**General Faculty Council**

**University of Virginia**

**MINUTES**

**September 9, 2020**

**12:00 – 1:30 pm**

**Zoom**

**Council Members in Attendance:** Derick Williams, Julie May, Chris Mazurek, Chris Gist, Keith Weimer, Ibby Roberts, Sharon Kelley, Zaida Villanueva Garcia, Meredith Hayden, Amanda Flora, Diane Whaley, Bryn Seabrook, Joe Fore, Laura Serbulea, Yuri Urbanovich, Ed Murphy, Janet Warren, Judith Thomas, Esperanza Gorriz, Leighton Beamon

Visiting: Abel Liu, Rahim Hassan, Pamela Higgins, Connie Chic Smith, Panagiotis Apostolellis, Wanda Weaver

**I. Call to Order/ Introductions and Welcome:** Derick Williams, Chair

**II. Approve Minutes – May 13, 2020**

Minutes approved.

III. **Student Council Equity and Grading Survey**

 Abel Liu, Executive Board Member for UVA’s Student Council

Rahim Hassan, President of First-Generation Low-Income Partnership at UVA

Visitors offered details of the grading survey with emphasis grading changes and/assisting under-served students who exercise the Credit/No Credit option. Such students present more responsibilities at home/work, challenges to concentration in online learning, SDAC accommodation, feeling comfortable at home, etc. Students without barriers prefer normal grading. The group endorses both universal Credit/No Credit or Default Credit/No Credit. Only 11% say that it was a detriment.

Some grad schools require courses for credit. What can be done should they be struggling?

Other peer institutions allow students to see their final grades before making a grade decision. Perhaps UVa could set the date to make a decision after exams.

Hope to create less confusion with clear messaging.

**IV. Updates and Announcements**

**V. Committee Reports**

A. Bylaws – recently amended by-laws passed.

B. Elections – Use updated list for election purposes

C. Data Management - Analysis of where General Faculty fall across the University.

D. Communications – Work continues on the GFC website. Request to new members for biographical information and photograph.

Work continues on Faculty Mentoring especially in light of pandemic.

E. Policy – Chair asks that GFC receives proposed policy on consensual/pre-existing relationships and also on graduate students.

**VI. Senate Exco**

GFC Chair is part of committees to understand University governance but is unable to vote. Faculty Senate under the President’s Office and represents all faculty. How does it work with GFC? Did not see GFC in governance chart. There is a long-standing idea of General Faculty (56% of the faculty body) as not being capable of advocating for themselves.

Perhaps draft a proposal to Faculty Senate Executive Committee to address the role of GFC and General Faculty.

**VII. Future Business**

Continue todiscuss the grading presentation and perhaps draft resolution.

 Discuss students living on Grounds.

**VIII. UVA Diversity Council**

The committee has not met recently but plans to convene soon.

 Meeting Adjourned at 1:36 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday, October 14, 2020. Location: ZOOM