

Minutes  
Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
Monday, October 26, 2009

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

Members Present:

Atkins, C.	Clements, J.	Martin, J.	Perone, M.
Bilgesu, I.	Cottrell, L.	McDiarmid, M.	Stolzenberg, A.
Boyles, J.	Jacknowitz, A.	Nutter, R.	Strife, M.
Clark, N.	Kirby, B.	Olson, K.	

Members Absent:

Kleist, V.

Guests:

Cossick, S. (DA)	Griffith, R.	Lastinger, M.	Shaner, C. (DP)
Dooley, E.	Kite, S.	Robinson, S.	Wilson, C. B.

2. President Clements said that he has received a great number of text messages and e-mails, mainly from UConn people, thanking the University for its response during Saturday's football game to acknowledge UConn's recent tragedy. He said that he was really proud of the students' response.

The President said that last week was the grand opening of the intermodal transportation facility, a 7000 square foot facility that holds a 500 space parking garage. He feels it's a great example of a win-win partnership among the University, the city, and the state, with help from the federal government. He thinks it will help with transportation issues in the town.

Last week wrapped up Diversity Week. The President said there were a great series of events. He attended the Women of Color luncheon.

The President is very concerned about the gunshots that were fired after Saturday night's football game in the Sunnyside area. He said it's a priority and people are looking into it to see what happened. He said they are looking into ways of improving safety. He wants all of the campus to be as safe as it can be.

The President said there is a committee working campus wide on H1N1. The committee asked that the following points be made:

- Hand sanitizers have been placed around the campuses.
- Informal communications have gone out through e-mails, posters around campus, and advertisements in newspapers.
- The hospital and student health are working with the Mon County Health Department to deal with the increasing number of cases. The number is, unfortunately, increasing.
- If somebody does have the symptoms, just stay home.

- Vaccines are being given to healthcare workers, including students who work in healthcare.
- The Health Department will follow federal guidelines in prioritizing vaccines in the next few weeks.

The President said there's always a ton of bragging points. We continue to do a lot of really good things. People are winning awards, people are getting grants, and people are publishing books. We're doing a lot of positive things. He pointed out two from the Davis College of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Design: WVU's Soil Team placed first in the Southeast Regional Conference hosted by the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Four students were in the top ten. The College also received 1.7 million dollars from NOAA, the U.S. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, to establish environmental research centers.

President Clements asked for feedback from his State of the University address. The Committee agreed that it was a very good address. They thought there would be a "standing ovation" when he said he was going to hire 100 more faculty. He said it is really necessary because the student/faculty ratios are way out of line.

Interim Provost Martin said that they are looking for at least 50 faculty for the next academic year. Many of them are replacements but at least ten are new positions. The ten new positions are not part of the 100.

3. Interim Provost Martin reported that the new Provost, Michele Wheatly:

- Has been to campus three times, for two-three days each time, in October and will be here again in November;
- will be going with the President to the APLU meeting;
- will be back in December a couple of times;
- will be visiting Potomac State, Tech, and the Charleston Division;
- that she has been meeting with deans, vice presidents, and other key constituents who will be reporting to her;
- that she is looking forward to starting full time in January; and,
- that the Executive Committee will meet with her on December 16 or 17.

Interim Provost Martin commended Provost Wheatly for the commitment she's made, taking vacation time to come here and visit so that she can hit the ground running.

Interim Provost Martin said that Rehan Khan, the new CIO, was at the October Faculty Senate meeting. He will begin working October 30.

Work is being done on hiring Deans for the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences and Business and Economics. Right now, chairs have agreed to serve on search committees. Associate Provost Dean is working with the colleges to choose representatives for the hiring committees. A draft position description will be given to the committees to alter or revise as needed. She would like to have the positions posted early in the new year. The goal is to have someone hired by July 1, or at least by the beginning of the fall term.

4. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the minutes from the September 28 Executive Committee meeting. Motion carried.
5. The draft minutes of the October 12 Faculty Senate meeting were reviewed.
6. Chair Clark said that the process of hiring 100 new faculty members will be of great interest to faculty. President Clements said that process will be handled by the Provost's Office.

Chair Clark said that it occurs to him that Faculty Senators within colleges seldom meet independently, don't have cohesiveness in many cases, and don't relate to the faculty governance system that may exist in some of those colleges. He said something that may be discussed in the future is the extent to which the Senate is not factor and does not bore down into the colleges in the same way.

The Chair said that the Research Corporation will have a committee to review the by-laws. He asked two of our members, Jim Anderson and Barbara Ducatman, to serve on that committee.

The Chair said there will be an appointment in the near future to the Board of Governors. He asked that members e-mail him information on qualities they feel are important. He will then draft an open letter to the Governor's Office listing the qualities, experience or background, any other information of this kind. If there are several backgrounds which we believe might benefit the BOG by expanding its expertise or vision, those areas will be listed.

Chair Clark feels there are issues in our own processes. He believes that submissions to the Curriculum Committee and the General Education Curriculum Oversight Committee can take awhile to process. Two things suggest that perhaps reports from those committees be sent directly to the Senate:

- Saves two weeks in the timing; and,
- That faculty governance is on the rise at the Institution. There are better things that the Senate Executive Committee can do than agree to send the documents put before them on to the Faculty Senate.

He said there is also a problem with continuity. He suggested that there be a three year sentence on the committees – chair-elect, chair, and past-chair – so there is always three leaders on the committees and maintain some continuity. Professor Bilgesu suggested all committees follow the three year guideline.

7. Professor Ilkin Bilgesu, Chair, Curriculum Committee, amended Annex I, New Courses and Course Changes, to include two new courses. He moved for approval of Annex I. After minor corrections, Motion carried. Annex II, Alteration Report, was submitted for information.
8. Professor Beverly Kirby, Chair, General Education Curriculum Oversight Committee, moved for approval of Annex III, GEC Actions. Motion carried. Annex IV, GEC Audits, was presented for information.

9. Professor Steve Kite, CCCP Committee Chair, distributed a hand-out with recommended changes to the Faculty Constitution. He will return to the November meeting for further discussion.
10. Professor Roy Nutter, ACF Representative, distributed a hand-out and reported that:
  - PEIA will be holding hearings for the 2011 year beginning November 6,2009. ACF passed the following statement: “In light of State recommendations that there be no raises for 2009-2010, the Advisory Council of Faculty (ACF) strongly endorses a recommendation which urges the State and WV-PEIA to implement a moratorium on any increase in PEIA premiums, co-payment deductibles, and out-of-pocket maximum and/or decreases in medical/pharmacy benefits to all state employees both active and retired.”
  - Raises for 2009-2010 have been approved for West Liberty University, WV Northern CTC, Kanawha Valley CTC, and possibly Shepherd University.
  - Possibility of using shared IT resources.
  - Concern that WVU and Tech have no public defender that faculty or staff can use in matters of on-campus issues. Further discussion will be held on this issue.

Professor Jackowitz moved, and it was duly seconded, that the Executive Committee endorse the ACF statement in the first bullet. Motion carried. Professor Nutter will report this endorsement to the ACF representatives.

11. The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, November 23. An Executive Session followed to discuss honorary degrees.

Mary Strife  
Faculty Secretary