ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE
2:15 P.M. **
FEBRUARY 11, 2021
JOSEPH P. SCARTELLI ATRIUM
COVINGTON CENTER, RADFORD, VA

DRAFT
AGENDA

• CALL TO ORDER
  Dr. Thomas Brewster, Chair

• APPROVAL OF AGENDA
  Dr. Thomas Brewster, Chair

• APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  o December 3, 2020
  Dr. Thomas Brewster, Chair

• ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT
  Dr. Lyn Lepre, Provost and
  Vice President for Academic Affairs
  o International Initiatives Presentation
    Ismael Betancourt, Assistant Provost
    McGlothlin Center for Global
    Education and Engagement

• FACULTY SENATE REPORT
  Dr. Katie Hilden, President,
  Faculty Senate

• OTHER BUSINESS
  Dr. Thomas Brewster, Chair

• ADJOURNMENT
  Dr. Thomas Brewster, Chair

** All start times for committees are approximate only. Meetings may begin either before or after the listed approximate start time as committee members are ready to proceed.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS
Dr. Thomas Brewster, Chair
Ms. Nancy Angland Rice, Vice Chair
Ms. Krisha Chachra
Dr. Rachel D. Fowlkes
Dr. Susan Whealler Johnston
Ms. Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkingham
Dr. Katie Hilden, Non-Voting Advisory Member
February 2021
Meeting Materials
International Initiatives
Radford University will grow international student headcount enrollment by 50 students annually through the 2023-24 academic year.

- Strategy 6A: Establish dual/double degree programs with international universities.
- Strategy 6B: Launch worldwide commission-based network of agents.
- Strategy 6C: Implement an English language and culture program that will prepare students for Radford University degree programs.
Potential collaborations:

- Graduate program in Music Therapy with Heidelberg University (Germany)
- Undergraduate program in Ballet with Busan Women’s College (South Korea), Osaka City University (Japan) and Ashiya University (Japan)
- DBA program with Paris School of Business
- Potential Cybersecurity training in Burkina Faso and Benin (Sponsored by U.S. Department of State)
- Opportunities with Stella Maris College (India) and Eton College (Canada)
- Exchange program with the Universität Flensburg (Germany)
International Admissions

• International admissions and recruitment now under McGlothlin Center for Global Education and Engagement

• Recruitment approaches
  • Current and new academic partnerships
  • College fairs and other recruitment events
  • Building a network of recruitment agents

• Expansion of English proficiency tests

• New comprehensive admissions website
Intensive English Program

• Wholly-owned and operated by Radford University
• Three levels of instruction for expanded recruitment
  • Beginner
  • Intermediate
  • Advanced
• Conditional admission to certain academic programs at Radford University upon completion
• Goal: Self-sustaining within two years
Education Aboard

• Focus on accessibility and affordability
• New services
  • Passport acceptance facility (in progress)
  • Passport photos
  • Notary services
• Restructure of the McGlothlin International Education Fund
• Faculty-led programs
Discussion
REAL Update

- Faculty Senate has considered and passed 67 motions related to curriculum this year. This includes:
  - 10 minors; and
  - 51 recommendations for REAL program alignment.

- To date, REAL Council has approved:
  - 736 REAL course proposals; and
  - 174 program proposals.
Student-Centered Curriculum Redesign

• Creative new minors

• Writing intensive courses

• Applied programs participating in General Education

• Deeper interdisciplinary connections
Building Support and Structure

• Academic catalog

• Academic Success Center

• Marketing of programs in REAL

• Faculty development
Building on our strengths to redesign our future
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND RESEARCH COMMITTEE
3:00 P.M.
DECEMBER 3, 2020
DAVIS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ECONOMICS, ROOM 340

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT
Dr. Thomas Brewster, Chair
Ms. Krisha Chachra
Dr. Rachel D. Fowlkes
Dr. Susan Whealler Johnston
Ms. Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham
Dr. Katie Hilden, Non-Voting Advisory Member

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT
Ms. Nancy Angland Rice, Vice Chair

OTHER BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT
Mr. Robert Archer, Rector, first half of meeting

OTHERS PRESENT
Dr. Brian O. Hemphill, President, second half of meeting
Dr. Lyn Lepre, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs
Ms. Karen Casteele, Secretary to the Board of Visitors/Senior Assistant to the President

CALL TO ORDER
Dr. Thomas Brewster, Chair, formally called the Academic Excellence and Research Committee meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. in the Davis College of Business and Economics, Room 340.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Dr. Brewster asked for a motion to approve the December 3, 2020 agenda, as published. Ms. Georgia Anne Snyder-Falkinham so moved, Dr. Rachel D. Fowlkes seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES
Dr. Brewster asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 13, 2020 meeting of the Academic Excellence and Research Committee, as published. Dr. Rachel D. Fowlkes so moved, Ms. Krisha Chachra seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS REPORT

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Lyn Lepre, Ph.D. began her report by acknowledging the Board of Visitors committee members, Rector Archer, President Hemphill, other Vice Presidents, the Academic Affairs Leadership Team and her administrative staff for their hard work and support. She stated her first semester, while had many challenges, was made easier through the efforts of all of her colleagues.

Provost Lepre discussed the process and criteria for emeriti faculty status. She shared that Associate Professor Roxie Novak (Posthumous), Department of Mathematics and Statistics, and Professor Patricia Shoemaker, School of Teacher Education and Leadership, were awarded emeriti status this semester. The information item is attached hereto as Attachment A and is made a part hereof.

Provost Lepre presented information on Innovation and Excellence in Teaching: The Impact of Teaching Modality on Student Learning and Success, which included information regarding how to best deliver courses given the restrictions and impacts of COVID-19.

Following the presentation, Provost Lepre led a discussion beginning with asking the question, “What have you heard and read about the impact of alternate teaching modalities this semester?” Discussion included: access to internet for students, what students have learned through this pandemic will need to be carried forward in the way they interview online and work in the future, the importance of faculty training and the impact of stress on faculty.

Dr. Susan Whealler Johnston stated that it is never far from our minds that our faculty are working very hard and suggested to Dr. Brewster that the Academic Excellence and Research Committee take forward to the full Board a resolution commending the faculty for all their outstanding work during these difficult times, while maintaining a high quality education for the students. Following discussion, Dr. Johnston made the motion to create a Resolution Recognizing Radford University Outstanding Faculty, Ms. Krisha Chacha seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

A copy of the presentation is attached hereto as Attachment B and is made a part hereof.

FACULTY SENATE REPORT

Faculty Senate President Katie Hilden, Ph.D. provided an update on recent activities of the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Hilden stated that Faculty Senate considered 40 motions during Fall 2020, which surpasses the total annual amount for the past two years. There were ten motions for new minors. The REAL Curriculum motions consisted of: twenty-three motions for REAL designations for majors and minors; two motions recommending changes to catalog language related to hours completed at Radford University; and how transfer credits will work in REAL. Dr. Hilden added that there were three COVID-related motions, including: motion to move student evaluations of faculty fully online; motion to recommend that faculty include a COVID impact statement in their Faculty Annual Reviews; and motion to recommend technology support for faculty. There were two Task Force motions, including: motion to revise Sections 1.15 and 1.16 of the Teaching and
Research Faculty Handbook; and motion to create an ad-hoc committee on course minimums and faculty workload.

Dr. Hilden said that the Faculty Teaching Survey was administered in mid-September by the Faculty Senate. There was a total of 371 responses with a variety of themes of challenges. Faculty Senate is working together to meet the academic challenges associated with ever-changing contexts.

Dr. Hilden shared news from the REAL Council, stating that faculty are working on assessment plans for the curriculum and departments are considering how to market and package degrees to help students meet their goals.

Dr. Hilden closed by sharing the anticipated Spring 2021 work, including: Faculty Senate Curriculum Committee is considering academic policies to ensure the health and stability of the REAL Curriculum; updates to Teaching and Research Handbook and academic governance committees will be needed as a result of the anticipated reorganization of the Waldron College of Health and Human Services; and mid-semester grades resolution from SGA.

Dr. Hilden expressed her appreciation to the Committee members for their support of the faculty and that the theme for the semester has been collaboration. She said we have shown that together administration and faculty can solve problems. President Hemphill thanked Dr. Hilden for her outstanding leadership during this unprecedented time.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Committee, Dr. Brewster adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Vickie Stewart Taylor
Executive Assistant to the Provost
Based on recommendations from the Department Personnel Committee, the Department Chair, the College Dean, and the Provost, President Hemphill has awarded emeritus status to the following retired faculty members:

- Associate Professor Roxie Novak (Posthumous)  Department of Mathematics and Statistics
- Professor Patricia Shoemaker  School of Teacher Education and Leadership

Criteria for the awarding of emeritus faculty status are:
- A minimum of ten years of service to Radford University;
- Evidence of effective teaching; and
- Significant professional contributions.

The privileges and responsibilities attached to emeritus status include:
- Use of the library;
- Use of those athletic facilities available to regular faculty;
- Use of a university computer account;
- A Radford University identification card and special event discounts available with it; and
- Attendance at University functions that are open to all regular faculty.
Academic Affairs Update

• Emeritus Faculty Status

  Associate Professor Roxie Novak (Posthumous)
  Department of Mathematics and Statistics

  Professor Patricia Shoemaker
  School of Teacher Education and Leadership

• Written Report in Board Materials

  Any questions?
Discussion

Innovation and Excellence in Teaching: The Impact of Teaching Modality on Student Learning and Success

• Over the past nine months, the academic affairs divisions at colleges and universities have engaged in continual conversation regarding how to best deliver our courses given the restrictions and impacts of COVID-19.

• Teaching modality was among the largest discussion area.

• Most common options were moving instruction completely online or offering a mix of online/hybrid/face-to-face.

• Some predicted that the “hybrid” option (deemed by many to be the best way forward) would be a disaster - “the worst parts of in-person and online teaching mixed together.”
Discussion

Innovation and Excellence in Teaching: The Impact of Teaching Modality on Student Learning and Success

• What does “hybrid” mean?
  o Blended learning; synchronous and asynchronous

• Complex
  o Course redesigns; class logistics; costs to add technology to classrooms

• Big question
  o How will the students fare in these conditions?
Discussion

Innovation and Excellence in Teaching: The Impact of Teaching Modality on Student Learning and Success

• Teaching Modality Percentages

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Fall 2020</th>
<th>Spring 2021</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>F2F</td>
<td>1489 (62.7%)</td>
<td>1013 (49%)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Blended/Hybrid</td>
<td>191 (8%)</td>
<td>455 (22%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Online</td>
<td>694 (29.3%)</td>
<td>598 (29.9%)</td>
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Innovation and Excellence in Teaching: The Impact of Teaching Modality on Student Learning and Success

Early indicators of how students fared:

- Overall GPA remained **virtually the same** from Fall 2019 (2.91 to 2.89).

- Freshman struggled slightly more - with a higher rate of F grades (4%). Seniors did slightly better - with a higher rate of A grades (2%).

- Asynchronous courses (both hybrid and entirely online) had slightly higher rates of F grades.

- Synchronous online courses and hybrid asynchronous courses had higher rates of withdrawals.
Discussion

Innovation and Excellence in Teaching: The Impact of Teaching Modality on Student Learning and Success

• What have you heard and read about the impact of alternate teaching modalities this semester?

• Looking to the future, is this the “black swan” moment? (that unforeseen event that changes everything) Will students now want or expect more distance education options? Instructors to provide “Zoom” links for every class and flexible attendance policies? How will this impact a university like Radford?

• At Radford, we did well; we also learned a lot and are in process of making improvements. What are your thoughts on additional steps we can take to assure a high quality instructional experience?
Thank you!
End of Board of Visitors Materials