

Minutes
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
Monday, June 30, 2008
Bluestone Room, Mountainlair
3:00 P.M.

Members Present:

Cumming, J.	Kite, S.	Sedgeman, J.
Clark, N.	Kleist, V.	Strife, M.
Dean, R.	McDiarmid, M.	Torsney, C.
Hartman, K.	Nutter, R.	Woloshuk, J.
Jackowitz, A.	Perone, M.	Wilson, C.B.

Guests Present:

Griffith, R.	Hornak, L.	Olson, K.
Richards, A.		

Members Absent:

Cottrell, L.	Martin, J.	Peace, G.
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1. Chair Kleist called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. She introduced the new Executive Committee and thanked some of last year's members that came as well. She said it has been a long year with many different perspectives and viewpoints. She said her highest priority as Chair will be to help establish a credible process for the selection of a new WVU president. Serious work will include mending bridges and giving everyone opportunities to work together. In the last 3 weeks, the Chair said she met with Terry Nebel, President, Staff Council; Jane Martin, Interim Provost; the University Senior Management Team; Boyd Edwards, Mountaineers for Integrity and Responsibility; Bill Trumbull, Interim Dean of B&E; and Board of Governors representatives, Jason Parsons and Chair Stephen Goodwin. Chair Kleist said this year, her objective is to go forward with everyone working together. She said she is pleased with the 3 additions to the Board of Governors: Charles Vest, Oliver Luck and Raymond Lane.

The Chair said she wanted to discuss Shared Governance and dialogue about how to be engaged in defining the process of the presidential search. Chair Kleist said the Faculty Senate has different viewpoints about certain issues, but it expresses them in a collegial fashion. She said it was her highest priority to help establish a credible process for the selection of a new president. She said everyone was collegial, and she hopes everyone will get along well as they move forward.

2. Chair Kleist said she wanted to discuss "how to engage in defining the process of the presidential search." She asked Professor Hornak to help with this definition since he was part of the BOG and the 2010 plan. Chair Kleist said the following agenda items will be reviewed:

1. Evaluate best practices for a large public university presidential search.
2. Identify the characteristics of good search committee members.
3. Total Compensation
4. The characteristics of a good presidential candidate.
5. How to form the best community dialogue for a presidential search.
6. How will the faculty participate in a presidential search process
7. Final Report
8. Timeline

Members volunteered to work on these agenda items; everyone will work on the final report and timeline.

The Chair said she met with Chair Goodwin and she will meet with the new chair when he/she is selected on July 8, 2008. Past Chair, Steve Kite, will convey some of today's actions to the new chair.

3. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the May 19, 2008 Executive Committee minutes. Motion carried, and the June 2, 2008 Faculty Senate minutes were reviewed.
4. Assistant Vice President of Graduate Education Jonathan Cumming said he met with Steve Sears about the on-going audit. He said the first part has been completed and the second part should be completed by July 30, 2008.
5. Professor Robert Griffith, Chair, Committee on Committees, said one committee has not yet been completed; therefore, the Committee on Committee's report will be submitted in August.
6. Past Chair, Steve Kite, said he is part of the group to revise the constitution along with Professors Famouri and Lastinger.
7. Chair-elect Clark gave a report concerning the Workgroup on Faculty Interaction and Governance following the Vote of No-Confidence. He said the workgroup met prior to the last Faculty Senate meeting, and it met again this morning. Workgroup members, Kristina Olson, Lesley Cottrell, Laura Brady, and Larry Hornak met and discussed its mandate. Chair-elect Clark said because of new circumstances, the committee recommended the workgroup proceed no further, and it be dissolved by the Executive Committee. Chair-elect Clark said a report is available, but if additional information is needed, a member of the workgroup could be contacted. It was moved and duly seconded to dissolve the workgroup. Motion carried.
8. Chair Kleist said the reason for today's special meeting is to discuss the Faculty Senate's input to the BOG for the selection of the interim presidential search process with respect to Shared Governance. She said she submitted the minutes to the Faculty Secretary. The Chair said she has been receiving materials from faculty concerning presidential searches.

Professor Hornak reported that an ad hoc committee was implemented for the strategic planning to review best practices of various university models. He said the Executive Committee may be interested in going this direction and to decide what would be the best formulation of the group. He said the intent would be to provide information to faculty, staff, BOG, WVU students, and other constituencies, the best possible information concerning a president for West Virginia University. Professor Hornak recommended that faculty representatives be present as well as ask the BOG to serve as ex-officio members to the ad hoc committee as the process goes forward. He said on-going summaries could be posted to a website. The Executive Committee will write the charge for the ad hoc committee.

9. Chair-elect Clark said the following 3 motions were made at the May 5, 2008 mass meeting:
 1. Senate panel to whom faculty, staff and students can confidentially report their concerns regarding hiring faculty representation.
 2. The University shall establish an external review panel which faculty, staff, and students can confidentially report their concerns about harassment, retribution and/or employment status. (Motion made by Professor Wonderlin)
 3. Motion by Steven McCluskey concerning hiring practices.

Professor Clark said the second motion was amended because it was prescriptive in saying that the Faculty Senate should be charged with reviewing it rather than having a direct vote on the details that was presented at the May 5th mass meeting that took place at the CCA. Professor Clark said this motion passed at the mass meeting, and it deals with procedures for hiring academic and administrative positions in making sure there is adequate and appropriate representation on search committees and discussion processes in filling those positions. Professor Clark said if the Faculty Senate wants to proceed with this issue a workgroup or committee should be formed to see what constraints presently exist in hiring as well as review the norms and practices and make recommendations of the methods that should be used. Professor Clark said in many cases there are no formal hiring practices so this may provide some backbone for hiring practices. Associate Provost Wilson encouraged members who were interested in reviewing this issue to go to the social justice website and review the present searches for the social justice procedures. Professor Clark said there is probably a complete process in place and the only issue that may arise is the compensation of the search committee and the origin of the search. Associate Provost Dean said the dean's office holds policies and common practices of searches. Professor Clark said it would deal with those who hold academic rank or those who might unusually be hired into very high administrative positions that do not hold academic rank.

A 3-member workgroup was formed, and it will review the motion about hiring practices; the remaining motions will be addressed at the scheduled Executive Committee meetings. Members of the workgroup are Nigel Clark, Jean Woloshuk, and C. B. Wilson.

10. Chair-elect Clark moved that the Provost's office give monthly reports to the Faculty Senate as well as the monthly President's report. It was duly seconded. Motion carried.
11. The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m. to reconvene August 25, 2008.

Mary Strife
Faculty Secretary