

Minutes  
Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
President's Conference Room, Stewart Hall  
August 27, 2007

1. Chair Steve Kite called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the President's Conference Room, Stewart Hall.

Members present:

Clark, N.	Garrison, M.	Lang, G.	Richards, A.
Cottrell, L.	Hornsby, G.	Martin, J.	Strife, M.
Etzel, E.	Jackowitz, A.	McDiarmid, M.	Torsney, C.
Famouri, P	Kite, S.	Nutter, R.	Wilson, C.
Garbutt, K.	Kleist, V.	Olson, K.	

Members absent:

Dean, R.

Guests:

Barefoot, B.      Bowen, E. (DP)      Fulks, T. (DA)

2. Since this was the first meeting of the year, Chair Kite asked that everyone introduce themselves.
3. President-elect Mike Garrison said that a transition group was formed and that the transition has gone very well. He officially starts on September 1. The series of public forums allowed him to get out among people on campus, and the community, and gave the opportunity to have a public discussion about issues. There have been three forums to date, with a fourth tonight. He has been to the regional campuses, met with all the deans on the Morgantown campus, some individual faculty members and other members of the campus.

President-elect Garrison said that the former 8:15 group has become the Senior Management Team. He said that more members have been added to include the Faculty Senate Chair, Staff Council Chair, Student Body President, and the Athletic Director.

Garrison said that he would like to have work groups to work on particular issues. Groups are currently being formed. Input is welcome as we start searches for: (1) Vice-President of Health Sciences, (2) Vice-President for Research, and (3) the Law School Dean.

Garrison will attend a Board of Governors meeting on Friday where the budget for the upcoming year will be finalized. He said a number of factors that go into the budget have already been determined prior to the meeting, including what the tuition increase will be, what enrollment numbers are, and the amount of state funding. He believes he will have a very competitive budget. He looks forward to a full budget, and to include the Executive Committee and Staff Council in the discussion as to reaching a competitive numbers for faculty and staff salaries.

When asked if the University would get a record low percentage contribution from the state, Garrison said that he didn't think so, and that he credits Chancellor Brian Noland's hard work for this.

When asked about his overall assessment of the University, he said that he feels that the people who are here care deeply about the University. He feels that the top issues are salaries and

quality of life issues. He said that under the 2010 plan things are moving ahead very well and the next challenge is “where do we go after 2010”? What are the next steps in terms of growth, academic quality, and the importance of rankings?

Garrison said that he wasn't that concerned about *The Princeton Review's* rating WVU as number one party school; that it is what it is. He talked to several students and parents about this during move-in and it was not an overriding concern. He said that the University is known for a lot of good things and this ranking is not what we are.

4. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the minutes from the May 21, 2007 meeting. Motion carried. The Faculty Senate minutes for the June 11, 2007 meeting were reviewed; then Chair Famouri will send a revised writing for item four, paragraph three; and item 15, paragraph one, line five, “the past faculty...” should be “a past faculty...”.
5. It was moved and duly seconded to approve Grace Wigal's appointment for Parliamentarian. Motion carried.
6. Betsy Barefoot, Policy Center on the First Year of College, reported that over 70 faculty and staff have been involved in an extensive study of the first year experience to develop a plan for making the first year even better for students. She said that WVU has a strong record of excellence with first year students. The plan has been written and will begin to be implemented tonight, with a meeting with an implementation committee. Associate Provost Torsney said that a report will be ready for the November Faculty Senate meeting.
7. Chair Kite said that the Faculty Senate Chair now serves on the University Senior Management team.  
  
Chair Kite visited WVU-Tech and brought back information that he shared with the Provost and President-elect. He discussed the senate process with the group at Tech.  
  
Chair Kite said he was invited to be part of the Background Check Work Group for University employees.  
  
He reported that there are seven courses that formally asked to be exempt from testing during the last week of classes policy.  
  
Chair Kite said that questions arose at the close of the June senate meeting about the consent agenda. He said that he will clarify the meaning of consent at the senate meetings.  
  
Chair Kite said that there is a problem finding what classes are available because the correct semester doesn't show up on-line. From now on, when the new registration starts for a semester, that semester's course availability will be the default.
8. Professor Kite, past Chair, General Education Oversight Committee, moved for approval of a GEC Actions report listed in Annex I. It was duly seconded. Motion carried.
9. Professor Kleist gave brief history of the Work Group on Faculty Shared Governance Committee that was formed in May. She reiterated that this committee's charge is to work on issues of communication, respect, civility and to seek to heal the community; to open avenues of communication, particularly with the Board of Governors. Chair Kite recommended amending the charge in the number of members by eliminating the member from the Governor's Office or HEPC. It was moved and duly seconded. Motion carried, with one abstention.

10. Associate Provost Wilson review modifications to the WVU Board of Governors Policy #2, Academic Freedom, Professional Responsibility, Promotion, and Tenure and asked that it be sent to the Faculty Senate for approval. It was moved, and duly seconded. After modifications, motion carried.
11. Associate Provost Wilson said that six faculty were needed for the 2007-2008 Faculty Advisory Panel on Faculty Evaluation and Promotion and Tenure. Members of the committee are Virginia Kleist (BE), Ruth Kershner (Med), Parviz Famouri (CEMR), and Roy Nutter (CEMR). Chair Kite will contact Asad Davari (Tech) and Provost Wilson will consider others about serving on the committee.
12. After discussion, it was decided to leave the Faculty Senate meeting seating arrangement as it is. Faculty Secretary Strife will contact Ray Miller (Telecommunications) about seating.
13. Chair-elect Kleist said Paul Martinelli, Staff Council Representative, wrote that staff council had percentages, responses, and data based on a survey indicating what staff interests are and that Faculty Senate has no data on what faculty is interested in. There needs to be a poll taken to determine faculty priorities. Chair Kite and Chair-elect Kleist said they will attend the next Faculty Welfare Committee meeting and charge them to assist in developing a survey in an expeditious manner. It was moved and duly seconded that this issue be committed to the Faculty Welfare Committee for the development of an instrument to meet this need. Motion carried.
14. Chair Kite said that the large focus of his report to the BOG's this Friday will be the national market in which we compete and the salary shortfall compared to peer SREB (Southeast Region Educational Board) universities, all universities, and Doctoral Universities with a very high Research level. WVU is 80-85% short of the means. We deserve consideration for faculty salary enhancement. Chair Kite will ask the Board to be put this issue on the agenda to report again in the spring.
15. Chair Kite said that retired faculty representatives Sophia Blaydes and Phil Comer will give a report at the next Faculty Senate meeting.
16. Faculty Senate Committee Members for 2007-2008 was presented for information in Annex II.
17. Professor Nutter distributed a hand-out of what the ACF had been doing this summer. He said that four issues were adopted for the 2008 session:
  1. Increase Legislative funding to the National Average in order to:
    - Improve student access and retention
    - Compensate for inflation that annually affects each institution
    - Fund appropriate merit increases for full-time faculty
    - Provide for new full-time and tenured faculty positions
    - Fund raises for adjunct faculty salaries
  2. Amend State Code to eliminate the cap on tuition waivers as a recruitment and retention strategy for faculty and staff:
    - Amend 18B-10-6A so that the removal of tuition waiver limitation that WVU and Marshall currently enjoy can be extended to an institution whose BOG chooses to broaden the scope of waivers;
    - Repeal 18B-10-5 and 18B-10-6, which mandate the 5% waiver restriction for undergraduate and graduate institutions respectively.

3. Increase the State's share of retirement contribution from 6% to 7.5% for Higher Education Employees.
4. Allow Higher Education Employees the right to serve in the legislature.

Professor Nutter moved, and it was duly seconded, to use numbers one, three, and four, in that order; move number two to the last and scratch the codes. Motion carried. This issue will be moved to the full Senate for approval.

18. Provost Lang moved, and it was duly seconded, that President-elect Garrison's October 19 inaugural address will serve as his 2007 fall semester address to the faculty assembly of West Virginia University. Motion carried.
19. Professor Clark requested that the amnesty policy for courses that have been taught many times under a temporary designation be continued. Professor Cottrell, chair of the Curriculum Committee will check on this and report to the Senate.
20. The meeting adjourned at 5:23 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, September 24, 2007.

Mary Strife  
Faculty Secretary