

CALS Governance Council Minutes
February 24, 2015
337 Smyth Hall

Dr. Grant called the meeting to order at 11:00am with a welcome to everyone.

Council members present: Mary Christian, Pat Donovan, Dan Goerlich, Bobby Grisso, Inga Haugen, Rose Jeter, Ed Jones, Mike Lambur, Barbara Leshyn, Saied Mostaghimi, Jerzy Nowak, Matt Schroeder, Holly Scoggins, and Susan Sumner.

Council members participating via phone: Bobby Clark and Margaret Kenny.

Absent with notice: Thea Glidden, Scott Greiner, Matt Hulver, Jamie Lucero, Vernon Meacham, and Mike Schwarz.

Approval of the Agenda:

The agenda items under Old Business will be tabled until the next meeting. A motion was made by Mike Lambur to adopt the agenda; seconded by Susan Sumner; approved.

Approval of the Minutes:

Saied Mostaghimi made a motion to approve the minutes; seconded by Ed Jones; approved.

Old Business: None.

New Business: None

Committee Reports:

Committee on Academic Program Policy:

Holly Scoggins gave the report. The committee met on February 19.

The Report on Peer Review of Teaching seminar with Dr. Peter Doolittle was held on November 14. The Committee is pursuing a "Train the Reviewer" workshop with Dr. Doolittle this spring. Susan Sumner has contacted him and discussed having GTA participation in peer reviews.

The CALS Peer Review of Teaching Policy site is difficult to find (<http://www.cals.vt.edu/faculty-staff/index.html>). The committee will revisit the site at the next CAPP meeting.

A CALS teaching technology workshop is scheduled for March 10 in Torgersen 3080 from 10am-12pm. This workshop can count towards an FDI requirement (1 Networked Learning Initiative credit). This event is for CALS employees only.

Susan Sumner gave a report on the status of the CLE. She reported on the university's comprehensive "Plan to Grow Numbers" (10,900 freshmen by 2022) and how that will impact CALS (500 more freshmen by 2022). Will there be resources forthcoming to support said initiative? The value of dedicated professional advisors was discussed.

Susan Sumner is seeking faculty participation in Hokie Focus, scheduled for April 11-12. More faculty are needed to interact with potential students who are considering attending Virginia Tech.

There was a brief discussion regarding departmental attitudes and procedures related to teaching loads versus appointments.

CALS Curriculum Committee:

Susan Sumner gave the report for Monica Ponder.

1. There are two new graduate courses, one revised graduate course, two new undergraduate courses, and three revised undergraduate courses. The next two meetings will be held on March 18 and April 8.
2. For undergraduate courses next governance levels, the last meeting for Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (UCC) is April 24 and the last meeting for Commission on Undergraduate Studies and Policies (CUSP) is April 27.
3. For graduate courses next governance levels, the last meeting for Graduate Curriculum Committee (GCC) is April 23 and the last meeting for Commission on Graduate Studies and Policies (CGSP) is April 15.

Committee on Extension and Research Program Policy:

The proposed revision of the Extension titles, codes, and descriptions was approved by the Dean and Associate Deans. The committee is asking Steve Kleiber and Mary Christian to move forward on implementing these revisions.

There are two other proposals to present to the committee. First, make recommendations on a process for peer-review of extension programming to parallel the peer-review of teaching. Bobby Grisso will consult with the committee on this proposal.

Second, the committee, in collaboration with the Committee on Academic Programs, would like to develop a promotion process for A/P Extension Specialist Faculty similar to the promotion track for Instructors. Jack Finney in the Provost's office would be a contact for guidance.

Committee on International Program Policy:

Barbara Leshyn gave the report.

A discussion on how to enhance the role and visibility of international programs at CALS was initiated. A proposal was made to appoint two faculty representatives to the Committee from each Department and recommend that international activities (study abroad, research and development, grant opportunities) be discussed at each Departmental meeting.

Other Updates:

(1) The committee is progressing with implementation of participation of students in the Academic Consultancy Training Course at Wageningen University (WUR), The Netherlands. A draft of the MOU has been sent to WUR for review and a list of industrially sponsored projects will be received by the end of March. Students will need to apply by mid-April. The course starts on May 11 and ends on July 4th; the hope is to send 2-3 CALS students this year.

(2) The Global Education Office has a new Director, Theresa Johansson (<http://www.vtnews.vt.edu/articles/2015/02/022515-outreach-tjohansson.html>), an experienced educator and study abroad programs administrator who came to Virginia Tech from the College of William and Mary's Reves Center for International Studies. We are planning to invite her to our April 3rd Committee meeting.

Updates from Dean and Associate Deans:

Virginia Cooperative Extension

The Task Force decided not to allow the change in the supervision of faculty at the local unit level.

The VCE Winter Conference will be held on March 3-5, 2015 at The Inn.

Academic Programs

The University Commencement will be held on May 15 and the College Commencement will be on May 16 at noon.

Hope Wensel is the 2015 Outstanding Senior.

Inga Haugen introduced herself. She is the CALS Scholarly and Education Librarian.

Research:

The goal of graduate student recruitment is 850. The college is currently at 570.

Tuition waiver assistantships for 50 students have been given to departments to use within three years to increase enrollment.

Any graduate student who applies for fellowships will be given \$500 to be used for travel to national conferences to present their research.

The Dean's Scholar Award is a \$5,000 award.

CALS

Alan Grant mentioned in the February 19 issue of the Virginia Tech News Daily Email that "Virginia Tech is now an institutional member of the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity". The center provides professional development, training, mentorship opportunities, and focuses on helping faculty, particularly underrepresented faculty, make the transition from graduate student to professor. Faculty members from all ranks, post docs, and graduate students can enroll in a membership that includes webinars and discussion forums.

News from Richmond: the budget will fund capital projects. The Senate and House list the Dairy Phase II (\$7.6million) project as one to be funded. Sandy Hall/Davidson Performing Arts Hall is also on the list as well as some others.

The House and Senate have approved a salary increase for state employees. Faculty will receive 2% and staff will receive a 1.5% increase for years of service.

On the federal side, President Obama proposed the executive budget.

There are three Department Head searches: Entomology, Biochemistry, and Plant Pathology, Physiology, and Weed Science.

A question was asked about who represented the college on the Provost Search Committee. It is Ed Jones, Saied Mostaghimi, and Austin Larrowe.

Another question was asked about University Development position. Alan stated that the structure for University Development has changed and that Betsy Flanagan's position as Vice President for Advancement encompasses that role.

Announcements

The Horticulture Plant Sale is scheduled for April 23-25, 2015.

Saied Mostaghimi moved to adjourn; meeting adjourned at 11:40am.

Sheila Norman, Recorder