

Minutes  
Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
Monday, April 24, 2017

1. Chair Lena Maynor called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. in Rooms 228/229 of the Evansdale Library.

Members Present:

DiBartolomeo, L.	Hauser, D.	Maynor, L.	Nutter, R.
Fint-Clark, R.	Ibrahim, M..	McConnell, J.	Proudfoot, C.
Gee, E.	Kleist, V.	Merrifield, J.	Valenti, M.
Haines, K.			

Members Absent:

Cottrell, L.	Hileman, S.	Turton, R.	Veselicky, L.
Elmore, S.			

Guests:

Clark, N.	Lopez, S.	Widder, E.	Wilson, C.
Karraker, K.			

2. Chair Maynor moved for approval of the minutes from the March 27, 2017 meeting. Motion carried.
3. President E. Gordon Gee reported on three pieces of legislation: a) The governor signed our personnel bill, which President Gee believes will prove to be an important component of our success. Among other things, the bill will afford us greater speed and flexibility in managing salary challenges. b) The governor will be on campus on April 25 to sign HB 2815, which grants greater authority to governing boards at WVU, Marshall University, and the West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine. c) The state budget debate continues. The governor and about two-thirds of the Senate are very supportive of no reductions, or small reductions, to the University. President Gee is fairly confident that we will end up with a budget that is supportive of the institution.
4. Provost Joyce McConnell reported the following:
  - She asked for suggestions on how we can encourage faculty to be more eager to participate in commencement. Several ideas were offered, including shortening the length of the ceremonies, recognizing attendance at commencement as a faculty responsibility, providing faculty with regalia, and defining a clear role for faculty at commencement.
  - The CIO search has concluded; there are four final candidates. She hopes to be able to report back quickly with a decision.
  - Our students have been very successful in vying for nationally competitive scholarships related to international study abroad. Seven WVU students received Boren Scholarships and three were awarded Critical Language Scholarships.

- Forty-four students have been named as WVU Foundation's Outstanding Seniors, including eight who were honored with the Order of Augusta. Further information is available on the *WVU Today* web site.
- She introduced Sam Lopez, Assistant Vice President for Diversity Initiatives. He commented on Graduados Sherehe, the celebration of graduation for multicultural students. About 60 students attended the April 17 ceremony. Lavendar Graduation will take place on April 30.
- Approximately 500 people joined the March for Science in Morgantown on April 22 in support of scientific institutions and science-based policies.
- We have some great people working for us in Washington, including Suzanne Bentzel. Suzanne has built a successful relationship with our Congressional delegation, and understands how to be an effective advocate on budget strategies. She is constantly watching for incursions on federal funding for research at the University.

5. Chair Lena Maynor reported the following:

- She and Matt Valenti visited WVU Tech's Beckley and Montgomery campuses on April 19. They received a tour from the admissions office at Beckley. In Montgomery, they spoke with faculty, attended a brown bag lecture series session, and met with Provost Nigel Clark and Dean Stephen Brown.
- The ballot vote has concluded for the incorporation of plus/minus grades. The majority of Senators voted to begin incorporating plusses and minuses into GPAs. That change will begin in 2021. The ad-hoc work group will continue to meet to finalize decisions, including the specific scale to be used.
- Dave Hauser was elected chair-elect for 2017-2018.
- She asked Sam Lopez to discuss his role with the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. In addition to summarizing his experiences prior to joining WVU, he explained his plans to establish more interaction with faculty, and to act as a faculty liaison.

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.  
 Annex V, Termination of Modern Languages Major for Potomac State College, was submitted for information. Report filed.

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

Annex VI, GEF Actions. Motion carried.  
 Annex VII, GEF Transition Review, was submitted for information. Report filed.

8. Chair Maynor presented Annex VIII, Proposed Statement of Support for Gender Inclusivity on University Forms, on behalf of the Faculty Welfare Committee. Cris Mayo will be invited to the May Executive Committee meeting to respond to questions about the proposal.

9. Evan Widders, Chair, Teaching and Assessment Committee, moved for approval of the following reports:

Annex IX, SEI Reporting Update, was submitted for information. Report filed.  
Annex X, Revision of SEI Queries. Motion carried.

10. Roy Nutter presented Annex XI, Recommendation Concerning Review of Graduate Programs. Following a lengthy discussion, a motion was made and duly seconded to put a report from Graduate Council on the monthly Faculty Senate meeting agenda beginning in the fall of 2017. The report will be for information and will include all approved intents to plan, programs, areas of emphasis, minors, and all other curriculum changes related to graduate programs. Motion carried.

11. Matthew Valenti presented the following on behalf of the Calendar Committee:

Annex XII, Calendar Guidelines. A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the calendar guidelines. Motion carried.

Annex XIII, Annex XIV, Annex XV, and Annex XVI, Academic Calendars, were presented for information. The nine-month faculty contract end date will be added to each calendar. Reports filed.

12. Advisory Council of Faculty Report – no report.

13. Chair Maynor reported the following on behalf of Stan Hileman, BOG Representative:

- President Gee presented a mission and values statement for WVU that was unanimously supported and approved by the BOG.
- The Board was updated on the new agreement between WVU and KVC Health Systems with regard to KVC using the building at the former WVU Tech campus in Montgomery.
- Stan Hileman, Richard Turton, Greg Lieving, and Sheri Chisholm gave a faculty update report.
- The BOG discussed its new role now that many of HEPC's responsibilities have been eliminated. Former HEPC policies that impacted how WVU functions will be reviewed in the near future. This gives WVU and the Board of Governors new opportunities to operate more efficiently.

14. A motion was made and duly seconded to reappoint Roy Nutter to the position of Faculty Senate Representative to State Government. Motion carried.

15. A motion was made and duly seconded to reappoint Chad Proudfoot as parliamentarian. Motion carried.

16. The meeting adjourned at 5:22 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, May 22, 2017.

Judy Hamilton  
Office Administrator