

MINUTES  
West Virginia University Faculty Senate  
Monday, December 2, 2024 – 3:15 P.M.

Faculty Senate Chair Diana Davis called the meeting to order at 3:16 p.m. Members and guests participated in person at the College of Law and via Zoom.

Members Present:

Abraham, J.	Coy, A.	Hedrick, J.	Nguyen, J.	Taylor, G.
Adkins, B.	Crichlow, S.	Hood, C.	Olgers, F.	Terry, D.
Ballard, D.	Dahle, G.	Johnson, D.	Olson, D.	Thomay, A.
Bardes, J.	Davis, D.	Jones, J.	O'Quinn, J.	Totzkay, D.
Beall, A.	Deci, S.	Jones, M.	Ostrowski, A.	Unger, K.
Bergeron, J.	Demarco, F.	Kecejevic, V.	Pena-Yewtukhiw, E.	Utzman, R.
Best, K.	Descoteaux, J.	Kelly, C.	Phillips, B.	Valenti, M.
Bianco, C.	Dilcher, B.	Kidd, K.	Prinzo, L.	Vance, B.
Bilgesu, I.	Dumitrescu, C.	Kim, D.	Reece, J.	Velichkovski, D.
Bonasso, P.	Elliott, E.	Lastinger, A.	Ruseski, J.	Vester, M.
Brewster, D.	Elswick, D.	Leary, B.	Scally, J.	Walker, J.
Bryner, R.	Fidelman, E.	Leight, M.	Siekmeier, J.	Wartella, J.
Burnside, J.	Field, J.	Li, H.	Singh-Corcoran, N.	Watson, K.
Celikbas, E.	Fleming, S.	Liller, B.	Soccorsi, A.	Wayne, S.
Chapman, K.	Floyd, K.	Lituma, C.	Sowards, A.	Weatherford, L.
Chisholm, S.	Fonseca, C.	McCluskey, C.	Staniscia, S.	Weislogel, A.
Collignon, S.	Galvez Peralta, M.	McWilliams, S.	Stueckle, J.	Williams, D.
Cook, A.	Graves, C.	Milans, K.	Tack, F.	Witsberger, S.
Corcoran, K.	Greenfield, J.	Miller, C.	Tarabishy, A.	Woloshuk, J.
Costello, L.	Hairston, P.	Moser, J.		Zeni, T.
Cottrell, L.	Hamrick, A.	Murphy, E.		

Members Excused:

Bhandari, R.	Fullen, M.	Nix, A.	Sundararajan, V.
Bresock, K.	M'Bayo, T.	Powell, B.	

Member Absent:

Abate, M.	Dionne, C.	Kerr, P.	Murray, A.	Sizemore, J.
Barghouthi, N.	Giacobbi, P.	Labus, A.	Nolan, K.	Sokos, G.
Bogdansky, K.	Gross, J.	Leary, M.	Palmer, A.	Thayer, J.
Carducci, H.	Hambrick, G.	Livengood, H.	Panta, Y.	Udassi, S.
Dadyburjor, D.	Hanif, A.	Lucci, S.	Peck, A.	Woodberry, K.
Dietz, P.	Hatipoglu, K.	Martin, E.	Phillips, T.	
Dimachkie, Z.	Horstick, E.	McCloskey, J.	Pyles, L.	

1. The [Minutes](#) of the November 4, 2024, Faculty Senate meeting were approved without corrections.
2. Faculty Senate Chair Diana Davis reported on the following:
  - a. Faculty Senate Leadership continued to meet with administrators, including the President and Interim Provost, to advocate for faculty priorities.

- b. Active participation in the Campus Safety Steering Committee to address ongoing safety issues and to enhance campus security.
  - c. Participation in the SGA Mixer, addressing concerns such as teaching assistant consistency, tech platform costs, and campus safety.
  - d. Acknowledged increasing pressures on faculty due to changing teaching loads, reduced funding, and a shifting academic environment. Davis emphasized the importance of faculty taking ownership in shared governance to improve faculty experience and morale.
  - e. Promotion and Tenure Guidelines
    - i. Existing guidelines from 2014 were revised in response to faculty concerns. Proposed revisions in 2022-2023 were voted down due to concerns about external review requirements and tenure review processes.
    - ii. The current draft removed mandatory external reviews for non-tenure track promotions but allows them as a voluntary option. Draft retains external reviews for tenure-track faculty, consistent with institutional peers.
    - iii. Draft broadens criteria for annual reviews to include teaching methods and service contributions.
    - iv. Faculty feedback collected via survey is being integrated into the revised draft. A dedicated webpage and monthly updates will be posted in the spring to provide additional transparency.
    - v. A Faculty Senate on the revised guidelines is expected in late spring.
3. Consent Agenda approved as presented by unanimous vote.

Curriculum Committee

For Approval – New Program – NEW-TBD: [Performing Arts Medicine](#), Key: 1600

For Approval – Program Change – HTOR\_MIN: [Hospitality and Tourism Management](#), Key: 1008

For Approval – Program Change – MBI\_MI\_AOE: [Multi-Instrumental](#), Key: 1012

For Approval – Program Change – MUSC\_BUS\_BA: [Music Business and Industry](#), Key: 688

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

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

General Education Foundations Committee

For Approval – GEF Actions – [Annex III](#)

4. Faculty Welfare Committee Chair Daniel Brewster presented two documents for approval which were created over a multi-year process of reviewing faculty feedback, departmental/college practice, and best practice. The goal of these two documents is to create templates that may be used across departments to create a more consistent model. Brewster clarified that it is intended to be a resource. There won't be punishment for it not being used, and it may be modified to meet the varying needs of different departments.

For Approval – Model Annual Workplan and Evaluation Process – [Annex IV](#)

For Approval – Faculty Workload Plan Template – [Annex V](#)

Motion to approve both documents carried by unanimous vote.

5. Curriculum Committee Chair Darko Velichkovski reported that 68 course proposals and 4 program proposals were included on the consent agenda.

6. General Education Foundations Committee Chair Cody Hood reported that the committee will be working to streamline faculty-facing resources in the upcoming semester.
7. Committee on Committees Chair Ilkin Bilgesu had no updates to report.  
For Information – Committee Appointments – [Annex VI](#)
8. Faculty Representative to State Government Eloise Elliott reported the following:
  - a. Legislative updates
    - i. Potential revision of DEI bills and concerns regarding obscene materials in libraries.
    - ii. Anticipated vaccine exemption bills and their impact on health sciences.
  - b. Faculty are encouraged to monitor developments and communicate with legislators on relevant issues.
9. Board of Governors Representative Lesley Cottrell reported the following on the November Board meeting:
  - a. Board meeting format typically involves a Thursday meeting beginning at 10:00 a.m. which features a BOG typically meets on a Thursday at 10:00 a.m. and includes an event that highlights students or faculty, then a Friday full-day meeting which includes a public session.
  - b. Presidential search has entered a quiet period that will likely continue until late winter.
  - c. Restrictions to travel planning to be lifted by the Procurement Office

For Information – [Feedback Survey for Board of Governors Faculty Representatives](#)

10. Interim Provost Paul Kreider reported the following:
  - a. Welcome to Dr. Jerry Wallace as the new campus president of Potomac State College.
  - b. Enrollment Updates:
    - i. **First-Time Freshmen Enrollment**
      - WVU Morgantown: 4,129 (200 below projections)
      - Potomac State College: 316 (74 below projections)
      - WVU Tech: 279 (33 below projections)
      - Total First-Time Freshmen: 4,724 (307 below projections)
    - ii. **Total Enrollment:**
      - WVU Morgantown: 22,939 (78 below projections)
      - Potomac State College: 867 (89 below projections)
      - WVU Tech: 982 (35 below projections)
      - Total Enrollment Across Campuses: 24,788 (202 below projections)
    - iii. Retention improved to 83.4%, approximately 2% higher than the previous year, helping offset the enrollment shortfall.
    - iv. While slightly below projections, the enrollment figures will not necessitate major budget adjustments and can be addressed through routine processes.
  - c. \$2 million in reserve funds will be released to support faculty initiatives. Approved items prioritized the strongest areas of faculty benefit that may not be otherwise available. This

- release does not include the regional campuses. Further releases will be considered based on FY25 performance and available resources.
- d. WVU will have our 10-year reaffirmation of accreditation visit in spring beginning March 31. This visit will encompass all campuses.
11. Report from Erin Newmeyer, Associate Vice President for Strategic Partnerships – Barnes and Noble First Day Complete
- a. Newmeyer provided an overview of the program, which is intended to reduce student costs and improve access to course materials.
  - b. 56% of students opted-out for the fall semester.
  - c. The pilot phase was considered to be successful. Challenges related to material availability and communication were noted and are being addressed.
  - d. The program will continue to be refined based on input from stakeholders. Newmeyer encouraged faculty to provide feedback on their experiences with the program and how it can better align with course needs.
12. No new business was presented. M. Leight inquired about questions on the Student Perception of Teaching survey, answered by M. Galvez.
13. Chair Davis adjourned the meeting at 4:54 p.m. to reconvene on January 2, 2025.

Corey Hunt  
Faculty Senate Office Administrator

\*You may access program proposals at <https://futurecatalog.wvu.edu/programadmin/> by using your login credentials. Search for programs using the 3- or 4-digit key provided above. Course Proposals may be similarly accessed at <https://futurecatalog.wvu.edu/courseadmin>