

Academic Committee Meeting
April 29, 2020
11:00am-12:30pm
ZOOM

Attendees:

Bagchi, Rajesh
Boyle, Kevin
Carlson, Kevin
Ghandforoush, Parviz
Gnyawali, Devi
Hunnings, Kay
Khansa, Lara
Maher, Jack
McGehee, Nancy
Mitchell, Elizabeth
Russell, Robin
Singal, Vijay
Sumichrast, Robert

Absent:

Recording Secretary
Ridpath, Kimberly

Minutes/Action Items/Announcements

Dean Sumichrast welcomed everyone to the zoom meeting. He announced that there will be a town hall for all Pamplin's Advisory Boards on Friday, May 1st from 11:00am-12pm. He encouraged committee members to participate and promote it to their boards. Sumichrast thanked those who have already contacted their boards about the meeting.

Budget

Expectations for next year's budget have become slightly clearer. Each college must provide the university with a plan for absorbing a 5% and a 10% budget reduction. The plans are due May 15th. Sumichrast reminded the committee that Pamplin must make an immediate short-term reduction but plan for a longer term reduced budget. Kay Hunnings provided specific ideas for reducing spending in the coming year and shared a report breaking down the different areas. The total reduction achieved if all changes are adopted, would balance commitments Pamplin has already made for new faculty and staff beginning at the beginning of FY21. The college must identify significant

reductions or identify new resources. The committee discussed reductions that could be made university wide as well as the college specific reduction proposals. There was agreement that Pamplin should look for opportunities to change its programs and services and reorganize to better serve the needs of constituencies while containing costs. Especially in the short term, undesirable changes also must be made. Committee members proposed additional ways to reduce the cost of operations.

Online Learning Task Force

Kevin Carlson briefly described the composition and mission of Pamplin's Online Learning Task Force. He said the committee has already met three times and developed many draft guidelines. The committee is working with the assumption that future online courses must be better than those currently being taught. The task force has developed a series of recommendation for faculty to consider for ways to online teach. Carlson referred the committee to a list of discussion themes.

Action Items:

1. Committee members will continue to determine ways to reduce costs within their departments.
2. Provide list of potential faculty to retire to Hunnings.