Minutes
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
Monday, August 22, 2011

1. Chair Lesley Cottrell called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in Room 125AB, NRCCE Building.

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

   Members Absent:
   Butcher, F.

   Guests:
   Atkins, C.  Lee, P.  Stump, J. (NIS)
   Lang, A. (DA)  Mazzella, D. (NIS)  Turton, R.
   Lastinger, M.  McDiarmid, M.  Wilson, C.B.

2. It was moved to approve the minutes from the May 23, 2011 meeting. It was duly seconded. Motion carried.

3. President Clements said that:
   
   - We welcomed approximately 5,000 new freshmen. Move-in went really well. He said that Universities are struggling right now and that we are fortunate that the numbers look good at WVU.
   
   - Year-end numbers at fundraising is at $100 million. There’s been a 10-year average at about $55 million. Research is way up. For the last two years the average has been $176 million; for ten years the average was about $130 million.
   
   - The search for the VP for Research is continuing. A couple of candidates will be on campus in a couple weeks.
   
   - We are involved in an Innovation Advisory Board (US Commerce Department). President Clements is the only University member on the board. We’re getting a lot of input from higher ed across the country. We will host a forum on this campus on September 9. More information about the forum will come out on e-news in the next week or so.
   
   - Enrollment is strong; somewhere between 29-30,000 students on the main campus, 32-33,000 including other sites.
• Academic Affairs and Student Affairs are partnering on Freshman Academy. One of the goals is to increase retention rates.

• The Strategic Plan is moving forward. Nigel Clark is leading that effort and doing a great job. More things will be coming out relating to that Plan.

• New faculty have been added and more will probably be added.

• The Provost’s Office is working on filling Dave Miller’s position. He handled state relations in addition to the Extension Service.

• There’s about $300 million planned for capital improvements. Improvements will be to the PRT and Evansdale Campus.

• WVU has been ranked in the top 20 for best places to work in higher ed and number two in research.

• WVU was listed in the top 100 as one of the most wired healthcare systems in the country.

• He’s thrilled to be starting his third year here. And he’s looking forward to a great year.

4. Provost Wheatly reported that:

• As to the Strategic Plan:

  Goal one, there’s been a lot of changes to the undergraduate program. One big change was that Enrollment Management moved to Academic Affairs from Student Affairs.

  Many faculty took part in the week-end activities. Students were exposed to academic programming, meeting faculty members, and knowing where their department or college is located.

  Enrollment is strong. She reminded everyone that helping students succeed is what everyone needs to invest themselves in.

• Goal two, the faculty situation, about 90 new faculty were hired. The Strategic Planning Council is talking about the hiring of the next 20-30 new faculty. The first group was based on instructional needs, the second group were for mainly research, and for the third group, they’ll be looking at doing some creative things while looking at what strategies might most effectively get us to research very high and to bond into disciplinary and innovation.

• Goal three, diversity, there’s been an outstanding response to the diversity training that is required to get a new line at the University.
• Goal four, international activities, continue to be very strong. The Global Roundtable is up and running.

• Goal five, 2011-12 will be a banner year because it’s the 150th anniversary of the Morrill Act that funded the land grant university. They’ll be celebrations and a lot of public relations about this. It will remind us what our primary goal is – to serve the people of the state of West Virginia.

• Steve Bonanno is serving as Interim Director of Extension, replacing Dave Miller.

• Kerry O’Dell is resigning as Provost of Potomac State, effective next year.

• Rudy Almasy is serving as Interim Dean of the Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design. Bob Jones is chairing the Dean’s search committee.

• Elizabeth Dooley is serving as Interim Dean of the College of Human Resources and Education.

• There will be a revitalization plan for Tech which would involve bringing in outside reviewers. It took place the last week of July. Scott Hurst, in conjunction with the Provost’s Office, released a statement that “at the point that we know what the direction of the Institution might be we will go for permanent leadership at WVU-Tech.”

5. Chair Cottrell said:

• She met with many different groups over the summer. ACF was the first group she met at their retreat.

• She met lots of people at New Faculty Orientation. She talked to them about needs they had and issues they’d like to discuss.

• She met with Retired Faculty last week. They are focusing on the huge group of retired faculty they may have within the next three to five years.

• The GEC workgroup met a couple of times. They’ll start meeting this week looking at GEC objectives and how it’s measured, the assessment plan, and accreditation.

• She'll follow-up on the shale drilling motion that was made at the June Faculty Senate meeting during new business.

6. Lisa DiBartolomeo, Chair, General Education Curriculum Oversight Committee, submitted the following report:

    Annex I, GEC Actions, was presented for information.
7. Roy Nutter, ACF representative, said that the big topic is the switch to the 120 hour degree. The way he sees it, they can hold us to the 120 hours unless you can show an accreditation issue.

8. Robert Griffith, Board of Governors representative, said the Board had a planning retreat at the town of Shepard. They swore in new members and there was a presentation on ethics laws and conflict of interest. Featured speaker Dr. Kenneth Shaw, from the Association of Governing Boards, discussed challenges to traditional higher education institutions.

9. Professor Carolyn Atkins presented Annex II, 2011-2012 Faculty Senate Committees. She said that 56 positions need filled by faculty senators. She said that it was difficult filling some of the committees.

10. Professor Richard Turton, Chair, Committee on Committees, requested the establishment of a committee to assist with the new Research Integrity Procedure. The composition of the committee would be four faculty senators, eight faculty, and one ex officio (Professor Marjorie McDiarmid). It was moved and duly seconded to establish a committee. **Motion carried.**

11. Professor Turton distributed a “Senate Committees at a Glance” Excel sheet showing the composition, chair and chair-elect, charge, and goals of each committee; and a “Senate Committee Contact List” listing the name of the chair, their phone number, and e-mail address.

12. President Clements said that the Student Rec Center began charging faculty members $5 when they dropped their kids off at the Kids Club while they worked out. He was not aware of this decision and asked Provost Wheatly and Ken Gray to absorb the charges for this year and extend what they’ve done in the past.

13. Professor Bob Bastress said that the student counseling service set up an intervention program to help students who are depressed or high risk or suicidal. He said that Narvel Weiss wanted to charge for these services and that people on student council were very upset and feel that it will threaten its effectiveness. President Clements said this concerns him and that he will look into it.

14. Chair Cottrell passed out a copy of the motion on the Marcellus shale drilling that was passed at the June Faculty Senate meeting. She said that many activities took place over the summer. Extension has provided a forum/workshop on the issues. Many faculty have done other presentations over the summer. The Law School will be hosting a lecture type series tentatively scheduled for October 27 and 28.

   Professor Stolzenberg moved that the Senate be asked to modify it’s motion so that the Executive Committee not be charged with presenting a forum but rather it can explore presenting a series of lectures to educate the public potentially leveraging the efforts of other groups on campus. It was duly seconded. **Motion carried.**

15. The Committee adjourned at 4:50 p.m. to reconvene Monday, September 26, 2011.

Mary Strife, Faculty Secretary