

Academic Committee Meeting
April 27, 2021
11:00am-12:30pm
ZOOM

Attendees:

Bagchi, Rajesh
Boyle, Kevin
Carlson, Kevin
Ghandforoush, Parviz
Deane, Jason
Easterwood, John
Ghandforoush, Parviz
Gnyawali, Devi
Hall, Janice Branch
Hunnings, Kay
Khansa, Lara
Maher, Jack
McGehee, Nancy
Mitchell, Elizabeth
Russell, Robin
Singal, Vijay
Sumichrast, Robert
Xiang, Phil

Absent:

Recording Secretary

Ridpath, Kimberly

Minutes/Action Items/Announcements

Dean Sumichrast welcomed the committee. He noted that John Easterwood and Jason Deane would be joining the meeting, to discuss our revision to the learning goals for the undergraduate degree. Sumichrast reminded the committee of the Pamplin faculty and staff meeting scheduled for tomorrow morning. He said creating new majors in finance had progressed since the last academic committee meeting and will be considered by Pamplin's undergraduate studies & policies committee soon. Sumichrast pointed out the request for all employees to complete a brief new survey on whether they have received at least one dose of COVID-19 or if not, whether they plan to be vaccinated soon.

AoL Competency and Learning Goals

There has been little change in Pamplin's undergraduate learning goals, used in AACSB accreditation, for many years. Sumichrast invited Lara Khansa, Jason Deane, and John Easterwood to provide an update. Deane provided an overview providing the key attributes for assessment methods. He shared they plan to possibly provide beta testing of these methods, in fall 2021. Khansa said AACSB adopted new accreditation standards in 2020. This was one

reason the college took a close look at its assurance of learning goals and processes. She added that assessment using the ETS exam had been suspended because of budget cuts during the pandemic. The committee referred to a document showing proposed learning goals for the BS in Business.

Commencement Update

Pamplin will host two live event ceremonies, on Sunday, May 16th. The ceremonies are at 1:00pm and 6:00pm, in Lane Stadium. The program will be consistent with that discussed previously at academic committee. Sumichrast asked the committee to refer to a table listing faculty, staff, and student participants. The committee discussed the stage party and volunteers.

Climate Survey participation

Virginia Tech will conduct its second climate survey of faculty and staff, beginning next month. Pamplin's participation in the first survey was very low. The college has set a goal of 75% participation for future climate surveys. The committee discussed tactics to increase faculty and staff participation and agreed on several actions. There were a few concerns around survey content and access, however, the college strongly encourage all Pamplin employees to participate by the deadline – May 3.

Pamplin Space Task Force

Kay Hunnings referred the committee to the space task force report. She described the membership, charge, and operation of the task force. Until GBAC is constructed, the college must use its space efficiently as the number of faculty and staff grows. Hunnings reviewed recommendations from the task force with discussion from the committee.

Return to Work

Hunnings shared a presentation to give an overview of our fall 2021 plans. There is a pilot program in process to discuss our future of work and allow more ability to provide feedback during this transition. This topic will continue to be discussed at our next meeting.

Implementation Plan

The committee briefly reviewed section 5.4, Research. The current version reflected changes proposed in previous meetings and no further changes were proposed.

Sumichrast opened discussing section 5.5, Excellence in Community. This section includes goals for the COACHE survey, Climate Survey, and the Boundless Impact Campaign. No changes were proposed by the committee.

The committee moved on to section 5.6, Building an Inclusive Community. This section includes goals and planned actions related to diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging. After discussion, there was a consensus to revise gender diversity goals to reflect our aspiration for gender parity.

Kevin Carlson briefly described the next steps in the development and adoption of the Implementation Plan.