

Board of Visitors

April 24-26, 2019

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**REPORT OF THE RBC FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE
APRIL 2019**

Dr. Matthew Smith

W&M Board of Visitors, RBC Faculty Representative

Faculty Assembly - Committee Updates

Academic Standards and Appeals Committee (Prof. Eric Earnhardt, Chair)

- Review of standards regarding academic probation and suspension in order to recommend changes based on comparison with policies at peer institutions, institutional research, federal financial aid policies, and admissions.
- Passed a motion to forward to Faculty Assembly to change the College Catalog policy barring credits earned while under suspension from RBC or other institutions from being accepted by RBC (passed in Faculty Assembly).
- Worked to finalize language clarifying the role and structure of a proposed "Online Education Subcommittee" to be included in the *Procedures and Guidelines for Online Education*.
- Passed a motion to forward to Faculty Assembly regarding new recommendations for academic probation and suspension standards based on committee discussions and research (motion passed in Faculty Assembly with slight alteration: probation/suspension standards now align with SAP standards).
- Passed a motion recommending the inclusion of the "Online Education Subcommittee" in the *Procedures and Guidelines for Online Education* (motion discussed in Faculty Assembly—the formation a new faculty committee, rather than a subcommittee, on Online Education was deemed most appropriate).
- New language for Faculty Handbook adding an Online Education Committee as a College Committee (not a subcommittee of Academic Standards & Appeals) being drafted.
- Language for Faculty Handbook adding an Online Education Committee as a College Committee adopted in Faculty Assembly.

- Reviewed the status of the CHOICE pilot program and drafted guidelines for a replacement pilot program on “Provisional Admission” that is moving on to Faculty Assembly for consideration and may serve as a blueprint for new policy on Provisional Admission for the College Catalog.
- Reviewing guidelines for how transfer students with low entering GPAs will be admitted with regard to good or probationary standing with the intent to ensure students are placed on probation if their GPAs from community colleges or other institutions, prior to attendance at RBC, would have placed them on probation had they been earned at RBC.

Faculty Affairs Committee (Prof. Dan Franke, Chair)

- Reviewing language in Faculty Handbook regarding the role of student representatives on committees, where appropriate.
- Regarding charges given to the committee (including those related to adjunct faculty members, faculty advising, and Faculty Development Report revisions), a general discussion has been held to establish key points for committee research, pending formal guidance from the Chief Academic Officer.
- Discussion of Faculty Handbook revisions, including revisions to the peer review timetable
- Discussion of non-academic leave procedures, providing feedback to Human Resources.
- Discussion of new Online Education Committee, providing feedback to the Academic Standards and Appeals Committee.

Faculty Committee for Student-Athlete Success (Prof. Celia Brockway, Chair)

- A search for a permanent Athletic Director is underway.
- The Student Progress Report was completed by student-athletes prior to Spring Break. Student-athletes on the committee shared that the process was simple, which has not always been the case. One difference is that there was intentional communication about the form when it was given to student-athletes two weeks before the deadline.
- In February, Meghan Mauzy was hired as the Assistant Women's Soccer Coach and Student Development Coordinator. She has already proven to be an asset to the committee as she has implemented the processes discussed regarding the student progress reports.
- All student-athletes took a survey inquiring about the current study-hall program in March.

Instructional Programs and Curriculum Committee (Prof. Dave Morgan, Chair)

- Approved a proposal from the department of Natural Sciences and Mathematics to change the titles of several of the mathematics courses in order to improve clarity and

transferability. The proposal includes the following changes: change MATH100 (currently Developmental Mathematics) to “Developmental Algebra”; MATH121 (currently College Algebra) to “Pre-Calculus I”; and MATH151 (currently Pre-Calculus) to “Pre-Calculus II.”

- Approved a new course proposal for CSCI 121 – “Introduction to Computer Science.”
- Discussion of the charge to review the Core Courses list. The IPCC was asked by the Director of Academics to compare this list of courses to those we currently offer according to the catalog, and to make recommendations whether to add or eliminate courses from the various areas as needed. The IPCC also considered whether CSCI courses should count toward academic core.

Faculty Updates, Accolades, Honors, and Distinctions

Prof. Celia Brockway (Music; Honors; Promise Scholars; Bridge Program; Phi Theta Kappa advisor)

- Bridge Program
 - Seven new student applicants, 7 accepted, 5 moving forward with process (1 accepted student was Promise).
 - Five of the 8 current students plan to continue next fall (1 is graduating and 2 are unsure)
- Phi Theta Kappa Honorary
 - In 2017-18, 31 eligible students accepted membership into PTK and 14 attended the induction ceremony.
 - As of March 15, 2019, 48 eligible students accepted membership for 2018-19 (induction ceremony scheduled for April 13 at 1 p.m.)
 - RBC was given PTK REACH Rewards in recognition of over 15% of eligible students at RBC joining PTK.
- RBC Expo
 - Thirty-eight freshman Honors students are working to organize the 2019 RBC Expo to take place Wednesday, April 24. This event gives students the opportunity to share their multitude of talents being fostered in and out of the classroom.
 - Dr. Bev Sher of William & Mary will be giving keynote at the Expo between 2:30 and 3 p.m.
- Honors Program
 - Eight faculty have submitted proposals to teach an Honors course, and all courses have been accepted.
 - Three Honors courses plus one Honors ESE seminar will be offered in the fall semester.

- A signing ceremony for an Honors MOU with University of Mary Washington is scheduled for Friday, May 3.
 - Other institutions working to create Honors MOUs with RBC include VCU, JMU, VSU, and Shenandoah University.
 - Finally, three RBC students and the Honors Program Coordinator are scheduled to attend the 2019 Spring Virginias Collegiate Honors Council Meeting at JMU the first weekend of April.
- *Honors Program Presents!* takes place every second and fourth Wednesday of the month. This event provides students the opportunity to practice research, compiling information, creating an outline, and speaking in public. Prof. Jill Mitten has been providing feedback to the presenters; there are usually four each session.
- Promise Scholars Program:
 - February 18 was "Promise Day" for Promise Scholar applicants. Five eligible students came to campus for a campus tour, interview, class observation, and information meeting with RBC admissions counselors and Dr. Sher. Four students were offered an invitation and one was placed on a waiting list based on an evaluation of the application and interview.
 - Eleven eligible rising sophomores interviewed for Promise. Ten were given an invitation to Promise and one was placed on the waiting list.
 - Six faculty and two staff members volunteered to serve as interviewers. It was a wonderful, collaborative process.
 - Recruitment is ongoing.
- Outreach
 - Prof. Brockway visited Colonial Heights High School on March 27 to assist the choir in preparing for a contest.
- Musical Statesmen:
 - A small group of students entertained the campus with Singing Valentine's on February 14.

Prof. Dan Franke (History)

- Became faculty advisor of the History Club (restarting the club after a hiatus of a few years)
- Became faculty advisor of the Debate Club (restarting the club after being absent on campus for many years)
- Delivered an invited talk on the 1864 Virginia campaign at the Sussex County Historical Society in November.

- Organized events at RBC on mass incarceration and the Constitution for Constitution Week, September 2018.
- Became co-editor on The Oxford Handbook of Medieval Military History; publication expected 2020.
- Became a contributor to the indexing project "International Medieval Bibliography," led by the University of Leeds, UK.
- Contracted to deliver three scholarly articles to peer-reviewed publications due this year.

Profs. Lauran Johnson, Cecil Morris, and Jason Pode (Mathematics)

- These three professors attended the Innovative Educators Summit with Hawkes Learning in Charleston, South Carolina, on March 1-2, 2019.
- Find information about the summit at <https://hawkeslearning.lpages.co/ies-2019/>

Aimee Joyaux

- Ms. Joyaux is beginning a collaboration with the Hawaiian Islands Land Trust Waihe'e Coastal Dunes & Wetlands conservation project as a resident artist. She will work with their team beginning in the fall to create artist books about the history and culture of this fragile ecosystem.

Prof. David McCarthy (History)

- Prof. McCarthy has published a book review of Michael F. Hopkins, *Dean Acheson and the Obligations of Power* in the *Journal of American History* 105 (December 2018), pp. 748-749.
- He has also recently joined the editorial board of the *Journal of Intelligence History*.

Prof. Adam Zucconi (History)

- Prof. Zucconi chaired a panel, "Richmond and Norfolk in Turbulent Times," at the Virginia Forum at Longwood University on Friday, February 15.
- At that forum, he also presented a paper, "To 'whiten' the Mountains: Abolishing Slavery in West(ern) Virginia, 1861-1863."