Minutes  
Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
Monday, September 26, 2011

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

   Members Present:
   - Bilgesu, I.
   - Elmore, S.
   - Orlikoff, J.
   - Wheatly, M.
   - Curtis, R.
   - Griffith, R.
   - Stolzenberg, A.
   - Cottrell, L.
   - Mays, M.
   - Strife, M.
   - DiBartolomeo, L.
   - Nutter, R.
   - Tuninetti, A.

   Members Absent:
   - Bastress, R.
   - Butcher, F.
   - Clements, J.
   - Kershner, R.
   - Kleist, V.

   Guests:
   - Clark, N.
   - Karraker, K.
   - Lang, A. (DP)
   - Lee, P.
   - Lastinger, M.
   - Robinson, S.
   - Stump, J. (NIS)
   - Wilson, C.B.

2. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the minutes from the August 22, 2011 meeting. 
   Motion carried.

3. The Provost said she will center her work around positioning the institution for the Higher Learning Commission’s (HLC) reaccreditation visit; HLC will visit WVU in 2013-14. It will be an undertaking, so the Provost will structure a small organizing committee to include representatives from HSC and Academic Affairs to help with the process. The HLC is moving toward a cyclical process, which is the model being used by President Clements and the entire administrative team for the framework of the 2020 plan which includes goals and benchmarks.

   The Provost said she would like to make the process seamless for the campuses by using some of the existing mechanisms, workgroups, Strategic Planning Council, etc., so the process will not be duplicated. The organizing committee has met a couple of times, and they will look at revised criteria to see what already exists and place it on a website. The group will meet with the Council of Deans at a retreat to be held the beginning of October to kick off the whole reaccreditation process. Key academic leaders are on board and activities will flow through various constituency groups. The Provost will bring updates about the reaccreditation process.

   Keith Garbutt, Honor’s College Dean, came through his 5-year administrative review very well. The Provost said she and Professor Garbutt are working on recommendations that will be forthcoming. Professor Garbutt will be asked to activate an advisory board of honors’
faculty, and the Provost’s Office will assist him with staffing issues as they arise. The Provost will discuss the outcome of the review with Chair Cottrell, so she can distribute it to the faculty.

The Provost said we need to listen to any concerns that new faculty may have. One way this can be met is through a nationally validated faculty survey originated from Harvard University. It is under the acronym, “COACHE”, which is the Collaborative on Academic Careers in Higher Education. The Provost said approximately 3 years ago, WVU participated for the first time by distributing a survey to non-tenured faculty. The survey compared WVU’s junior faculty with those nation-wide. The data was analyzed and distributed. A work group was developed to look at faculty retention issues.

A COACHE survey for tenured faculty will be available on the web on October 24, 2011. It will take 20 minutes to complete, and a link will be sent to every full-time tenured faculty. It will not be sent to faculty hired in the current year or those who serve in administrative positions. Survey themes will include institutional governance and leadership, interdisciplinary work and collaboration, engagement with the academic community, mentoring and being mentored, work and personal life balance, appreciation and recognition, faculty recruitment and retention, and promotion to full professor. The Provost urged all faculty to participate in the survey because it will provide the kind of data and feedback that is needed to make the life of faculty members better, and it will compare WVU with other institutions.

The Provost gave updates on Goal 5, “How we Serve the State of WV.” She said there have been questions about the status of Extension Service’s Community Engagement and Outreach. Professor Clark gave an update about this issue stating that round tables are being set up to discuss issues such as: lifelong learning, quality of life, and economic opportunities. A state engagement plan will be put in place to equip WVU as a land-grant institution. Professor Clark will report back to the Senate Executive Committee next month.

4. Chair Cottrell reported on the following issues:

- The second candidate, Dr. Morris Foster, was interviewed for the vice-president of Research position on September 22-23. The Chair asked faculty for feedback concerning this candidate.

- Melissa Latimer is working on the ADVANCE Center, and a plan is being identified concerning some of the findings and information that will be useful for the Center.

- A constituency meeting will be held with the BOG on November 4, 2011. If anyone is interested in attending or would like discussion about a certain topic, send an e-mail to Chair Cottrell, Professor Stolzenberg or Professor Griffith.
A motion was approved by the Faculty Senate on September 12, 2011, concerning the Marcellus shale drilling. The motion will allow the Faculty Senate Executive Committee to provide a series of lectures. The first lecture will take place at the Law School in late October; the information is posted on the Faculty Senate webpage. Additional lectures will be posted as well, and an e-mail will be sent to all faculty about future lectures.

The University Assessment Council reviews courses, and it recommended a GEC subgroup be implemented. The group met a couple of times last year, and it is meeting this semester to develop a plan about the current assessment process. It will review what people are currently doing to assess their own GEC courses, so the best process can be taken.

After the monthly Faculty Senate meetings, hot topics will be discussed at various locations to allow for more discussion time. Information on this issue will be submitted as the basics are being developed.

5. Jennifer Orlikoff, Chair, Senate Curriculum Committee moved for approval of the following reports:

Annex I, New Courses and Course Changes. PUBH 627 was pulled because of possible overlap. **Motion carried.**
Annex II, Capstone Experience for CDFS 415. **Motion carried.**
Annex III, The Alteration Report was submitted for information.

6. Lisa DiBartolomeo, Chair, General Education Curriculum Oversight Committee moved for approval of the following report:

Annex IV, GEC Actions. **Motion carried.**
Annex V, The GEC Audit report, was submitted for information.

7. Roy Nutter, Advisory Council of Faculty representative, said the ACF will be discussing various topics that will be listed on the back of a brochure before it is sent to the HEPC in November. Professor Nutter will discuss the brochure topics at the October 10th Faculty Senate meeting and the October 24th Senate Executive Committee meeting.

8. Robert Griffith, Board of Governor’s representative, said the BOG will have its November 4th meeting in the Mountainlair’s Rhododendron Room; the School of Journalism will be high-lighted. He said he is currently working on a report to compare WVU faculty salaries with peer institutions.

The following members volunteered for the Panel: Sandy Elmore, Jennifer Orlikoff, Roy Nutter, Alan Stolzenberg, and Angel Tuninetti. Chair Cottrell will ask Ruth Kershner if she will volunteer as well.

10. Mike Lastinger, Associate Provost, Office of International Programs, said faculty travelling internationally can be supported by the International Travel Office. If anyone knows of faculty working on international projects, the Office can give them advice as well. Faculty need to be aware of state department travel warnings, especially in Israel and Mexico; a university-wide policy may be needed for faculty traveling in warning zones. WVU students are required to register with the Office of International Programs so they have clearance forms and background checks in place.

11. Chair Cottrell distributed information about COIA, Coalition on Intercollegiate Athletics. The handout provides the history of COIA and its relationship with the Faculty Senate. Various other links are available as well.

Chair Cottrell distributed handouts about the “Mountaineers Run United,” which is the 4 mile run/walk race that will take place Saturday, October 29, 2011, at 11:00 a.m., for the United Way.

12. The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m. to reconvene Monday, October 24, 2011.

Mary Strife, Faculty Secretary