Dr. Jerry Kopf, Faculty Representative to the Board of Visitors and President of the Faculty Senate

November, 2015
Issues Faculty Are Most Focused On

Presidential Search
Faculty are excited about the possibility of recruiting a new President who can build on President Kyle’s accomplishments to lead Radford into the next era and help Radford achieve regional and national acclaim. Faculty want to be fully engaged in the process to the maximum extent possible so they have the opportunity to form opinions about, and provide feedback on, candidates who are being seriously considered for the Presidency.
Motion on the Presidential Search Process

Whereas the selection of a new president is one of the most important tasks a University can undertake, upon which the future of the institution depends;

Whereas shared governance is a long recognized method of achieving balance between administrative and faculty participation in university decision-making processes, such as the selection of a new president;

Whereas the substantive and effective participation of the faculty and other stakeholders in this process is necessary to insure that the academic, intellectual, cultural, educational, and institutional values of a university are adequately represented;

Whereas the perception of this process as one that is open, transparent, democratic and inclusive is important to the success of the new President once he or she becomes part of the Radford University community;

Whereas the present completely confidential search process compromises shared governance and limits participation of all stakeholders in this momentous decision;

Be it resolved:

The Faculty Senate recommends that the presidential search process provide opportunities for stakeholders—including students, faculty, staff, and alumni—to meet the finalists and convey their assessment of each candidate to the Search Committee. These opportunities will be public fora at which candidates make statements and audience members pose questions, after which stakeholders may communicate their viewpoints to the Search Committee.

Passed by the Faculty Senate (40 yes and 1 no) September 24, 2015
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Academic Program Review and Establishing Academic Priorities

Faculty are committed to continuous improvement in order to provide the most effective and efficient educational experience possible for our students. Faculty believe decisions about academic programs and priorities should be mission driven and consistent with core academic values. Faculty would like to fully participate in any discussion about vision, mission, strategies, or academic priorities.

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Faculty Compensation
Faculty were appreciative of the additional 2% raise approved by the Board at the last meeting. They are strongly in favor of the Board’s goal to adopt a University level goal and policy with regard to faculty compensation in order to provide a professional and rational approach to managing faculty compensation over the long term.