Minutes  
Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
Monday, August 27, 2012

1. Chair Michael Mays called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the Bluestone Room, Mountainlair.

Members Present:
Bastress, R.  Elmore, S.  Nutter, R.  Strife, M.  
Bilgesu, I.  Griffith, R.  Orlikoff, J.  Turton, R.  
Clements, J.  Kleist, V.  Prudhomme, J.  Wheatly, M.  
DiBartolomeo, L.  Mays, M.  Ruscello, D.

Members Absent:
Butcher, F.  Cottrell, L.  Curtis, R.

Guests:
Clark, N.   Lang, A. (DP)  Robinson, S.  Wilson, C. B.  
Dooley, E.   Lee, P.   Stump, J. (NIS)

2. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the minutes from the May 21, 2012 meeting.  
   Motion carried.

3. President Clements reported that:

   • Enrollment continues to be strong. That’s good and bad. It’s good because applications are going up but we need more faculty to accommodate additional students. We’re in the process of adding an additional 100, but we may need to add more. There’s a solid increase in minority students, which fits into strategic goal number three. There’s also an increase in international students.

   • Another record year in fundraising, almost $174 million, which breaks all previous records. $71 million was for a gift in-kind, a software gift. Even with that taken away the balance is still $103 million in gifts. This is more than double the previous ten year average. He believes it will be a lot more challenging this year without additional research trust fund money.

   • In Health Sciences, there were two landmark days this month: 1) the $20 million Translational Research Grant from NIH. This is the equivalence of conference realignment in athletics for the Health Sciences. 2) The new School of Public Health was launched last Friday. This is a very important initiative for the University and the state. US New and World Report ranked Ruby Hospital number one in the state and the best hospital in the region, citing twelve specialties as very high performing.

   • It looks like the budget cuts could be real. It could mean up to a $12 million cut. It’s still early in the process so we don’t know where it will go. He will keep everyone posted as he hears more.
4. Provost Wheatly reported that:
   - Over the summer there was a leadership transition in Academic Affairs, Jonathan Cumming has returned to faculty status and Katherine Karraker is now the Associate Provost for Graduate Academic Affairs. The Office of Graduate Education will now be housed with Research and will report to Fred King.
   - There are three new executive leaders: Daniel Robison, Dean of Davis College; Lynne Schrum, Dean of HRE; and Leonard Colelli, Provost at Potomac State.
   - She shared the agenda for Academic Affairs in the years ahead. Everything on the agenda will require partnership and ongoing dialog with faculty.
     1. C. B. Wilson’s office will take a hard look at the annual evaluation process. Their looking at an electronic database for archiving all faculty productivity toward promotion and tenure and annual evaluation. They’ll also look at the guidelines.
     2. Nigel Clark is going to engage the Faculty Senate and the Executive Committee in a hard discussion about what we do with our educational responsibility as faculty members in a land grant university.
     3. Russ Dean is in charge of enrollment management. We need to do two things: have a stable budget and how to attract slightly better academic profiles in entering student. We want to make sure we have diversity representation, attract more women, and make sure we grow strategically in certain STEM fields with our doctoral programs.
     4. Russ Dean and Katherine Karraker are working on establishing a CIRTL (Center for the Integration of Research, Teaching, and Learning). Parts of this is are already distributed across campus. We need to be more intentional about this. Associate Provosts Dean and Karraker will look at bringing some of these things together so we’ll know where they are and what’s missing.
     5. Elizabeth Dooley is working on establishing a University College which would be a college without faculty but would bundle together many of the supports needed to take care of students and make sure they learn appropriately. Provost Dooley has developed a lot of programming but it doesn’t have a home. The same way that half of the first year class is not admitted straight into an academic college; they end up in a holding zone. The College would be structured so that all students have access to resources and assistance they need to be successful.
     6. Fred King is proposing to reinstate an associate vice president in his domain that would take care of the non-STEM areas.
   - The allocation of the next 20 lines will be:
     2 lines in Radio Astronomy
     1 line utilizing Shale gas
     1 line improving STEM education and scientific literacy
     1 line promoting stewardship of water resources

5. Chair Mays reported that:
Some initiatives that Lesley started are still ongoing. He talked to Melanie Cook about the composition of Hearing Panels, and Zach Redding, Student Government President, about student representatives on Senate committees.

He met with Nigel Clark and last year’s chair and the current chair of the Research and Scholarship Committee to talk about the allocation of funds and make sure there’s a balance between approaches and that funding is met.

He went to Logan with Roy Nutter to the ACF retreat.

He talked to Potomac State Provost Colelli and plans a visit there in early October.

He met with new faculty at new faculty orientation.

Patricia Lee developed a handout about parliamentary procedure to give senators an overview of the meeting process. It will be handed out at the first Senate meeting. It will also be available on the Senate website.

There have been ongoing discussions with Steve Robinson about implementation of the CIM system that will impact the Curriculum and GEC Oversight Committees. The goal is that this is a turnkey system that will end up giving us less paper to shuffle and make a simpler course approval process.

Faculty Secretary Mary Strife coordinated a search to hire somebody who would have primary responsibility to interface with the faculty to implement that computer system. The search has been successful and there will be a new staff person in the Faculty Senate Office, who will start shortly. Linda Cunningham announced that she plans to retire.

6. Dennis Ruscello, Chair, Senate Curriculum Committee, moved for approval of the following reports:

   Annex I, New Courses and Course Changes. Motion carried.
   Annex II, 2011-12 Committee Report and 2012-13 Committee Goals. Accepted.

7. Ilkin Bilgesu, Chair, General Education Curriculum Oversight Committee, moved for approval of the following report:

   Annex III, GEC Actions. Motion carried.
   Annex IV, GEC Audits, were submitted for information.

8. Roy Nutter, ACF representative, reported that:

   ACF met in Logan with David Hendrickson, Chair of HEPC and Paul Hill, Chancellor of ACF. Mr. Hendrickson said that the HEPC master plan is underway: draft, mid October, reviewed by the end of October, and in place for the HEPC December meeting. The primary goal is to improve retention and graduation rates.

   Legislative initiatives from Chancellor Hill were formula based funding, i.e. graduation based and the number of students.
• They discussed Mountain State University’s problems. HEPC spent a significant part of the summer trying to assist those students in finding places to land in some of the programs. By December there will be no more MSU.

• He attended the HEPC meeting in Charleston on August 10th. Chair Henderickson gave his pre-year look at things he would like to accomplish this year. Among them were: an RFP that they were working on about health insurance for all full-time students; how to reduce healthcare costs for faculty and staff; how to get graduation rates up; the five-year plan; and the WVU-IT revitalization committee.

• The Governor announced that they are talking about 7.5 percent cuts on everything in the state except the Promise Scholarship, other federal things (student aid), and K through 12.

• HEPC is going to ask the Governor to exempt higher education from these cuts. If higher education is exempt, other agencies would be cut 8.7 percent. Chancellor Hill will meet with the Governor and present a letter from ACF requesting higher education be exempt. ACF feels that if higher education is not exempt it would seriously increase tuition and fees. ACF is asking faculty, individually, to send letters and asking Faculty Senates to send letters asking that higher education be exempt.

• The LOCEA report will be ready by December 1st.

9. Bob Griffith, BOG representative, reported that:

• The BOG has not had a formal meeting since June.

• They had a strategic planning retreat in August. Chuck Vest, past-President of MIT, gave a presentation on the current trends in higher education. The emphasis was that on-line education is getting bigger and more important. Although we seem to be doing ok, we have a lot of room for improvement in terms of on-line education offerings. He said that about 20 faculty members at Tech have taken the Quality Matters course from Sue DAY-Perroots to begin offering on-line courses. Chairman Hendrickson would like more Tech faculty to get involved in on-line courses as his personal vision is for Tech to become the center for on-line education in West Virginia. They also discussed a number of Board issues related to the recent disasters at Penn State and the University of Virginia.

• He attended Tech’s revitalization committee meeting in July. Previously, Carolyn Long and the deans and department chairs had made an extensive table of numbers of majors in each course program over the last five years and teaching loads of various faculty. They’re currently evaluating five programs, four of which are mandated by the BOG for all the institutions, and one that the committee voted to add which is a program that has had very few graduates over the last few years.

10. Professor Leslie Tower discussed progress the University has made in the Lactation Support Program. It was moved and duly seconded to include the lactation document in the Faculty Handbook. **Motion carried.**

11. Mark Six, Director, OIT, discussed security standards for campus servers and desktops. He said there’s a policy committee that’s been working to formalize the best practices regarding OIT.

12. New Business:
• Professor Nutter asked for approval to have the “WV ACF 2012-2013 Issues” included, for approval, on the Faculty Senate meeting agenda. It was moved and duly seconded. **Motion carried.**

• Professor Nutter said that, for various reasons, some students, miss the drop-dead-date for turning in the requirements for the semester. Previously, he could write a letter stating that the requirements for this degree were met except that WVU will not award the degree until the end of December. He said he is no longer able to do that. He asked Steve Robinson, University Registrar, if there is something they can do in place of the letter. Mr. Robinson said they’re working on standard language to be used in these instances.

• Professor Bilgesu said that in the student spotlight section of the newspaper the student said they’d like to change parking at the University. Chair Mays said he’d pass this on to the Faculty Welfare Committee.

• Professor Elmore asked that the Executive Committee recognize the Women’s Soccer Team for beating the number one team in the country. It’s a big accomplishment for us. The Committee did commend the Women’s Soccer Team on its win.

13. The meeting adjourned at 4:25 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, September 24, 2012.

Mary Strife
Faculty Secretary