Minutes  
Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
Monday, February 27, 2012

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

Members Present:
Bastress, R.  Elmore, S.  Mays, M.  Strife, M.
Bilgesu, I.  Griffith, R.  Nutter, R.  Tuninetti, A.
Cottrell, L.  Kershner, R.  Orlikoff, J.
DiBartolomeo, L.  Kleist, V.  Stolzenberg, A.

Members Absent:
Butcher, F.  Curtis, R.  Clements, J.  Wheatly, M.

Guests:
Christian, T.  Cumming, J.  Dean, R.  Dooley, E.
Hamilton, E.  Lang, A. (DP)  Lee, P.  Wilson, C.B.

2. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the minutes from the January 23, 2012 meeting. Motion carried.

3. Associate Provost Dean reported on the following issues:

- The search committee met two weeks ago regarding the Potomac State dean search. Eight applications have been received, and interviews will be held in March. The pool will be narrowed down to 2-4 on campus interviews in April.

- Two candidates will be interviewed this week for the HR&E dean position. Provost Wheatly will receive a report next week concerning the interviews.

- Associate Provost Cumming’s five-year review is underway; it should be completed by the end of the semester.

- Associate Provost Dooley distributed a handout concerning the Mountaineer Success Academy. She said this program is a new initiative coming from Undergraduate Academic Affairs. It will offer students who are underprepared academically mechanisms to support their matriculation to WVU. The targeted group will be general studies students who fall below the GPA/SAT requirements. Brooks Hall has been designated for students in the Academy, and they will move in one week before classes officially start to begin their instruction. A maximum of 300 students can apply to the program. An advisor, as well as a peer mentor or student coach, will be assigned to each student.
4. Chair Cottrell reported on the following issues:

The Student Government Association is working on some projects that may require faculty collaboration. The Chair may send some electronic mails asking faculty to work with students on these projects.

The GEC survey was sent out by Associate Provost C. B. Wilson’s office to all faculty via electronic mail; it will be due back in two weeks. If anyone has questions, contact Chair Cottrell. Three of the Big 12 peer institutions will implement the survey including: Kansas State, Baylor University and Texas A & M.

On March 8th, Chair Cottrell, Professors DiBartolomeo, Orlikoff, Mays and Stolzenberg will participate in a training session along with Steve Robinson concerning Leapfrog Technology that is connected with Degree Works. The program will allow course applications to be submitted on-line, and it will include an efficient tracking system.

5. Jennifer Orlikoff, Chair, Senate Curriculum Committee moved for approval of the following reports:

- Annex I, New Courses and Course Changes. Motion carried.
- Annex II, MTEC/PATH 475 Capstone. Motion carried.
- Annex III, FCLT 488 Capstone. Motion carried.
- Annex IV, Changes in Marketing Major. Motion carried.
- Annex V, Name Changes for Center for Women’s Studies. Motion carried.
- Annex VI, Proposal for a New Major in Latin American Studies. Motion carried.
- Annex VII, Dance Renumbering for CCA. Motion carried.
- Annex VIII, The Alteration Report was submitted for information. (The Chair will contact the department to ask if the amount of credit hours students can take for BIOC 785 is correct.)

6. Lisa DiBartolomeo, Chair, General Education Committee, moved for approval of the following reports:

- Annex IX, GEC Actions. Motion carried.
- Annex X, The GEC Audits were submitted for information.

7. Associate Provost C.B. Wilson distributed the Mission Statement Modification listed in Annex XI. Page 2 under the first part, the wording was revised to state “West Virginia University is comprised of” instead of “West Virginia University comprises.” It was moved and duly seconded to approve the revision. Motion carried.

8. Toni Christian, Director, Human Resources, distributed a handout concerning PEIA health insurance changes. WVU has 7,000 benefit-eligible employees, in which 6,000 have health insurance. From the 6,000 health-insured employees, approximately 5,000 have PEIA. Toni said the changes to PEIA will take effect July 1, 2012.
9. Roy Nutter, Advisory Council of Faculty representative, said HEPC met last Friday. The conditions of WVU’s animal research facility plans were discussed. HEPC has concerns about how the project will be funded and did not approve the plan. Professor Nutter included updates from the Legislature in his report. He said a new list will be submitted the end of the week, and he encouraged everyone to look at the website.

10. Robert Griffith, BOG representative, reported on the following issues:

- The BOG has been visiting various colleges and schools at WVU; this past Thursday, it visited the College of Physical Activity and Sport Sciences. Before lunch, it toured the new basketball practice facility, which was built with private donations.

- The BOG received a constituent report from the WVU Student Government; students are doing a lot of projects that may require faculty support.

- A report was received from Oliver Luck, Athletic Director, concerning the results of the football game beer sales and stopping “pass-outs” at half-time. The beer and food sales went up, and unruly behavior went down about ten percent. The report was done by a student who collected data for his senior capstone project.

- Applications to WVU-Tech have increased from 198 to 382. Carolyn Long has instituted more intramural programs, which are very popular with the students. She is listening to the needs of the students by eating lunch in the cafeteria several times a week and attending basketball games. The WVU-Tech Alumni Association has been reactivated and has over 200 members.

- The BOG approved 3 million dollars to renovate WVU-Tech’s “Old Main” building.

- WVU will support WVU-Tech as it goes through its revitalization process.

- The animal facilities in the Health Sciences Center lost its AAALAC approval, which is a national accredited body for animal facilities. The NIH continued to fund the animal facility even though it lost its accreditation; however, to date, the NIH said the facilities do not meet their standards. A grant was submitted several years ago to repair the facilities. The grant was received, but it is due to expire shortly.

- The BOG approved bonds for Evansdale Construction.

- Additional funds were approved for the Evansdale Greenhouse.

- Funds were approved for the repaving of the “pit” parking lot.
11. Alan Stolenberg gave an update from the Textbook Affordability Committee. BOG Policy #48 requires guidelines for textbook selection. Professor Stolzenberg said the guidelines are being prepared and will be submitted to Bill Hutchens, WVU General Counsel and VP for Legal Affairs, for review. The guidelines will eventually come to the Senate Executive and Faculty Senate for information.

12. Dr. Elizabeth Hamilton, representative for the Strategic Plan and Accreditation, distributed a handout. The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) is the institutional accrediting body and Associate Provost Dooley is the institutional liaison. Accreditation will take place in 2013-2014; a site visit from the HLC will be held Fall 2013. A deans’ retreat was held in November 2011, and points of contact were established. Criteria are being aligned for accreditation with the strategic planning efforts. A 180-200 page analysis report will be prepared to include the following five criteria: Mission, Ethical & Responsible Conduct, Teaching & Learning Quality, Resources & Support. Various groups will work on the criteria, and the contacts will help to gather data. When the data is gathered, chapters will be drafted. Ms. Hamilton asked how faculty could be reached regarding the process. Chair Cottrell said brainstorming should be done to determine how to reach people. Information can be given to the Faculty Senate as well as placing information on the website. Associate Provost Dean said this will be the first time the regional campuses have been included in the accreditation umbrella.

13. Professor Bastress said in December the Committee asked if plus/minus grading could be considered as part of WVU grading. The HEPC procedural rule lists the value of the A,B,C,D grade mode, but Professor Bastress said it is not stated anywhere that this grading method is the only one that can be used. Kathy Butler, Senior Director of Academic Affairs for HEPC, said the Commission would consider a proposal if the Executive Committee/Faculty Senate would like to present one. Professor Bastress will discuss a proposal with Steve Robinson and report back to the Committee at a later date.

14. A motion was made and seconded to hold an Executive Session. Motion carried.

15. No new business.

16. The meeting adjourned at 5:43 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, March 19, 2012. The meeting was moved up one week because of spring break.

Mary Strife, Faculty Secretary