

**Academic Committee Meeting**  
**September 19, 2019**  
**3:00-4:30PM**  
**Pamplin 1060**

**Attendees:**

Bagchi, Rajesh  
Boyle, Kevin  
Carlson, Kevin  
Freemal, Becky  
Gnyawali, Devi  
Hall, Janice  
Jefferson, Crystal  
Khansa, Lara  
Maher, Jack  
McGehee, Nancy  
Mitchell, Elizabeth  
Robbins-Forbes, Marise  
Singal, Vijay  
Sumichrast, Robert

**Absent:**

Hunnings, Kay

**Recording Secretary:**

Ridpath, Kimberly

**Minutes/Action Items/Announcements**

Dean Sumichrast welcomed the committee to its first meeting of the year. He recognized special guests–Becky Freemal, Pamplin Director of Communications and Marketing, Crystal Jefferson, Director of Alumni Engagement and Marise Robbins-Forbes, Director of Development. Sumichrast said this year’s Pamplin budget would be discussed at the October meeting. The college will hold a more in depth discuss of future budgets at its retreat. Pamplin will hold its traditional Commencement breakfast on December 20, 2019 at 9:00am, prior to the university ceremony. The Bowman Room is under construction so breakfast will be held at the South End Zone Suite. Michael Beckley, Appian’s Chief Technology and Chief Customer Officer is the first Wells Fargo Distinguished Speaker for this academic year. His talk is scheduled for the evening of October 2, 2019 in Haymarket Theatre in Squires. Sumichrast strongly encouraged participation by all academic departments. Dean Carlson has updated our current policies and will provide to the committee following this meeting.

## **Summit**

Pamplin will hold its first ever Leadership Summit at The Hotel Roanoke on October 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup>. Representatives from Pamplin's 20 Advisory Boards will attend the college event, and most will hold their own meetings. This is an opportunity to highlight the distinct missions of Pamplin's Boards, to share best practices and to raise interest in Pamplin's Campaign. The Leadership Summit will coincide with Virginia Tech's public launch of its campaign for philanthropy and alumni engagement.

The most important college events for the academic committee to attend are a reception at the Taubman Museum on Thursday, October 10<sup>th</sup> from 7-9pm and the Plenary Sessions on October 11<sup>th</sup> from 8am-1:30pm. Shuttles are available to take Pamplin faculty between Blacksburg and Roanoke. Sumichrast stressed the need for everyone to register for events that they will attend. Don't assume we know you are coming. Becky Freemal discussed her plans to use Facebook live and requested participation from members of the Academic Committee. In addition, a virtual reality tour will be offered to showcase GBAC. Elizabeth Mitchell said one of the breakout sessions will focus on the Alumni Lifecycle and we encourage you to attend this session to provide your valuable input. She asked Academic Committee members to consider the merit of minimum financial contribution from board members to prepare for the breakout session. The committee discussed the events planned by departments and centers as well as the college and university.

## **Retreat**

Sumichrast said he felt the 2018 retreat was very useful. Based on input from the Academic Committee meeting, the next retreat will be held on May 28-29, 2020 at Mountain Lake Resort. At the previous retreat, spouses and guests were invited and some social activities were planned. The committee discussed the inclusion of spouses and guests and were in favor of inviting them. The format and other activities were also considered. The committee discussed hiring an outside meeting facilitator which will be further discussed after determining the format and agenda. Sumichrast suggested that the main topic of discussion be the Pamplin Budget. Participants would have the opportunity to help shape the budget, rather than simply learning about it. The committee discussed other topics of inclusion on the agenda.

## **2019 Future Faculty Development Program**

Janice Hall described the history and plans for Faculty Development Program which will take place November 10-13, 2019. Departments will have an opportunity to invite students to pursue an academic career to campus. This provides a chance for us to show off our culture and programs. It's not necessary for departments to have an available faculty line, at this time, in order to invite participants. The committee

discussed the value of the program and clarified the expectations as well as the potential benefits. Hall requested the committee members to think about their secession plan over the next five years and these applicants can be a part of how we assess these roles. This discussion will continue at a later meeting.

### **2019-2020 Student Recruitment Events and Academic Calendar**

Lara Khansa provided a schedule of student recruitment events and the university's academic calendar. She encouraged departments to work with her office, to take full advantage of these events. Khansa focused on the out of state students and encouraged faculty/advisory boards to visit high schools to build relationships and attract potential students for the future. This would allow faculty to engage with their advisory boards and promote Pamplin in a positive way.