

Minutes
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
Monday, November 27, 2017

1. Chair Matthew Valenti called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. in Room 4004 of the Agricultural Sciences Building.

Members Present:

Atkins, C.	Hileman, S.	Murphy, E.	Utzman, R.
Cottrell, L.	Kleist, V.	Nutter, R.	Valenti, M.
DiBartolomeo, L.	Maynor, L.	Proudfoot, C.	Veselicky, L.
Gee, E.	McConnell, J.	Singh-Corcoran, N.	
Hauser, D.	Merrifield, J.	Turton, R.	

Members Absent:

none

Guests:

Campbell, J.	Pfeifer, A.	Widders, E.	Wilson, C.
Kreider, P.			

2. A motion was made and duly seconded to approve the minutes from the October 16, 2017 meeting. Motion carried.
3. President E. Gordon Gee reported the following:
 - We have been engaged with state government and with Marshall University in our effort to dramatically reform the state through the West Virginia Forward initiative. He is enthusiastic about the progress we are making, but we need to turn a number of the suggestions into legislative action. If adopted, the proposals will greatly impact the state and the University.
 - The agreement between China Energy Investment Corp. Ltd. and the West Virginia Department of Commerce is expected to bring about \$84 billion to the state over 20 years. Funding will be focused on developing an Appalachia Storage and Trading Hub to expand West Virginia's energy market and to provide cleaner, cheaper energy.
 - We have been working to develop regional partnerships. As an example, we are cooperating with the city of Pittsburgh on their bid to become the site for Amazon's second headquarters. West Virginia could be the center of auxiliary services on such projects.
 - Bank deposits for the November 24 payroll were delayed for many employees. The cause of the glitch is still being investigated. We took immediate corrective action, and made cash available to employees in immediate need of funds.
4. Provost Joyce McConnell reported the following:

- Our first program has gone through the Department of Education approval process. We received approval within two weeks of submission.
- One of the key issues in West Virginia Forward is providing the educated workforce that these industries will require. Following the HLC accreditation visit in March, we will turn our attention to strategic planning for how we prepare our students with the required knowledge, problem-solving, and interpersonal skills.
- The situation remains fluid between the House and Senate versions of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act. President Gee and our entire Government Relations staff have been in regular communication with our Congressional delegation about the impact of the proposed legislation. We want to make sure that tax changes do not create disincentives for young people to avail themselves of higher education. Please refer to the FAQ page of the Government Relations web site for the latest updates on the pending legislation.
- Elizabeth Hamilton has been leading accreditation efforts for the HLC site visit in March. Faculty should have received additional information about credentialing.
- She and President Gee attended the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. President Gee gave a presentation on the book he is writing with a colleague from Ohio State University.
- She attended a small group meeting on free speech at the University of Chicago. She hopes to put together a brown bag meeting after winter break to talk about some of the issues they discussed.
- We have 340 people registered for the winter term. We hope the term will provide students with greater opportunities for completion and success by allowing them to pick up additional credits or complete a needed course.

5. Chair Matthew Valenti reported the following:

- Rocky Goodwin will give a presentation on West Virginia Forward at the December Faculty Senate meeting. Chief Bob Roberts will discuss campus safety.
- Barbara Dunn has announced her retirement effective January 2. She has worked for WVU for 30 years, 27 of which have been with the Faculty Senate Office. Barb's main duties were to support the Curriculum Committee and provide assistance in the operations of the Faculty Senate Office, such as tracking attendance at meetings. We are looking for technical solutions for tracking meeting attendance, like a card swipe.
- ITS would like the Faculty Senate to sponsor a small task force to help determine which student response system to adopt (e.g., iClicker, Packback, or TopHat). Please let Dr. Valenti know if you would like to volunteer or can recommend a colleague, preferably someone who uses or has a need for a response system.
- The Faculty Policy Committee, led by C.B. Wilson, has finished drafting rewrites of former BOG policies as BOG rules.
- The Ad Hoc Exec Academic Policy Review Committee met on October 30 to review draft policies on attendance, incompletes, transfer and transient credits, withdrawals, and academic definitions, and provided input to Paul Kreider. The committee is meeting on November 27 to review the pass/fail grading option as well as several BOG rules. The next step is Student Government review and, if time permits, a 30-day comment period. The proposed rules will then be reviewed by the University

Planning Committee, and submitted to the Board of Governors. A formal 30-day public comment period will begin after the rules are presented to the Board.

- Reviewing the new BOG rules has made it clear to him that the Senate is not currently structured to provide the input required for the ongoing review and revision of our academic policies. For instance, the proposed BOG rule on Academic Administration and Practices delegates to the Provost the authority “to establish and maintain, with active participation of the faculty, a framework for the routine review and implementation of all academic policies, procedures and other matters.” We need to think about how the Senate can provide the input needed by the Provost’s office.

6. Ralph Utzman, Chair, Senate Curriculum Committee, moved for approval of the following reports:

Annex I, New Courses Report. Motion carried.

Annex II, Course Changes, Deletions, and Adoptions Report. Motion carried.

Annex III, Capstone Courses Report. Motion carried.

The following reports were submitted for information:

Annex IV, Graduate Programs Report. Report filed.

New Minor in Addiction Studies. Report filed.

New Minor in Forensic Investigation. Report filed.

7. Nathalie Singh-Corcoran, Chair, General Education Foundations Committee, submitted the following report for information:

Annex V, GEF Transition Review. Report filed.

8. Lou Slimak, Director of Academic Excellence and Assessment, provided an update on the GEF Assessment Plan. Going forward, we will be aligning all of the courses in GEF areas F1 (composition and rhetoric) and F3 (mathematics & quantitative skills) with single outcomes. Area F1 will align with written and oral communication, and Area F3 will align with quantitative literacy. Area F2A/B (science and technology) will be aligned with either knowledge of human cultures and the physical and natural world or critical thinking. We will be using the data that we are gathering as courses go through the GEC to GEF transition to address how we want to assess foundation areas F4 (society and connections), F5 (human inquiry and the past), F6 (the arts and creativity), and F7 (global studies and diversity).

Mr. Slimak is also working with Dave Hauser and Matt Valenti to charge the Teaching and Assessment Committee with reviewing section level syllabi for fidelity to master level syllabi.

9. C.B. Wilson, Associate Provost for Academic Personnel, reported that he and Chris Staples have visited Potomac State College and WVUIT for campus conversations on faculty-related BOG rules. There were no serious questions raised. The rules the Faculty Policy Committee has been working on will be system wide. The team has worked its way through all of their assigned policies. The text of those documents have been referred to Legal Affairs where they have been reviewed and reformatted by Gary

Furbee. The committee will meet again on December 1, after which time their documents will be referred to the University Planning Committee, followed by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee with a courtesy 30-day comment period. The committee will make any necessary edits before forwarding the documents to the BOG. We are still hoping to have all of the new rules approved at the April BOG meeting.

10. Roy Nutter, Faculty Representative to State Government, reported that he attended the Higher Education Policy Commission and Advisory Council of Faculty meetings on November 17. The following items were addressed during the HEPC meeting:

- Chancellor Paul Hill indicated in his report that they are targeting high school students with college access and student success initiatives.
- The chancellor also noted that the N3 corporation is moving into the technology park; the firm will have 300 employees, all college graduates.
- HEPC has proposed a flat budget. They plan to add money for deferred maintenance for some of the schools.
- Gayle Manchin reported that only 30 percent of West Virginians are ready for the workforce. Factors contributing to this problem include drug addiction, out-migration of 18-24 year-olds, and an aging population.
- HEPC approved a Bachelor of Science in Cybersecurity for Valley College, to be offered as an online degree from its Martinsburg campus.
- The audited financial report for the fiscal year 2017 Higher Education Fund was presented.
- The Council of Presidents' Report implied that they spent much of their time discussing campus carry.
- A Master of Science in Computer Science was approved for West Virginia State University.
- The Advisory Council of Classified Employees objected to new rules receiving only one day of public review before being submitted to HEPC.

The following items were discussed during the ACF meeting:

- Member institutions want funds restored for faculty continuing education.
- Student enrollment numbers for Fall 2017 were presented. There was a 20 percent drop in full time equivalents at the two-year schools. Enrollment at the four-year schools remained relatively constant.
- There was a discussion concerning possible campus carry legislation. Dr. Nutter shared our joint faculty/staff flyer detailing requests to the state legislature, which included an item concerning campus carry.
- ACF voted to permit repeat of any course at any time. Corley Dennison, Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, explained that this position violates existing HEPC policy.
- Patricia Humphries, Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, reminded everyone to make sure their beneficiaries are up-to-date for life insurance and retirement benefits.

11. Stan Hileman, BOG Representative, reported that the Board of Governors met on October 27, with several committee meetings taking place on the previous day. The following items were addressed:
 - The BOG approved the new winter term. Courses will be taught online at a flat rate of \$349 per credit hour.
 - The Board has been busy taking up the conversion of HEPC policies to rules. A public comment period is now open for rules related to administration. These include rules on Sexual Misconduct (aligned with Title IX requirements), Children on Campus, and President and Staff Emeritus Status.
 - The new provision for providing emeritus status to staff requires at least 15 years of service. The award of emeritus staff to any classified employee is to be initiated and initially vetted through a procedure developed by Staff Council, and subject to final review and approval by the president.
 - We received a clean bill of health from our external auditors, CliftonLarsonAllen LLP.

The Finance and Facilities and Revitalization Committee will meet on November 29. The next regular meeting of the BOG will take place on December 15 during the period between the 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. commencement ceremonies.

12. New Business – none.
13. A motion was made and duly seconded to move the Faculty Senate Executive Committee into Executive Session under Chapter 6, Article 9A, Section 4, Subsection B7 of the Code of West Virginia to avoid premature disclosure of an honorary degree. Motion carried.

Following the conclusion of Executive Session, the committee reconvened into open session.
14. The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, December 18, 2017.

Judy Hamilton
Office Administrator