

Minutes
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
Monday, April 25, 2016

1. Chair Richard Turton called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m. in the Bluestone Room, Mountainlair.

Members Present:

Ameri, S.	Fint-Clark, R.	Maynor, L.	Turton, R.
Bastress, R.	Gee, E.	McConnell, J.	Valenti, M.
Cottrell, L.	Griffith, R.	Nutter, R.	Veslicky, L.
DiBartolomeo, L.	Hauser, D.	Orlikoff, J.	
Elmore, S.	Kleist, V.	Stolzenberg, A.	

Guests:

Blemings, K.	Hawkins, T.A.	Lyons, S.	Street, O.
Claycomb, R.	Ibrahim, M.	Merrifield, J.	Wilson, C.B.
Cunningham, K.			

2. Chair Turton moved for approval of the minutes from the March 28, 2016 meeting.

Motion carried.

3. President E. Gordon Gee reported the following:

- Dan Carder, director of WVU's Center for Alternative Fuels, Engines and Emissions, was recognized by Time Magazine as one of the most "100 influential people in the world." Advertisements have been placed in newspapers to celebrate this milestone for WVU.
- Margie Mason, a WVU graduate of the Reed College of Media, won this year's Pulitzer Prize Gold Medal for Public Service.
- Great achievements and accomplishments like these by people currently at WVU or those who were here should be celebrated.
- BOG representative Bill Nutting, Vice-President of Ogden Newspapers of Wheeling, WV and a Pulitzer Board member, said WVU's Media Center is well advanced in comparison to other media schools/centers he has visited, including the center located at Columbia University.
- State revenues are not in good shape and the budget is tied up by disagreements between the house, senate, and the governor. The university has engaged in discussions with legislators to preserve our funding and to promote our freedom agenda to have the local control needed to respond to budgetary challenges.
- Our budget and the size of potential cuts can't be determined until the state budget is set. Although the situation is not good, several other state universities in states with budget issues are in much worse financial situations than WVU. Our budget planning group is doing a great job in dealing with the situation and helping the University achieve its goal of maintaining flexibility.

- Despite these challenges, many things are going well for WVU. We have a good board, responses around the state are good, and the move of Tech to the Beckley Campus is coming along well.

4. Provost McConnell reported on following:

- She just returned from a visit to Bahrain and its Royal University for Women. She visited 3 years ago as dean of the WVU Law School when they were looking for help in developing a curriculum. They were not at the stage to offer one then, but they are now. The RUW would like to offer a WVU-Civil Engineering Degree at the RUW campus. It will be complicated because of all the accrediting issues, but they are committed to only working with WVU. The program will be offered at no cost to WVU and will give WVU an opportunity to have a presence in the Middle East where the engineering needs are very deep.
- She attended a conference on women that WVU helped to co-sponsoring and that was endorsed by Bahrain's Supreme Council of Women. She was accompanied by Jennifer Orlikoff and Virginia Kleist. It was a high quality conference. Women from several different countries came together to tackle issues similar to those that WVU continues to tackle.
- RUW wants to partner with WVU as they pursue the process for creating a recognized center for the study of women in the Middle East. Funding may be available through the College of Education as well as the State department.
- They visited the US ambassador and celebrated the 4th of July (in April because it is too hot in July) on the aircraft carrier USS Harry S. Truman, which was in port.
- Bahrain is a center of diaspora of educated people in the Middle East. The Provost had the opportunity to have discussions with many of these individuals about their experiences of the consequences of US military presence and actions in the Middle East.
- The review of Promotion and Tenure files is proceeding well. She enjoyed reading about the excellent work being done by these faculty. The success rate of faculty in the process suggests that mentoring is helping people succeed and/or giving those unlikely to succeed a clearer picture of their situation and options.
- Dr. Keith Bailey has been hired as the new dean of online learning and continuing professional education, effective June 30, 2016. The dean will help to further develop WVU's online programs. He came highly recommended and has an impressive vision for the field.
- Honors admissions numbers have increased. There will be a total of 850 entering students in the Honors College this fall - seventeen percent of this year's entering class. The growth over the past two years has been 45-percent.
- A letter was published in the Charleston Gazette that questioned what WVU was doing about entrepreneurship and innovation. A response was submitted that

described our vision for entrepreneurship and innovation and all of the projects and plans that are going forward on campus and throughout the state.

5. Dr. T. Anne Hawkins, interim chair of the LGBTQ Center and the Chair of the LGBTQ Commission, presented Provost McConnell with the first Srebalus Ally Award to thank her for her support of LGBTQ students and for her role in the creation of the Center. The award was named to honor Rosemary Srebalus who did much ground-breaking advocacy work for the program. Rosemary was instrumental in starting the LGBTQ commission and for implementing the Safe Zone program across campus. Provost McConnell was one of the first safe space councilors.
6. Shane Lyons, WVU Director of Athletics and Associate Vice President, and Keli Cunningham, Executive Senior Associate Athletic Director, gave updates about the Athletic Program. Renovation of the Coliseum continues. It will be an inconvenience during the May graduation, but the athletic department is doing everything it can to provide accommodations. APR graduation rates are a priority for all teams. An audit of academic programs for athletics has been undertaken using outside consultants. They are examining the policies and procedures that mitigate chances of academic fraud. The Provost expressed confidence in the work and integrity of the Athletic department.
7. Chair Turton has been working with the calendar committee on the 2017-2018 calendar. Four possible options will be presented to the Executive Committee in May and to the Faculty Senate in June. Two options increase class length from 50 minutes to 60 minutes or from 75 minutes to 90 minutes. The extra contact time per week would permit the length of the semester to be shortened and would permit a brief winter session.

The Chair enlisted C. B. Wilson, Melissa Latimer, Evan Widders, Reagan Curtis, Lena Maynor and Jennifer Orlikoff to look at the SEI's to see if the number of questions can be distilled to the minimum. The SEI electronic is doing well; minimizing the number of questions will help to clarify the form.

The Research and Integrity Committee met last Friday to consider procedural changes mandated by new federal government requirements. Amended guidelines for the committee will be presented to the Faculty Senate next month.

8. Professor Valenti met on March 31, 2016 with Aimee Pfeifer, Interim Registrar; Oliver Street, Associate Registrar; Rhonda Black, Program Coordinator for First Year Seminar; and Ann Richards, Assistant Dean, Special Education, to discuss changes to WVUE 191- First Year Seminar, a one hour class. The goals were to balance the need for common course objectives with discipline-specific content and to improve the portability of the class. If students take the course in one subject, they should not have to take it again if they change majors. They propose to make 191 a common-number course, define some common learning outcomes, and let colleges decide how to implement the course.

9. Matthew Valenti, Chair Senate Curriculum Committee moved for approval of the following reports:

Annex I – New Courses Report. (Two courses were pulled from last month’s annex for further consideration. JRL 116 was withdrawn. The title for STCM 438 was changed. It is included in this report). Motion carried.

Annex II – Course Changes Report. Motion carried.

Annex III– Capstone Courses Report. Motion carried.

Annex IV– Alterations Report was submitted for information. Report filed.

Consent Agenda proposals:

New Major in Music Industry (CIM)

New Major in Integrative and Contemporary Performance (CIM)

Annex V – Curriculum Change to Major in Sustainable Agriculture Entrepreneurship (Potomac State College)

Annex VI – New Major in Computer Information Systems (Potomac State College)

Annex VII – Termination of Major in Agronomy (Potomac State College)

Termination of Major in Office Systems Technology (Potomac State College)

Annex IX – Termination of Major in Fashion Merchandising (Potomac State College).

Motion carried for all consent agenda submissions.

10. Kenneth Blemings, Dean of the Honors College and Ryan Claycomb, Associate Dean, gave a presentation about the changes that are taking place in the Honors College. Currently, the college has a single program with two pathways – Presidential and Deans Honors. The changes will create two programs. The Honors Foundation in years 1 and 2 would enrich general education. Upper-Division Honors in years 3 and 4 would be tailored to the student and support experiential learning.
11. David Hauser, Chair, General Education Foundations Committee, moved for approval of Annex X, Expectations of a GEF Course. An amendment was accepted to add “normally” to the following sentence listed in the first point of the document, “GEF courses must normally be open to all students.” It was moved and duly seconded to approve Annex X, as amended and to submit the document to the Faculty Senate for information in May. Motion carried.
12. No Report was given about the Advisory Council of Faculty.
13. Robert Griffith, Board of Governor’s representative, reported that the BOG met this month and heard the annual faculty constituency’s report. Because of the recent elevation of WVU to R1 status, he gave a report about salaries compared to other R1 institutions in addition to our designated peer schools. This elicited a lot of questions from other board members. Jennifer Merrifield gave a talk about life as a faculty member at Potomac State. Paul Rakes talked about WVU-Tech. Professor Rakes was asked how he felt about moving to Beckley, and he said “let’s go.” Chair Turton gave a talk about what motivates faculty and compared cats to faculty, which was well received. Professor Griffith said that given the standstill in the Legislature, the BOG could not make such important decisions as next year’s budget or tuition increases.

14. Alan Stolzenberg, Faculty Secretary, presented proposed amendments to the Faculty Constitution, Annex XI. The changes serve to simplify procedures and clarify several issues. The amendments and their wording were discussed and several modifications were suggested. A revised version of the Annex will be presented to the Executive Committee again next month for final approval. The amendments will be on the agenda of the Senate meeting on Monday, June 13, 2016. If approved, the amendments will be distributed by campus mail to the Faculty Assembly prior to the October meeting. If anyone has additional comments on the Annex, contact Faculty Secretary Stolzenberg.

15. It was moved and duly seconded to reappoint Alan Stolzenberg as Faculty Secretary; Roy Nutter as Faculty Senate representative to the State Government; Chad Proudfoot and Matthew Titolo as parliamentarians to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee and the Faculty Senate. Motion carried.

16. New Business – Professor Lisa DiBartolomeo, presented the following motion in order to deal with a committee staffing problem. The current Curriculum Committee Chair-elect was not re-elected as a senator and no other senator with curriculum committee experience is available to take on the full duties of chair of that committee.

“Resolved, that the Committee on Committees, Memberships, and Constituencies is authorized to create the position of Co-Chair of the Curriculum Committee for the 2016-2017 academic year, to define the duties of the Co-Chair (which may be identical to those of the Chair), and to recommend the appointment of any qualified member of the University Assembly to fill the position.”

Because of the plenary nature of the Executive Committee, this motion would be binding when passed by the Executive Committee. The full Senate would approve in June when it approves all 2016-17 committee appointments.

It was moved and duly seconded to accept the motion. Motion carried.

Current committee Chair Valenti has agreed remain on the committee next year as the Chair and the current chair-elect will serve as the Co-Chair.

17. The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, May 23, 2016.

Barbara Dunn, Faculty Senate Office