

Minutes  
Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
Monday, May 22, 2017

1. Chair Lena Maynor called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. in the Bluestone Room of the Mountainlair.

Members Present:

Cottrell, L.	Hileman, S.	McConnell, J.	Proudfoot, C.
Fint-Clark, R.	Ibrahim, M..	Merrifield, J.	Turton, R.
Gee, E.	Kleist, V.	Nutter, R.	Veselicky, L.
Haines, K.	Maynor, L.		

Members Absent:

DiBartolomeo, L.	Elmore, S.	Hauser, D.	Valenti, M.
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Guests:

Bryner, R.	Jackowitz, A.	Pfeifer, A.	Widders, E.
Campbell, J.	Mayo, C.	Singh-Corcoran, N.	Wilson, C.
Day-Perroots, S.	Murphy, E.		

2. Chair Maynor moved for approval of the minutes from the April 24, 2017 meeting. Motion carried.
3. President E. Gordon Gee reported the following:
  - We had a wonderful commencement, with great faculty participation and stellar honorary degree recipients. For future commencement ceremonies, he would like us to consider holding a University-wide celebration in the stadium.
  - The legislature is making slow progress on the budget. He remains in constant communication with key decision-makers.
  - We hired McKinsey to identify priorities for enabling a rapid revitalization of West Virginia's economy; they have completed their study. President Gee will use this summer's county tour to solicit public comments on their report. We intend to present our recommendations to the business summit at the Greenbrier in August, and to advocate for having those recommendations included on the next legislative agenda.
  - A Pittsburgh Business Journal study of the tri-state area determined that Morgantown is the fastest growing and the most economically opportunistic metropolitan area in West Virginia, with all credit given to WVU. Morgantown's economic vitality also surpasses that of any metropolitan area within Pennsylvania. As a \$3 billion organization with over 20,000 employees and a roughly \$9 billion economic impact, WVU is indispensable to this region.
4. Provost Joyce McConnell reported the following:
  - She shared portions of a parent email concerning commencement, which mentioned the ceremony culminating with the graduates singing "Take Me Home, Country Roads."

Provost McConnell agrees that the song has been a fabulous addition to how we end our commencement ceremonies.

- The new faculty web site is online. Please contact the Provost's Office with any comments or suggestions.
- An extraordinary number of people participated in Celebrate, which is co-sponsored by the Office of the Provost and WVU Teaching and Learning Commons. Provost McConnell found the enthusiasm of faculty and staff for enhancing teaching to be infectious. She thanked Sue Day-Perroots and C.B. Wilson and their teams for their work on this event.
- The Teaching and Learning Commons launched a new Scholarship of Teaching and Learning directory in collaboration with the Digital Publishing Institute. This is an open-access resource for faculty instructors to learn about the scholarly pedagogical work of their peers and to build collaborations where possible.
- Two WVU students who graduated in May received graduate research fellowships from the National Science Foundation. Fellows receive a \$34,000 stipend annually for three years, along with \$12,000 cost of education allowance for tuition and fees, opportunities for international research and professional development, and the freedom to conduct their research at any accredited U.S. institution of graduate education they choose. The NSF Graduate Research Fellowship Program received more than 13,000 applications this year and made 2,000 offers.
- She and President Gee attended the outstanding seniors ceremony and were astounded by their accomplishments. She believes their success is partly a reflection of our collective efforts in teaching and mentoring these students.
- She held an initial meeting to address how to develop rules to replace HEPC policies. She expects to put together one or more working groups. We will determine how to move forward, but a possible strategy may be to have one process for rules at the BOG level, and a separate process for other levels of policy such as those found in the faculty handbook or course catalogs. The level at which decisions can be made will determine how quick, adaptive, and flexible we can be. We will draft documents over the summer that will be available when faculty return in the fall. No comment periods or decision-making will occur until then.

5. Chair Lena Maynor reported the following:

- She represented Faculty Senate at five graduation ceremonies by assisting with the hooding of honorary degree recipients. All of the honorary degree recipients presented very moving remarks.
- The ballot for 2017-2018 Executive Committee membership will be open from May 23 through May 31.

6. Karen Haines, Chair, Senate Curriculum Committee, moved for approval of the following reports:

Annex I, New Courses Report. Motion carried.

Annex II, Course Changes Report. Motion carried.

Annex III, Capstone Courses Report. Motion carried.

Annex IV, Course Adoptions Report, was submitted for information. Report filed.

Minor in Gerontology was submitted for information. Report filed.

7. Nathalie Singh-Corcoran, Chair-Elect, General Education Foundations Committee, moved for acceptance of the following reports:

Annex V, GEF Transition Review, was submitted for information. Report filed.  
Annex VI, 2016-17 Committee Report and 2017-18 Goals. Accepted.
8. Emily Murphy, Chair, Faculty Welfare Committee, presented the following:

Annex VII, Proposed Statement of Support for Gender Inclusivity on University Forms. A motion was made and duly seconded to amend the language of the second sentence in the final paragraph to read as follows: “Further, in instances when gender data is not needed, then gender election should not be included on forms.” Motion carried. A subsequent motion was made by the Faculty Welfare committee chair to approve the annex as amended. Motion carried.  
2016-17 Committee Report and 2017-18 Goals was presented for acceptance. Accepted.
9. Art Jackowitz, Committee of Retired Faculty, moved for acceptance of the following report:

Annex VIII, 2016-17 Committee Report and 2017-18 Goals. Accepted.
10. Richard Turton, Chair, Research Integrity Committee, moved for acceptance of the following report:

Annex IX, 2016-17 Committee Report and 2017-18 Goals. Accepted.
11. Michael Ibrahim, on behalf of the Research and Scholarship Committee, moved for acceptance of the following report:

Annex X, 2016-17 Committee Report and 2017-18 Goals. Accepted.
12. Randy Bryner, Chair, Service Committee, moved for acceptance of the following report:

Annex XI, 2016-17 Committee Report and 2017-18 Goals. Accepted.
13. Chad Proudfoot, Chair, Student Rights and Responsibilities Committee, moved for acceptance of the following report:

2016-17 Committee Report and 2017-18 Goals. A recommendation was made that data for WVU-Tech and Potomac State College be included in next year’s report. Accepted.
14. Evan Widders, Chair, Teaching and Assessment Committee, moved for acceptance of the following report:

Annex XII, 2016-17 Committee Report and 2017-18 Goals. Accepted.
15. C.B. Wilson, Associate Provost for Academic Personnel, reported that his office is in the process of creating a web site for the Faculty Handbook. Any recent changes to the handbook have been editorial rather than substantive. He asked Chair Maynor to select a few members of the Executive Committee to review the text of the handbook prior to the August meeting.

16. Roy Nutter, ACF Representative, reported that a furlough bill was approved by the House. The bill identifies essential employees for the governor's office, the executive branch, and the courts, which determines who would work versus who would be furloughed. The bill also specifies that, in the event of a furlough, the State will pay PEIA premiums, employees will not be eligible for unemployment compensation, and employees will be paid for lost time after the shutdown ends. Provost McConnell added that the bill does not identify essential versus non-essential employees for WVU; if we were subject to a furlough, we would establish those categories. The provost will do some checking to determine how likely it is that the bill will become law, whether it will pass in its current form, and if it does pass, what actions we will have to take.
17. Stan Hileman, BOG Representative, reported that the Board of Governors will hold an abbreviated meeting on May 26 to discuss the budget and tuition and fees.
18. New Business – Sue Day-Perroots reported that we will hold a Retention Summit on June 8 to focus on persistence, retention, and completion.
19. The meeting adjourned at 4:13 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, August 28, 2017.

Judy Hamilton  
Office Administrator