

Minutes
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
Monday, March 27, 2017

1. Chair Lena Maynor called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in room 228/229, Second Floor, Evansdale Library

Members Present:

Cottrell, L.	Haines, K.	Maynor, L.	Turton, R.
DiBartolomeo, L.	Hauser, D.	McConnell, J.	Valenti, M.
Fint-Clark, R.	Hileman, S.	Merrifield, J.	Veselicky, L.
Gee, E.	Kleist, V.	Nutter, R.	

Members Absent:

Ibrahim, M.	Stolzenberg, A.
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Guests:

Campbell, J.	Day-Perroots, S.	Pfeifer, A.	Proudfoot, C.
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2. Chair Maynor moved for approval of the minutes from the February 27, 2017 meeting. Motion carried.

3. President E. Gordon Gee reported on the following:

Were in the middle of the Legislative session, and things are going better than we expected. Three things we've been working on:

- Changes to the personnel statute have passed, which puts the Institution on a performance basis. Chris DeBord, Human Resources Vice President for Talent and Culture, is focusing on a structure that will assure everyone is recognized.
- House Bill 2815 will be on the House agenda either today or tomorrow.
- The budget – The University is the best return on investments in the state. Every dollar that is spent on WVU, ten dollars is given back. We are the economic engine and the social engine. The state needs consolidated because there are too many small entities draining the resources. There are 700 teaching positions open in the state, but students cannot get jobs because of the bumping rule, so they have to go to other states. A plan has been given to the House, and it will come back with a budget. Governor Jim Justice stands with WVU and will not allow the budget to be cut. He will be on campus next Wednesday, April 5th from 2:30-3:30 p.m. in the Blue Ballroom, Mountain lair. The President encouraged members to go by and thank the governor for his support of the University.

4. Provost Joyce McConnell reported on the following:

- WVU has been supportive of WVU-Parkserburg with its transitioning and development of courses and programs. The Higher Learning Commission accreditation for WVU will take place in 2018 and WVU-P will have their

accreditation in 2019, so we will wait for both of those accreditation events to occur before beginning conversations about a closer relationship. Associate Provost Sue Day-Perroots said she has been working on the BA in Music, which is a new program for WVU-P.

- The Academic Freedom Bill died as well as the Campus Carry Bill.
- A bill was introduced by members of the House and Senate on sexual assault that died as well. The University has a sexual assault policy in place that is more defined and clear in certain areas than the proposed bill would have offered.
- Promotion and Tenure reviews are in process and most of them are very positive.
- The Faculty Welfare Committee has been getting a lot of emails about 4-H. Chair Maynor, Emily Murphy, Chair of the FWC, and the Provost will meet to discuss the concerns and comments. Town hall discussions have taken place and various email communications continue to circulate. The Provost said she will push forward to keep lines of communication open.
- She talked with some humanities chairs last week. In the process of moving forward with the Humanities Center, there have been budget concerns, so it was decided that a center was not needed. Various chairs of humanities in Arts and Law came together to discuss collaborating and working together to do cutting edge work. There was an idea to create a grant system with some endowed funds that will free up faculty to pursue their research. There is an interest to work on individual projects as well as with cohorts. An explanation of themes in stem disciplines in the humanities, technology in the humanities, etc., could be organized around different ideas.

5. Chair Lena Maynor reported on the following:

- A qualtrics survey for a new appeals process for grades was sent out electronically from the Faculty Senate Office to all senators and Katherine Karraker sent it out to all faculty. The survey will be open until April 10, 2017.
- The Registrar's office is developing a new course change type in CIM that will be called "campus adoption." It will allow courses that are already being taught on one campus to be taught on another campus. Department chairs for all affected will give their approval by signing off in CIM. The process will continue as an FYI to the Curriculum Committee. If a course is a 300-level or above, it will also be directed to the Provost's Office for approval.

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.

Given the large number of students potentially affected, the Office of the Registrar requested that the deadline for approved course revisions (a change in required course grade from A- to C of a pre-requisite course grade) to MATH 126-B be extended to allow for the Office of the Registrar to enter the change for the Fall 2017 catalog. Because of

the timing, Chair Maynor distributed the request to the Executive Committee through email prior to meeting and received no objections to the deadline extension.

Strategic Communications. Motion carried.

Sustainable Agricultural Entrepreneurship. Motion carried.

Curriculum Changes to the BS in Speech Pathology and Audiology. Motion carried.

Minor in Adventure Recreation Management was submitted for information. Report filed.

Professor Haines distributed a paper copy of PSYC 350. It was a harmonized course submitted by WVU-Tech. Taylor Richmond sent her an email asking if the Executive Committee could review this last harmonized course. Professor Haines said all affected parties have agreed with the change. Professor Haines moved that PSYC 350 go through the same expedited process that all the other harmonized courses went through. It was duly seconded. Motion carried.

Professor Hauser moved that any future course change requests related to the harmonization process go through the standard Faculty Senate process since student registration for fall starts soon. It was duly seconded. Motion carried.

7. Lisa DiBartolomeo, Chair, General Education Foundations Committee, submitted Annex III, GEF Transition Review, was submitted for information. Report filed.
8. Annex IV, Recommendation Concerning Review of Graduate Programs, was tabled.
9. Chair Maynor discussed Annex V, GPA Ad Hoc Work Group Report. WVU allows +/- grades to appear on the transcript, but they are not used in the GPA calculations with exception of the College of Law. A notation appears on the back of the official transcript that says +/- grades may appear on the transcript, but are not used in GPA calculations. Chair Maynor said a student representative has concerns that sometimes it looks dishonest when students apply to graduate schools because the GPA may look different than the transcript grades.

The ad hoc committee looked at 19 peer schools, and from those peers, 12 use +/- grading in the GPA calculations, 5 do not, and 2 do something different. None appear to allow +/- grades on the transcript if +/- grades are not used in GPA calculations. The ad hoc committee feels that the current practice of including +/- grades when they are not used in GPA calculation should not continue.

The Chair discussed the issue with Dr. Karraker, and she presented it at an Associate Dean/Dean meeting. Per Dr. Karraker, graduate programs will adopt any GPA policy approved by the Faculty Senate.

A concern was that if the +/- grading is used, some students may lose certain scholarships, grants or financial aid assistance because GPA may go down. Professor DiBartolomeo suggested discussing the issue with the students so they are well informed. Professor Hauser recommended the new grading be implemented for the 2021 graduating students since it will affect the incoming fall freshman class.

Chair Maynor called for a motion to send out a ballot to Faculty Senate through qualtrics with the following two options: (1) drop the ability to use +/- grades and leave the GPA calculations as they are or (2) in 2021, start using +/- grading with GPA calculations. The motion was called and duly seconded. Motion carried.

The Chair will develop a presentation to outline the pros and cons of using +/- grading for the next Faculty Senate meeting to precede the voting period.

10. Roy Nutter, Advisory Council of Faculty representative had no report. He said the President and Provost discussed similar issues.
11. Stan Hileman, Board of Governors representative, said the BOG met on March 14, 2017. The President and Provost outlined the issues he was going to discuss.
12. Chair Maynor said the results of the Faculty Senate election are listed on the agenda.
13. All individuals present in consideration for faculty secretary were excused. A summary of Faculty Senate activity, including leadership roles, for candidates was presented. A ballot was distributed for the appointment of a new faculty secretary. After ballots were counted, Chad Proudfoot, Extension Services, was appointed. Chad will complete Alan Stoltenberg's 2-year unexpired term. It was moved and duly seconded to place Chad as the interim faculty secretary until July 1, 2017. Motion carried. The Faculty Senate will be asked to confirm the appointment of Chad Proudfoot as the faculty secretary next month. John Campbell said he would assume any faculty secretary duties until that time.

Professor Turton suggested getting Alan Stolzenberg a nicely framed certificate or a plaque to show appreciation for his services.
14. Karen Haines, Senate Curriculum Committee Chair, distributed a handout of updated definitions that are aligned with HEPC Series 11 that the Committee received from Associate Provost Sue Day-Perroots. The Associate Provost said she contacted the Registrar's Office for the current list of definitions for various programs, and they were outdated. The definitions have been updated, and they will be forwarded to the Faculty Senate for information.
15. The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, April 24, 2017.

Barbara Dunn, Administrative Secretary Sr., Faculty Senate Office