



**Regional Campuses Faculty Advisory Council (RCFAC)  
Meeting Minutes  
October 1, 2021  
(TEAMS)**

**RCFAC Members Present:**

Ali Erritouni  
Noelle Bowles

Tamra Courey  
Velvet Landingham  
Ex-officio: Peggy Shadduck (Vice-  
President for Regional Campuses  
(RC) and Dean of College of Applied  
Technical Studies) (CATS)

Greg Smith (Chair)  
Marian Harding (Vice-chair)

**Approval of October 1, 2021 RCFAC Agenda:**

- Agenda approved by consensus

**Approval of September 3, 2021 RCFAC Minutes:**

- Motion to approve the minutes. First: Ali, Second: Noelle Motion passed unanimously.

**Vice-President for Regional Campuses & Dean of CATS Report (Peggy Shadduck):**

**RC Classes/Courses:**

- The Provost is requesting a percentage of classes return back to pre-pandemic status.
- RC Assistant Deans and Deans are currently reviewing the spring schedule of courses to reflect the Provosts request.
- There are many factors impacting RC courses/classes. Ex. More students are employed vs. attending college.
- Dr. Shadduck shared that there will be on-going discussion about the spring semester courses.

**COVID Vaccinations:**

- Some students may not desire a COVID vaccination for various reasons (medical, personal choice).
- Students can apply for an exemption and will most likely will be granted, but they will need to be regularly tested.
- Students who are not complying with the regular testing could face consequences.
- Testing polices for non-vaccinated students are still in discussion and an outside contracting company might be considered.
- Some surrounding communities of Kent State may have strong anti-vaccination opinions.
- Dr. Shadduck recommends we do not make separate courses/classes for unvaccinated students.
- Concerns expressed that enrollment might be impacted by the vaccination mandates.

**Hybrid Courses:**

- Dr. Shadduck discussed hybrid, remote, and face-to-face courses being offered.
- Faculty must be supported if we continue with remote/hybrid course offerings.
- Some faculty are trying new platforms for teaching, but still need support.

- Kent State polices do not define V1 V2 V3. Dr. Shadduck will be investigating this concern.

#### **Fall Enrollment Numbers:**

- Dr. Shadduck continues to review enrollment trends for RC.
- Enrollment has decreased in the last decade.
- FTE had a 44% decrease.
- Faculty and staff numbers have also decreased.
- Creative solutions to increase enrollment and maintain high educational standards is being discussed.
- Marketing, communication, collaboration, and retention are being examined.
- Timing of courses and modality (evening, weekend, biweekly) is also part of the discussions.
- The age of students entering college has lowered.
- Regional campuses dropped 11% in enrollment, however; some of the community colleges surrounding Kent State University has had even more decreased numbers in enrollment.
- A Special Project person is in the process of being hired to review some of the above concerns related to enrollment.

#### **Capital Funds:**

- Every two years capital funds are allocated for repairs for Regional Campuses needs (Ex. Building maintenance).
- RC Deans are in discussions with Dr. Shadduck regarding the funding.
- Grants for federal money for classroom renovations in the amount of five-million dollars is also being sought.
- Dr. Shadduck will be in discussion the RC Deans on how money will be allocated to each RC.

#### **Regional Campus Visits:**

- Dr. Shadduck has been involved in different searches for the Regional Campuses and the ACEN review for nursing.
- She will continue scheduling visits at the RC to meet faculty.

#### **Chair's Report (Greg Smith):**

##### **Boards:**

- The Provost Advisory Board (PAB) has not yet met for a formal meeting this semester.
- Tenure Advisory Board (TAB) and PAB we will be seeking volunteers for upcoming reviews.
- Greg will seek direction on if we can begin to request volunteers for the different boards.

##### **Summary Letters:**

- Summary letters from RCFAC Chairs are due Monday, October 4, 2021 for Tenure Track (TT) faculty.
- It was noted that minimal TT faculty are being hired at the Regional Campuses.
- Some searches may have been paused due to budget concerns.
- RCFAC members each shared the number of TT reviews for their respective campus.

##### **Merit:**

- Brief comments made regarding merit in spring.
- The question was raised if the Student Surveys of Instructions (SSI) will be considered for the merit files.

##### **Dean's Review:**

- RCFAC was asked to submit two names for Dean Denise Seachrist's review.
- RCFAC members requested volunteers.

- Nominee that will be sent from RCFAC: Wensheng “Wilson” Kang, Economics (Tuscarawas Campus). Motion First: Mariann, Second: Noelle. Motion passed unanimously.
- Greg reported that there may be another Dean’s review this semester.

**Fall Workshop/Regional Campus Mini-Retreat:**

- Discussion centered on the potential of a fall 2022 workshop for Regional Campuses.
- Suggestion given to partner with University Teaching Council (UTC) for their fall conference in 2022.
- Greg will begin the discussion with the UTC chair regarding partnering after UTC has their October 2021 conference.

**Teams/Face-to-Face Meeting:**

- Discussion to have one spring RCFAC meeting at the Kent campus with Dr. Shadduck so members can meet her team and the new Special Project person.
- Greg will contact Dr. Shadduck to discuss potential dates for spring.

**Motion to Adjourn Meeting:**

- Meeting Adjourned 11:17 AM. Motion First: Tamra, Second: Velvet Motion passed unanimously.