

Council of Chairs  
Oct. 18, 2016

Present: Sandy Huguenin, Amelia Harris, Oscar Raile, Amy Clark, Bryan Hoyt, Robin Benke, Jacob Somervell, Margie Tucker, Cathie Collins, Jeff Cantrell, Michael McNulty, John Mark Adrian, Frank Frey

Absent: Tom Costa

Ms. Harris reminded the group of the oral and written communication rubrics that were due in May.

Mr. Benke announced the acquisition of new databases in the library.

Mr. Huguenin said the College's budget has been cut \$117,000 and Senior Staff are discussing how to meet this shortfall. The cut came from the state, due to revenue shortfalls the Commonwealth of Virginia is facing.

Mr. Somervell asked about the bus service giving students a ride home during breaks. Faculty have questioned the schedule; students will leave at 9 a.m. on Friday and miss classes that day. Mr. Huguenin said we are piggybacking on a service with other schools such as Virginia Tech and Radford, and we have to adhere to their schedule.

Mr. Huguenin said the Summer College core schedule is under review; classes with low enrollment may be cut. Students will again be able to use Pell Grant funds during the summer.

Ms. Tucker reported the budget committee has met with Sim Ewing to learn the budget-building process. Margie Tucker, Bryan Hoyt and Tom Costa are the department chairs appointed to the committee; they added Mark Clark, Matt Harvey and Dana Kilgore for their particular expertise with budgets. Tom Costa chairs the committee. Mr. Huguenin said a committee has also been appointed to recognize faculty scholarship; they will meet tomorrow.

Ms. Collins said she is nearly finished compiling complaints from faculty and staff regarding our health insurance, and said she is writing a letter. The letter will be addressed to the chancellor; it was not decided who should receive copies.

Oscar Raile was present to share a draft of an Academic Continuity Planning Guide in case of an emergency such as the snow we received last February, causing the College to close for three weeks. Mr. Raile also offered his services as an instructional designer.

Ms. Tucker said presentations are scheduled every Wednesday at 1 p.m. by students who have conducted research, except for days when the Faculty Senate meets. She encouraged faculty to let her know of their students who have conducted research and would like to present. It is open to students in all disciplines.