

MINUTES
WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
MARCH 4, 2024, 3:15 P.M.

Faculty Senate Chair Frankie Tack brought the monthly meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. Members and guests participated in person at the WVU College of Law and via videoconference.

Members Present:

Corcoran, K.	Woloshuk, J.	Descoteaux, J.	Stueckle, J.	Roberts, D.
Field, J.	Abraham, J.	Di Bartolomeo, L.	Johnson, D.	Rota, C.
Li, H.	Adkins, B.	Dickman, B.	Kearns, J.	Ruseski, J.
Dietz, P.	Burt, A.	Donley, D.	Kidd, K.	Sherlock, L.
Eades, D.	Angeline, M.	Elliott, E.	Knuckles, T.	Smith, D.
Feaster, K.	Barnes, E.	Elswick, D.	LaRue, R.	Sowards, A.
Floyd, K.	Bhandari, R.	Emerling, D.	Lastinger, A.	Staniscia, S.
Fullen, M.	Bolyard, J.	Fidelman, E.	Livengood, H.	Tack, F.
Kent, A.	Bruyaka, O.	Olgers, F.	Lucci, S.	Titolo, M.
Liller, B.	Bryner, R.	Galvez Peralta, M.	Lupo, J.	Trickett-Shockey, C.
Martin, J.	Casey, R.	Gosden Kitchen, S.	Martin, E.	Unger, K.
Miltenberger, M.	Celikbas, E.	Graves, C.	M'Bayo, T.	Valenti, M.
Nguyen, J.	Chapman, K.	Haddox, C.	McGinnis, R.	Vance, B.
O'Connor, J.	Cohen, S.	Hamrick, A.	Murphy, E.	Vester, M.
Palmer, A.	Cottrell, L.	Hatipoglu, K.	Nix, A.	Wayne, S.
Scaife, B.	Crichlow, S.	Hauser, D.	Olgers, F.	Weislogel, A.
Swager, L.	Dahle, G.	Hedrick, J.	Phillips, T.	Wuest, T.
Szklarz, G.	Totzkay, D.	Hileman, S.	Prinzo, L.	Zeni, T.
Terry, D.	Davis, D.	Huber, S.	Reece, J.	
Thomay, A.	Demarco, F.	Jaynes, M.	Rinehart, L.	

Members Excused:

Beall, A.	Dilcher, B.	Dumitrescu, C.	Nolan, K.
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Members Absent:

Ballard, D.	Dimachkie, Z.	Komisaruk, A.	Pyles, L.	Vaddamani, V.
Bardes, J.	Dionne, C.	Labus, A.	Renzelli-Cain, R.	Waggy, C.
Barghouthi, N.	Duenas, O.	Leary, B.	Scally, J.	Watson, K.
Battistella, L.	Ellis, E.	Li, B.	Siekmeier, J.	Woodberry, K.
Bianco, C.	Gross, J.	Malarcher, J.	Sims, J.	Woods, S.
Bogdansky, K.	Hanif, A.	McCluskey, C.	Sizemore, J.	
Carducci, H.	Hines, S.	Milans, K.	Sofka, S.	
Cook, A.	Kale, U.	Murray, A.	Sokos, G.	
Dey, K.	Kelly, C.	Pena-Yewtukhiw, E.	Stephan, K.	

1. For Approval – [Minutes](#) of the February 5, 2024, Faculty Senate meeting.
Motion to approve carried by unanimous consent.
2. Report from Faculty Senate Chair Frankie Tack
 - a. The Board of Governors ad hoc committee charged with laying the groundwork for the presidential search met on February 15 and is finalizing a new draft BoG rule regarding the process for conducting a presidential search. This is expected to go to vote at a special meeting in March before going out for the 30-day public comment period. The Board does not currently have any rules regarding presidential searches.

- b. Board Chair Harris announced that the university will be releasing a request for procurement proposal in March to begin the process to retain a search firm to assist the university in the upcoming presidential search. A process and timeline is expected to be presented at the April Board meeting.
- c. The Executive Committee workgroup working on a revision of the proposed University Procedures for Promotion and Tenure document has met four times since the last Senate meeting, meeting for two hours each week. The first draft has been shared with Tracy Morries and the Provost for feedback. A second draft will be shared with the Faculty Welfare Committee later in March. Broader faculty feedback will be sought in Fall 2024.
- d. Senate leadership has met three times since the last Senate meeting, making progress toward a re-draft of the Faculty Constitution, which will move forward to the Shared Governance Committee once complete.
- e. Stephanie Taylor is presenting on non-academic reviews for many departments today, and is expected to report on the reviews of the President's Office, Provost's Office, and deans' offices at the April meeting.

3. Curriculum Committee Report (Cindi Trickett Shockey)

For Approval – New Course Report – [Annex I](#)

For Approval – Course Change Report – [Annex II](#)

For Approval – New Program – NEW-TBD: 2D Studio Painting, Photography, Print Media, Key: 1592

For Approval – New Program – NEW-TBD: 3D Studio and Public Art, Key: 1583

For Approval – New Program – NEW-TBD: Aerospace Engineering, Key: 1595

For Approval – New Program – NEW-TBD: Biology Pre-Medical, Key: 1553

For Approval – New Program – NEW-TBD: Chemical Forensics, Key: 1566

For Approval – New Program – NEW-TBD: Global Health, Key: 1606

For Approval – New Program – NEW-TBD: Human Health, Key: 1605

For Approval – New Program – NEW-TBD: Integrative Biology, Key: 1608

For Approval – New Program – NEW-TBD: Mechanical Engineering, Key: 1594

For Approval – New Program – NEW-TBD: Multidisciplinary Studies, Key: 1598

For Approval – New Program – NEW-TBD: Robotics Engineering, Key: 1601

For Approval – New Program – NEW-TBD: Supply Chain Management Science, Key: 1571

For Approval – Program Change – ARHS_BA: Art History and Museum Professions, Key: 330

For Approval – Program Change – BIOL_BS: Biology, Key: 75

For Approval – Program Change – BIOL_CMB_AOE: Cellular and Molecular Biology, Key: 725

For Approval – Program Change – BIOL_EEB_AOE: Ecology, Ecosystems, and Global Change, Key: 693

For Approval – Program Change – BIOM_MIN: Biometric Systems Engineering, Key: 1596

For Approval – Program Change – CIVIL_BSCE: Civil Engineering, Key: 482

For Approval – Program Change – CPE_BSCPE: Computer Engineering, Key: 483

For Approval – Program Change – CS_BSCS: Computer Science, Key: 484

For Approval – Program Change – CYBE_BS: Cybersecurity, Key: 983

For Approval – Program Change – EE_BSEE: Electrical Engineering, Key: 485

For Approval – Program Change – ELMED_BA: Elementary Education, Key: 591

For Approval – Program Change – HSML_BS: Health Services Administration, Key: 1189

For Approval – Program Change – INTST_SEC_BA Social Studies/Secondary Education, Key: 735

For Approval – Program Change – MDS_BMDS_14: Multidisciplinary Studies, Key: 150

For Approval – Program Change – MHAAS_BA: Mental Health and Addiction Studies Key: 1228

For Approval – Program Change – MUSCOMP_BM: Music Composition, Key: 347

For Approval – Program Change – PUBH_BS: Public Health Sciences, Key: 695

For Approval – Program Change – SPED_MIN: Special Education, Key: 274

For Approval – Program Change – SPRT_LDR_BA: Sport Leadership, Key: 1397

- a. For approval items include 33 new courses, 87 course changes, 12 new programs, and 19 program changes.

Motion to approve all items. Seconded.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

For Information – Deleted Course Report – [Annex III](#)

Motion for Faculty Senate to adopt the following statement in regarding to Annex III, the Deleted Course Report: *The Faculty Senate also regretfully acknowledges the elimination of many important and popular courses through shameful administrative action, against the wishes of this body.*

Seconded.

Motion carried with 61 in favor and 12 opposed.

4. General Education Foundations Committee Report (Mary Beth Angeline) had no report and noted that the committee continues work on refining a list of guidelines for the General Education Foundations program.
5. Teaching and Assessment Committee Report (Marina Galvez Peralta)

[Presentation Slides - PDF](#)

 - a. The committee received feedback from Senators, Provost Faculty Advisory Group, and Student Council regarding the new student feedback instrument.
 - b. The committee has already reached out to all faculty participating in the pilot program, but unfortunately received very little feedback in response.
 - c. Updating student response options to instead include “to my learning” on each category, along with a N/A option.
 - d. Reworded questions regarding adaptive teaching and course discussions to be more helpful.
 - e. As the committee has spent four years on this tool, and as the pilot is nearing conclusion, it has been decided to put it to vote for approval.

Motion to move to this new instrument with the changes and suggestions provided. Seconded.

Member: Is it possible to add the discussion-focused question back into the tool?

Galvez Peralta: Yes, we can add that language back.

Member: Should we run a pilot of this first before we adopt it?

Galvez Peralta: We have been running the current pilot for more than a year and a half, and the feedback from students has been very positive. Delaying it only seems to be pushing back something that would be beneficial to students and faculty.

Member: I have thought, before you deployed it again, you should at least run what you are going to utilize. The pilot isn't done yet if you're still changing things.

Diana Davis: We've been piloting this for 18 months in addition to the year spent developing the tool. I would speak against an additional pilot given that we are a voluntary Senate committee and we have

followed a very informed process in the development of the instrument. At this point we should move to either accept it or not.

Member: How flexible will these questions be, in terms of being able to apply to specific scenarios. For example, in Law?

Galvez Peralta: Faculty can submit questions to the TACO to be approved, and once approved they would be available in a question bank.

Member: Is there a way that, at the college level, we can apply one general list of questions to all questions instead of it being up to each instructor?

Galvez Peralta: I think that would be an IT question to see if that is possible.

Galvez Peralta [responding to questions about transition and faculty evaluation]: Should this instrument be approved, the committee will move toward focusing on what additional instruments of teaching you can incorporate into your portfolio so you are actually showing your evidence of good teaching practices.

Motion carried with 81 in favor and 6 opposed.

6. Committee on Committees, Membership, and Constituencies Report (Lesley Cottrell)

For Approval – Committee Roster Updates – [Annex IV](#)

- a. Annex IV is the result of some committee members resigning and being replaced, and the addition of an ex officio member.

Motion to approve. Seconded.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

7. Shared Governance Committee Report (Scott Wayne)

- a. Presidential search workgroup has established 11 qualities or characteristics that the next president should represent. A survey will be sent to the Shared Governance Committee asking them to rank those qualities. A survey will also be distributed to the Senate within the next two weeks on the same topic.
 - i. 11 qualities (in no particular order) are: understanding the mission of a land grant university; experience working with state legislature and government agencies; experience in economic development; working knowledge of a university system including operational and financial management; holds a PhD or equivalent terminal degree; significant administrative experience at a doctoral granting research-intensive university; qualified to receive tenure in an academic department; experience with shared governance and collaborate leadership; experience with student recruitment, retention, and enrollment growth; national reputation as an academic leader; working knowledge of a university-operated healthcare system.
 - ii. Next objective is to develop a set of questions that probe these characteristics that would be sent to the candidates for completion.
 - iii. The final objective will be establishing the criteria for identifying faculty representatives on the search committee.

8. Service Committee Report (Lindsey Rinehart)

- a. There are no funds for service grants this year, which have limited the committee's work.

- b. Committee goals included highlighting previously funded projects, identifying the difference between community engaged service and community engaged research.
 - c. 12 faculty responded to a survey with feedback regarding their funded projects.
 - d. Outreach to faculty has included considering a means of highlighting the positive, impactful work that faculty perform in service.
 - e. Hopes that funding for service grants will continue in the future.
 - f. Encouraged those with feedback on how the committee can support service at the institution to contact her at Lindsey.Rinehart@mail.wvu.edu
9. Report from Faculty Representative to State Government (Eloise Elliott)
- a. February 28th was crossover day at the legislature, the last day for bills to be passed out of chamber of origin.
 - b. SB 870 “Restoring Sanity (DEI) bill was not taken up by the judiciary committee and did not make it to the house.
 - c. HB 4654 Libraries and Museums bill has not moved in the Senate judiciary committee.
 - d. SB 152 “In god we trust” displayed in classrooms bill is on the House calendar, meaning it has stalled or needs major revision.
 - e. SB 292 Hunger Free Campus Act placed on the house calendar.
 - f. SB 601 WV Women’s Bill of Rights sent to house on Feb 28, with no further movement.
 - g. HB 5105 Eliminate Vaccine Requirements for Religious Reasons currently in Senate committee and has not had further movement.
 - h. Session ends at midnight on Saturday.

Tack: I wanted to say that Eloise has been working very hard. She is in almost constant contact with Travis Mollohan, she is in contact with Senate leadership, and I want you all to know that there are a lot of behind-the-scenes conversations and contact as we are on standby for what we might need to do should different things happen. Thank you, Eloise, we really appreciate all you’ve been doing.

10. Board of Governors Report (Stan Hileman)

- a. February 23rd meeting was largely held in executive session, where topics included information technology issues, finances, recruitment, and retention.
- b. The Board received a presentation on undergraduate research highlighting three undergraduate research students, which was very well received.
- c. Presentation on Campus Carry updates from Corey Farris, Sharon Martin
- d. [Two BOG rules are out for public comment.](#)
 - i. BOG 5.14, relating to campus safety updates due to the Campus Self Defense Act.
 - ii. BOG 3.5, updating employee medical leave to remain in compliance with federal guidelines.
- e. The Board voted to rename a road on the Evansdale Campus named after WVU Women’s Basketball Coach Katie Blakemore.

11. Report from President E. Gordon Gee

- a. Note of gratitude to Galvez Peralta and the Teaching and Assessment Committee, and to Elliott for her work at the legislature.
- b. We will not have a completed state budget before the end of the legislative session. The state will pass a flat budget, as the federal government has noted the state has some problems in terms of pandemic money that will need to be worked through.

- c. Work to secure funding or adjustments for PEIA premiums continues.
- d. Anticipating a budget release in mid-May.
- e. Tour of 55 counties has begun with a visit to Buckhannon and St. Joseph's hospital, New River Gorge and with the national park system, in Charleston with the legislature, and two high schools in Kanawha County.
- f. FAFSA issues from the federal aid office persist on a national level and have greatly impacted recruitment and enrollment efforts.

12. Report from Provost Maryanne Reed

- a. The timeline for the program portfolio review process has been extended: self-studies are due on March 2nd, intent to appeal deadline is April 19, and final recommendations will go to the BOG at the June meeting rather than the April meeting.
- b. WVU Potomac State President Gilmore will be stepping down from his role and leaving the institution at the end of March, with Paul Kreider serving as interim campus president while a search is conducted to find a replacement.
- c. The new Division of Land Grant Management will have one dean overseeing the two academic areas of Davis and Extension.
 - i. Two surveys have been sent to faculty from Davis and Extension. The first solicited their ideas for working groups relating to the realignment. Out of those suggestions, five groups were named.
 - 1. Research Advancement and Integration, Instruction, Faculty Staff Development, Employee Culture and Change Management, and Faculty Workload and P&T.
 - ii. The second survey was distributed seeking volunteers for these surveys. The composition of those workgroups is expected to be released in mid-March.
- d. The courses that were removed and listed in the Curriculum Committee report were initiated at the college level, not at central administration. These courses are believed to have been eliminated as a result of having no faculty to teach them, due to academic transformation and the RIF process.
- e. The provost reviewed development efforts at each college, donor prospects, strategies, and so on. For the first six months of this fiscal year, the university has met 81% of its \$191 million goal. Individual college performances in relation to development goals to date are:
 - i. Applied Human Sciences – 69%
 - ii. Extension – 64%
 - iii. Libraries – 73%
 - iv. Chambers – 92%
 - v. Statler – 96%
 - vi. Pharmacy – 118%
 - vii. Dentistry – 144%.
- f. University Day of Giving will take place on March 20. This year will feature a strong focus on student scholarships.
- g. University-level award recipients are being considered, with decisions being released between now and mid-April.
 - i. Benedum Distinguished Scholar presentation will be held on April 9th at 7:00 p.m.

- h. The Mine Rescue Team won the International Mine Rescue competition for the second year in a row, winning four out of five categories along the way.

13. Report from Stephanie Taylor, Vice President and General Counsel – Non-Academic Program Review Updates

[Presentation Slides - PDF](#)

- a. Reviews have included Auxiliary and Business Services, ITS, Strategic Partnerships, Legal, Student Life, Finance, Real Estate, Talent and Culture, Corporate and Government Relations, Research Office, University Police, Central Administration, Shared Services, and University Relations.
- b. The Deans Offices, Provosts Office, and Presidential Office are still under review and are expected to be completed by April.
- c. Sought benchmarks where applicable for best practices and full-time equivalents with respect to the non-academic and support units.
- d. Primary considerations: Is the unit effective, organized appropriately, and appropriately funded?
- e. Resulting from the nonacademic reviews, Talent and Culture reorganization updates were announced last week, which included a reduction of 11 positions in Talent and Culture and Shared Services.
- f. Some savings realized in facilities will be reinvested to raise the pay of the lowest earning workers in that unit.
- g. Finance
 - i. Based on calculated metrics of finance personnel per enrolled student, WVU would be expected to have around 50 total staff and currently employs 47.

14. Report from Mark Gavin, Associate Provost for Academic, Budget, Facilities and Strategic Initiatives, and Paula Congelio, Vice President and Chief Financial Officer – University Budget Updates

[Presentation Slides - PDF](#)

- a. Go.wvu.edu/fy2024financialplan
- b. Clarification regarding the mention of \$24 million and if it was a new or old figure at the last Senate meeting, and if it would impact on budget actions moving forward. That figure was related to the one-time withdrawal of Foundation funds used to help meet the \$45 million total deficit that the institution was facing. We are currently working to solving the \$24 million deficit, and that is where the steps we've taken over the year and a half come into play.
- c. There is still an open item on governance in the new budget model, which will be brought back to the Executive committee at the March meeting and Senate in April.
- d. At this time last year, a \$45 million deficit was recognized (for the FY23 budget). The FY24 budget was balanced and was not forecasted to end with a deficit. We are currently projected to be ending this year on a balanced budget.
- e. The first six months of the fiscal year had variances in the positive and negative that were offsetting.
- f.
- g. Regarding FY 25 and the new budget model: In January, reports were produced for all budget leaders across the institution using the budget model for FY 24. We took those numbers and

placed them into the new budget model, allocated tuition, revenue, support unit expenses, and other detailed reports, so that leaders could see how the new budget would function if implemented in the current year.

- h. The enrollment modules for next year have been rolled out to deans already, who have provided feedback on enrollment and tuition rates.
- i. Expenses that were covered by the one-time foundation withdrawal are now being added back into the budget model to aid leaders in building their budgets for the next fiscal year.
- j. Oversight committees and related meetings held throughout the year have helped us stay within our budget. These review committees and meetings include:
 - i. Capital Review Committee
 - ii. Hiring Committee
 - iii. Enrollment Planning Committee
 - iv. CBO (Chief Business Officer) Meetings
- k. Additional financial controls have either been added or improved.
 - i. Variance Reports
 - ii. Improved Reporting
 - iii. New Budget Model
 - iv. Spending and Travel Guidelines

15. Call for Nominations – Faculty Senate Chair-Elect

- a. The following individuals were nominated and recognized as candidates for Faculty Senate Chair-Elect by Chair Tack:
 - i. Scott Crichlow
 - ii. Ashley Sowards
 - iii. Ralph Utzman
 - iv. Tom Zeni
- b. Nominations for Faculty Representative on the Board of Governors are now being accepted and can be made from the floor at the April Faculty Senate meeting.

16. New Business

- a. Stefanie Staniscia read a [resolution from Davis faculty members](#) regarding academic transformation and the realignment of Davis and Extension into the Division of Land Grant Engagement.

17. Adjournment

Chair Tack adjourned the meeting at 5:10 p.m. to reconvene on April 1, 2024.

Corey Hunt

Faculty Senate Office Administrator

Course and program proposals may be accessed with WVU credentials at the following sites:

Program proposals may be viewed by searching for the program key at

<https://futurecatalog.wvu.edu/programadmin/>

Course proposals may be accessed by searching for the course subject and number at

<https://futurecatalog.wvu.edu/courseadmin/>