

Minutes
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
Monday, August 26, 2019

1. Chair Emily Murphy called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. in the Greenbrier Room of the Mountainlair.

Members Present:

Andress, L.	Cronin, A.	Hauser, D.	Nutter, R.
Ballard, D.	DiBartolomeo, L.	Hileman, S.	Reed, M.
Bastress, R.	Elliott, E.	Martucci, A.	Singh-Corcoran, N.
Bernardes, E.	Gee, G.	Murphy, E.	Veselicky, L.

Members Absent:

Cottrell, L. Sowards, A.

Guests:

Gavin, M.	Latimer, M.	Shannon, R.	Widders, E.
Kreider, P.	Pfeifer, A.	Slimak, L.	

2. Chair Murphy moved for approval of the minutes from the May 20, 2019 meeting.
Motion carried.
3. President E. Gordon Gee reported the following:
 - Freshman enrollment is up by a couple of hundred students or more. This year's freshman class is the most academically prepared in our history. Their average GPA is 3.75. About 20% of the class, or 1,064 students, are honors students.
 - We have seen very positive results from combining Admissions and University Relations under Sharon Martin's leadership.
 - The University has started to prepare for the upcoming legislative session. The West Virginia Chamber of Commerce will be holding its annual Business Summit on August 28-30, which provides an opportunity for us to meet with legislative leaders.
 - Welcome Week went well. We are placing an emphasis on the health, wellness, and safety of our students. Ten years ago, 5% of students nationally needed some sort of mental health screening; now that number is over 30%. WVU is working on designing programs to help combat anxiety and other mental health issues.
4. Provost Maryanne Reed reported the following:
 - She is working with President Gee and the leadership team to identify the top 3 to 5 priorities for the coming year.
 - The Provost's Office is developing a plan to work with the deans and faculty to identify, and incentivize the development of, new academic programs that are highly relevant to our students and prepare them for the careers and opportunities of the future.

- The Provost's Office is working with the Faculty Senate to review the general studies curriculum to streamline offerings and incorporate minors or areas of specialization and experiential learning.
- She would like to see everyone work together to streamline the approval process for new majors. She hopes to find new ways to expedite the process without sacrificing rigor and quality.
- The Provost's Office is also focused on reviewing online programming efforts. She sees this as an opportunity for growth and to attract non-traditional students to the University. They are performing a wholesale review of our online programming systems to determine what support is needed to grow these programs.
- Mark Gavin is working with Katherine Karraker to lead a reimagining of graduate education. He has gathered together a committee to review current practices and to determine ways of providing additional support to graduate education and the development of highly relevant professional master's programs.
- Retention will continue to be a top priority. Preliminary numbers indicate student retention increased by over 3 percent.
- Her office is working with the research office to identify two or three areas of strength and differentiation in research.
- The top priority is filling administrative roles in Statler, Davis, and Extension. There are currently three dean's searches underway. She expects the Statler position to be filled first, followed by Davis. The person hired for Davis College will hopefully be involved in the selection of the dean for Extension Service.

5. Emily Murphy, Chair, Faculty Senate reported the following:

- Faculty Senate approved three committees last year: the Inclusion and Diversity Committee, chaired by Lauri Andress, to focus on assessing the campus culture of inclusion, equity, and diversity; an Ad Hoc Sustainability Committee; and an Ad Hoc Shared Governance Committee.
- Mark Gavin and Azalea Hulbert will brief the Senate about the new academic integrity policy at our first Faculty Senate meeting on September 9. In addition, Rocco Fucillo will be presenting the new tobacco- and smoke-free policy.
- She has a meeting scheduled with Lisa Sharpe, Executive Director of Shared Services, to discuss how changes involving Shared Services may affect faculty with respect to grants and other expenses.
- She has received a request to have Vice President Poore come to Faculty Senate to give an overview and outline the plans of DEI. If any committee member has specific suggestions on what topics Vice President Poore should address, you may send them to Emily Murphy via email.
- The Library Committee will be working in partnership with Dean Diaz to develop an interactive component to Faculty Senate's November meeting to get faculty feedback regarding access and ownership of faculty research and the implications that this has on library collections. There will be a roundtable discussion on this topic in an upcoming meeting.

6. Ednilson Bernardes, Chair, Senate Curriculum Committee moved for acceptance of the following report:

Annex I, 2018-2019 Committee Report and Goals for 2019-2020. Motion carried.
7. Lisa DiBartolomeo, on behalf of the General Education Foundations Committee, reported the following:
 - The GEF Committee will continue to have a few courses submitted for review that would require approval, but estimate that number to be low this year. When those do come in and are ready, the courses will be included in a report.
 - The GEF Committee will be focusing on the areas of emphasis within the GEF curriculum and the structure of the GEF.
 - Since committee meetings going forth will be more discussion-based, reporting will be fluid and conceptual in focus. To avoid duplication, the committee expects to report on a quarterly basis rather than monthly.
8. Ashley Martucci, on behalf of the Teaching and Assessment Committee, reported that the committee is still working to finalize the process for faculty members to follow when inflammatory comments appear on their SEIs, as well as the role Student Conduct will play in that process.
9. Chair Murphy, on behalf of the Committee on Committees, Membership and Constituencies, moved for approval of the following annexes. Motion carried.

Annex II, Standing Committee Membership Changes.
Annex III, Appointments to Shared Governance Committee
Annex IV, Appointments to Sustainability Committee
Annex V, Resolution to Renew Committee of Retired Faculty
10. Roy Nutter, Faculty Representative to State Government, introduced the Alternate Faculty Representative to State Government, Dave Hauser. Dr. Hauser reported that he attended the annual summer retreat. As they have done in previous years, the ACF plans to put a pamphlet together to highlight the role of faculty and higher education in the state. Dr. Nutter reported that HEPC and ACF will hold their next meetings in mid-September.
11. Stan Hileman, BOG representative, reported the following:
 - The Board held a regular meeting on June 21 at WVU-Tech in Beckley. They completed the yearlong process of establishing and approving new BOG Rules. The Board also authorized administration to negotiate and finalize an agreement between Athletics and Learfield IMG College to license WVU athletic properties. In addition, he, Matthew Valenti, and faculty members from the divisional campuses presented the faculty constituency report.
 - A special meeting was held on July 31 to discuss-upgrades to the Milan Puskar Center; the renovations to Hodges Hall; the deconstruction of Stansbury Hall; and the construction of Reynolds Hall, the new B&E building. Funding plans were approved for these projects.

- A special meeting on August 14 was spent entirely in executive session. The topic of discussion, which has since been made public, concerned the lawsuit WVU and WVU Hospitals will be involved in regarding pharmaceutical companies and the opioid epidemic.
 - The next Board of Governors meeting will be September 13, 2019.
12. Aimee Pfeifer presented the 2023-2024 academic calendar.
 13. Nominations to the Promotion and Tenure Advisory panel. There is a need for eight faculty volunteers to serve on the panel. Chris Staples will be asking previous volunteers to serve this year as well. Anyone interested may contact Chris Staples or Presha Neidermeyer.
 14. The meeting adjourned at 3:54 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, September 23, 2019.

Morgan Boyles
Program Assistant II