

Members Present:

Benson, M.	Graves, C.	Leight, M.	Ripley Stueckle, J.	Veselicky, L.
Cottrell, L.	Gross, J.	Murphy, E.	Sowards, A.	
Crichlow, S.	Johnson, C.	Pena-Yewtukhiw, E.	Terry, D.	
Davis, D.	Kreider, P.	Prinzo, L.	Valenti, M.	

1. The Minutes of the December 16, 2025, Executive Committee Meeting were approved without correction.

2. Report from Faculty Senate Chair R. Scott Crichlow

- a. The state legislature is now in session, and Senate leadership is monitoring developments closely and coordinating with Travis Mollohan.
- b. Leadership met with incoming Provost Wendland for an hour.
 - i. She emphasized a period of listening and learning as she transitions to WVU.
 - ii. Crichlow sent her a compiled list of faculty concerns, including:
 1. General Education revisions
 2. Budget issues
 3. PEIA and insurance
 4. Faculty free speech concerns
- c. Leadership continues regular communication with Interim Provost Paul Kreider and others on immediate issues.

3. The Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

Curriculum Committee
New Course Report – [Annex I](#)
Course Change Report – [Annex II](#)
Program Report – [Annex III](#)

4. Standing Reports

- a. Curriculum Committee had no further updates beyond the Deleted Course Report.
For Information – Deleted Course Report – [Annex IV](#)
- b. General Education Foundations Committee Report (Cody Hood)
 - i. Hood was unable to attend and sent notice that the committee next meets on February 16.
- c. Teaching and Assessment Committee Report (Ashlee Sowards)
 - i. Committee received 18 requests to redact comments from Fall 2025 reviews
 - ii. Early Semester Course Feedback has launched, with relevant information distributed via email.
- d. Committee on Committees Report (Lesley Cottrell)

*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>

- i. Cottrell is reviewing committee activity, noting that a few committees have not met or communicated with members.
- e. Board of Governors Report (Lesley Cottrell)
 - i. No updates to report. Next board meeting is February 19.
- f. Report from Faculty Representative to State Government (Jason Gross)
 - i. Gross provided a detailed legislative update that included:
 - 1. Bills Advancing
 - a. HB 4081 – Health and aid grants administered by HEPC.
 - b. SB 445 / HB 4533 – Makes Potomac State a permanent participant in Learn and Earn.
 - c. HB 4002 – Establishes a state-funded research collaboratory (modeled on NC program).
 - d. HB 4119 – Scholarships for early childhood/childcare workers.
 - 2. Bills to Monitor
 - a. HB 4587 – Would restrict funding for “low-earning outcome” programs based on federal metrics.
 - b. SB 414 & SB 476 – Accreditation-related bills targeting DEI requirements.
 - c. SB 551 – Would restore voting rights for faculty, staff, and students on the BOG.
 - 3. -WVU Day at the Legislature is February 4.

5. Guest Reports

- a. Report from President Michael T. Benson
 - i. Noted \appreciation for facilities and public safety staff responding to winter conditions.
 - ii. Release economic impact report showed:
 - 1. \$14 billion annual impact of WVU + WVU Medicine
 - 2. 17% of WV GDP generated
 - 3. 28,230 jobs supported
 - iii. Legislative budget outlook:
 - 1. Governor proposed 2% cuts but added PEIA and salary funds.
 - 2. House leadership supports salary increases and inflationary adjustments.
 - 3. Net increase for WVU expected
 - iv. Upcoming budget requests include:
 - 1. Coliseum upgrades
 - 2. Deferred maintenance
 - 3. Expansion of medical education space
 - 4. Federal appropriations (pending approval):
 - 5. \$15M – School of Dentistry Phase 2
 - 6. \$11.9M – RNI Neuromodulation Center
 - 7. \$2.45M – Weirton Medical Center ER renovation
 - 8. \$6.4M – PRT system improvements
- b. Report from Interim Provost Paul Kreider

- i. Art in the Libraries Exhibitions – Faculty proposals due Feb 28, graduate student proposals due May 15.
 - ii. WVU Scholarly Teaching Conference (TLC) – First-ever conference scheduled for May 13–14.
 - 1. Proposals open for workshops, posters, and sessions.
 - iii. Faculty awards applications due February 16 via Digital Measures.
 - iv. Community Engagement virtual panel on February 2 celebrating recent national recognitions.
 - v. Testing Center Updates
 - 1. Current leased facility must be vacated by mid-February due to landlord renovations.
 - vi. University is pursuing a temporary location to avoid major testing disruptions, and a permanent on-campus location to reduce long-term costs and risk.
 - vii. Prometric requirements make build-out expensive, and several units are collaborating on solutions.
- c. Report from Eric Horstick – University Culture Action Team
- i. Dr. Horstick reported that a university-wide Culture Action Team was formed in response to faculty and staff focus group feedback, in addition to unit-level teams. Each college and most staff divisions have a culture action team, and the university-wide committee is composed of major stakeholders from across the institution.
 - ii. The team is addressing three themes: sharing opinion/feedback, recognition for good work, and growth and development. The group meets monthly and is developing prioritized recommendations for leadership.
 - iii. A new survey cycle is expected in fall 2026.
- d. Report from Rozaireo Jones, Student Body Vice President – Hardesty Festival of Ideas
- i. Festival scheduled for February 16–18, 6–7:30 p.m.
 - ii. Seminar List:
 - 1. AI and Ethics
 - 2. Business & Innovation
 - 3. Politics & Public Service
 - iii. Student survey (508 responses) showed strong interest and ranked alumni as desired speakers.

6. Senate Business and Announcements

- a. New Business
 - i. Louise Veselicky formally added as ex officio Health Sciences representative, correcting an omission.
 - ii. Members raised concerns about a lack of local providers accepting Sun Life dental coverage.

7. Faculty Senate Chair Scott Crichlow adjourned the meeting at 4:14 p.m.

Corey Hunt
Faculty Senate Office Administrator