Minutes
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
Monday, February 28, 2011

1. Chair Alan Stolzenberg called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the Bluestone Room, Mountainair.

Members Present:
Abate, M.  Clements, J.  Kershner, R.  Strife, M.
Bastress, R.  Cottrell, L.  Nutter, R.  Urbanski, J.
Bilgesu, I.  DiBartolomeo, L.  Petty, T.  Wheatly, M.
Clark, N.  Hartman, K.  Stolzenberg, A.

Members Absent:
Butcher, F.

Guests:
Griffith, R.  Lastinger, M.  Mazzella, D. (NIS)

2. It was moved to approve the minutes from the January 24, 2011 meeting with the following corrections: delete the last sentence from item number 9 and delete “impeded” from the next to the last sentence in item 10. It was duly seconded. Motion carried.

3. President Clements reported that:

- There are a number of bills being discussed in the Legislature. After the session winds down in a couple of weeks, the budget will be discussed. He said that ACF representative Professor Roy Nutter is doing a great job tracking and sending out information on relevant bills, keeping everyone in the loop. In terms of the budget, we’re hopeful for next year. It looks like the budget will stay strong. He said he asked Narvel Weese and the financial officers at the institution to try to build a budget for next year that fully funds the classified staff schedule and provides a pool of funding for faculty increases, on top of keeping the one-time increases from this fiscal year. He said it’s very important to be competitive to recruit and to retain faculty and staff.
- The first diaphragm pacemaker was implanted at WVU. There are only 35 cities worldwide to do this surgery. This is a very big deal for people with spinal cord injuries so they don’t have to breathe with a ventilator.
- We have a Fulbright Specialist this year, one out of 400, from the Occupational Therapy Department. Anne Cronin, an associate professor, will be working in Sri Lanka to set up an Occupational Therapy Undergraduate Degree Program.
- The strategic framework is moving forward. Professor Nigel Clark is providing leadership on that. He’s had many comments saying this is the right direction for the institution.
- We’re gearing up for a report on the Capital Campaign where we’ll talk about the timeframe and the amount of money we hope to raise and where that money will go. The initial feedback from the consultant that the Foundation hired is extremely positive about the direction of the University.

4. Provost Wheatly reported that:
At the last Faculty Senate meeting, she announced the appointment of Associate Vice President for Strategic Planning, Nigel Clark. Professor Clark helped build the plan and now we move into implementation phase. It is very important that we don’t lose momentum at this point. The Provost, Professor Clark, and others have been in discussions about how to maintain the momentum and move productively ahead on all five of the goals.

She had requested 70 new faculty positions. She hopes to allocate around 25-30 positions this year. She received the “Intent to Request” and then had each dean present his/her cases in front of the others. There were discussions on energy, nanoscience and engineering, identification technology, life sciences public health and miscellaneous. Many positions are related to the research focuses on campus. The requests were sent to Vice President for Research, Curt Peterson, some Center directors, and the Chancellor of Health Sciences for further review and refinement. She’s hoping that in some of the colleges where there’s more than one position open that two-career couples could be hired.

There were three candidates on campus for the Davis College dean’s search. Those interviews have been concluded and they are in the process of selecting a dean.

The second campus interview for the College of Creative Arts dean’s position will be held this week. She is hoping that within the next several weeks there will be new leadership in both of those Colleges.

Administrative reviews have begun for Dean Cilento, who has served ten years as dean at the College of Engineering and Mineral Resources; and Keith Garbutt, who has served one term as the dean of the Honor’s College. The review of Dean Maryanne Reed wrapped up very successfully and she was reappointed for another administrative term.

As the chair of the University Planning Committee she wants to reassure that the discussion around budget occupies a whole year – about two hours a week, all year. Tremendous time and attention are dedicated to the process. She has seen presentations from the general University and last week from Health Sciences. Their also doing more intentional planning for capital improvements and for technology needs.

5. Chair Stolzenberg said that:

- Beginning with today’s agenda there will be a report from the Board of Governor’s representative. There will also be a report given to the Faculty Senate.

- The ad-hoc committee to review the academic integrity policy met last week and discussed a number of aspects about the scope and coverage of such a policy. Their working toward a draft discussing those issues. They hope to present the draft to the Executive Committee soon.

- He asked Professor Kite to prepare a version of the Faculty Constitution that was approved with current line numbers. Professor Kite did and it’s now being proofread to make sure everything carried through properly.

- In terms of putting the Constitution into effect, one of the issues is how we start staggering the election of BOG representatives so they can be in alternate years. This is an agenda item that will be discussed today.

- A group is starting to examine e-mail applications. In about 18 to 24 months contracts will come up for renewal so OIT is working with faculty and students to try to specify the
features that should be available in any of the products. The Chair said if anyone had any particular needs, or suggestions, to forward them to him.

- The Faculty Welfare Committee has drafted a parental work assignment procedure. This will be on next month’s meeting agenda.
- He was contacted by the Provost and people at Tech with concerns about trying to harmonize their representatives on the Faculty Senate with their own internal committee structure and procedures of doing things to make sure we align better between the two campuses. He and Professors Lesley Cottrell and Nigel Clark are going to Tech later this month to discuss how the Senate works and how we can better harmonize between the two campuses.
- He met with Professor Angel Tuninetti, chair of Research Committee, concerning the increasing size of the grant pool for next year and the current procedure of awarding grants. Professor Tuninetti is doing research on how things have gone in the past and general distribution between various types of grants. They are also looking at the general workload to see if it would make sense to have more than one deadline for submission. Provost Wheatly asked that Associate Provost C. B. Wilson be included in the meetings.
- The December Holiday Reception that was canceled has been rescheduled for after the Faculty Senate meeting on March 14, 2011.
- The Chairs Reception will take place immediately after the May 23, 2011 Executive Committee meeting in the Milano Room at the Downtown Campus Library.
- Two issues have come up dealing with senate elections. One with the actual nomination process, which will be discussed later in the meeting; and the problem with the numbering on the School of Medicine ballot, which was resolved.

6. Professor Todd Petty moved for approval of the following SCC reports:
   - Annex I, New Courses and Course Changes. Motion carried.
   - Annex II, BS in Athletic Coaching Education. Motion carried, with one abstention.
   - Annex III, Alteration Report, was presented for information.

7. Professor Lisa DiBartolomeo moved for approval of the following GECO Committee Report:
   - Annex IV, GEC Actions. Motion carried.
   - Annex V, GEC Audits, was presented for information.

8. Board of Governors representative Professor Bob Griffith reported that:
   - The Board has approved a new contract for President Clements. It has gone to the HEPC for approval.
   - Donations were accepted for the Brains for Bucks program. They are going to ask the Legislature to extend the time to accept donations. They have asked for a two year extension.
   - The University is conducting an audit of the land it owns. People have willed land to the University and somehow word of that doesn’t get to the University. They learned of some of the land when a Marcellus Shale company jobber asked if they could mine under the land.
   - Professor Clark added that BOG secretary Ted Mattern is no longer a Board member because he served as interim Superintendent of Schools. Board member Tom Flaherty was elected secretary. William Wilmoth was sworn in as a new member.
• Professor Clark also said there were investment updates. The State limits the way in which the University can invest funds. There was also a Legislative update.
• The next Board meeting will be at Potomac State in April and it occurs on the Thursday and Friday prior to the April Faculty Senate meeting. A report will be given at the Faculty Senate meeting.

9. Advisory Council of Faculty representative Professor Roy Nutter said that the ACF was in Charleston for Higher Education Day. He has been forwarding summaries of bills that have not yet been introduced or are no longer acceptable to Executive Committee members. He has been paying particular attention to is SB273 and HB2879. The SB provides a one-time supplement salary increase for all state employees. It appears that bill is dead because it’s in Senate Finance. The HB is on the House floor. He doesn’t know what happened to this bill because he can no longer find the words “higher education” anywhere in it. SB330 is called the Reorganization Bill. It moved past Senate Education and went to Senate Finance. It may never get out of Senate Finance because of the cost – 40 billion dollars. The House bill passed House Education and is in House Finance. SB411 is the bill allowing higher education faculty and staff to serve in the Legislature. This bill passed Senate Education and is now in Senate Judiciary. HB2394 is a bill protecting academic speech of professional educators. Professor Nutter feels that most of the bills of interest died.

10. Chair Stolzenberg said that the Constitution calls for staggering the terms of our two BOG representatives. The chair-elect is elected in even years and the HSC or Extension person will be elected in odd years. The problem facing us now is that both representatives’ terms end this July 1. It was decided that an annex be included on the Faculty Senate meeting agenda stating "Whereas the intent of the Faculty Constitution language is that there will always be a faculty representative on the Board of Governors with at least one year of experience and this is achieved by electing the two faculty representatives in alternate years, and noting that both current faculty representatives have terms ending on June 30, 2011; we move to extend the term of the current BOG representative from Health Sciences/Extension to end on June 30, 2012, after which action the procedures in the Constitution to elect the two faculty representatives will be implemented." It was duly seconded. Motion carried with one abstention.

11. Chair Stolzenberg said that he’s contacted a number of people about running for chair-elect. Some people are still considering it, some are going to be on sabbatical, and some had other reasons for declining. He asked if anyone had any suggestions of who might be interested to let him know.

12. Chair Stolzenberg said that through correspondence it became apparent that the Executive Committee doesn’t understand how the Faculty Senate nomination procedure works. He said most of them thought everyone who was nominated was automatically placed on the ballot. This is not the case; the people with the highest number of nominations are placed on the ballot. The Faculty Senate Office will write the current procedure and the Executive Committee will go from there to adopt a procedure for future elections.

13. Under new business:
• Professor Nutter suggested that the Committee on Committees consider populating the Curriculum Committee so there are enough people for two sub-committees: one that does curriculum review and one that does course review. He asked that the committee members give it some thought and bring it up again at a future meeting.

• Professor Clark said that in the Strategic Plan goals, one is about education, broadly speaking, and there are several items under that goal. One of them is about a vibrant curriculum and one of them is about pre-K-12 engagements. GEC and Curriculum is part of this discussion but a lot falls under Faculty Senate purview. He asked that at a future Executive Committee meeting the members discuss how the Senate may position itself and deal with some of the consensual curricular change over the next few years.


Mary Strife
Faculty Secretary