

Minutes
CALS Faculty Association Board Meeting
104 Hutchison
March 15, 2004, 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Members present: Joe Marcy, Carlyle Brewster, Holly Scoggins, Shelly Nichols-Richardson, Frank Gwazdauskas, George Norton, Peter Kennelly, James Pease.

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by President Joe Marcy. Minutes taken by Holly Scoggins in absence of Ruby Cox.

Dean's Report on the College:

Dean Quisenberry did not attend (recovering from surgery)

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes from February 17, 2004 meeting were distributed, reviewed, and approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Joe Marcy presented the report prepared by Ruby Cox. The checking Account balance was at \$503.53 with two expenditures: get-well flowers for Dean Q. and our annual contribution to the VTAAO scholarship fund (\$305.00) The Savings Account balance was \$562.02, with total funds being \$1,065.55. The report was approved.

Other Business:

A. Changes to Tenure and Promotion procedure. The wording as approved by the CALSFA Executive Committee (2-17-04) was forwarded electronically to the CALS Governance Council for a vote. Of a possible 61 votes, Sheila Norman reported the results as 40 "yes", 2 "no". Joe Marcy forwarded the results to Dean Quisenberry with the recommendation that since more than 2/3 of the council voted, the vote should be valid and reported to the council and the CALS policy for tenure be changed to reflect the new wording. [Policy wording: In concurrence with university policy, a new hire may be granted tenure as a part of an employment offer, if they have previously been granted tenure from a comparable university and/or have the documented accomplishments to be granted tenure at Virginia Tech. The decision to recommend granting of tenure as part of an employment offer will be made by the home academic department's Promotion and Tenure Committee to the CALS Dean.]

B. Update of Administrative Review procedures. Peter Kennelly presented the results of the ad hoc committee on administrative review. A motion was made, seconded, and passed that the "Procedures for the Evaluation of College-Level Administrators: College of Agriculture and Life Sciences" as presented be approved and forwarded to the CALS Governance Council for review and action. Joe Marcy thanked Peter for his and the committee's efforts in compiling the procedures.

C. CALSFA Elections. Joe Marcy reported on Don Mullins' (absent) efforts in reviewing governance and committee positions coming open this term. Don has created a slate of openings in a call for nominations and will send this out electronically to the CALS faculty list serve in the next few days. Joe emphasized the need for the executive committee members to "identify" willing candidates to fill the positions (i.e. twist some arms). Nominations will be open for a week or two, then we'll do our best to fill the positions by the first week in April (Provost's request).

D. Faculty Recognition. Progress was reported by Joe Marcy on the planning for a CALS faculty recognition picnic this spring. Julia McCann is responsible for coordinating the event, currently planned for May 12, exact site and menu yet to be established, though Holly has volunteered the Horticulture Garden. There will be a brief recognition ceremony, the format of which has yet to be confirmed. Staff are invited to the gathering, but have their own recognition ceremony independent of this event.

Committee Reports:

Faculty Senate. Frank Gwazdauskas reported on issues being discussed in the senate, including guidelines regarding "graduate expectations". The graduate school brought a document forward to the senate outlining the 'rights' of graduate students at VT. The senate immediately noted that not only was no mention made of the responsibilities of these students or the rights of their faculty mentors/instructors. A new document has emerged which discusses the 'responsibilities' and 'expectations' of both graduate students and relevant faculty. The revised document apparently was passed by the faculty senate. The commission on faculty affairs has been charged with clarification of language in the faculty handbook regarding expectations for P & T, including issues of whether simple or two-thirds majorities are required to advance through the various committees and whether the college and university committees will be informed of the exact vote of the department committee. This document was up for second reading at university council but has not yet been passed. In addition, discussion continues on efforts to get a legislative order mandating (or recommending) faculty representation on the Board of Visitors.

University Council. Peter Kennelly reported recent action by the University Council. First, at the college and university levels, a two-thirds vote is now required for positive outcome in a promotion and/or tenure recommendation. The second action was the revision under the requirements of promotion to full professor emphasizing the "university's mission as a major research institution", moving away from the equality of all three missions to research achievements trumping outreach/extension and teaching. Peter expressed his opposition to this action and will continue to do so with the blessing of the executive committee.

No other committee reports were given.

New Business:

No new business was officially reported, just some kvetching and general gossip.
The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Holly L. Scoggins, Vice President, in lieu of Ruby H. Cox, CALSFA Secretary/Treasurer
3-17-04