

Minutes  
Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
Monday, October 28, 2019

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

Members Present:

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

Members Absent:

Elliott, E.	Gee, E.	Hileman, S.	Sowards, A.
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Guests:

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

2. Chair Murphy moved for approval of the minutes from the September 23, 2019 meeting. Motion carried.
3. Provost Maryanne Reed reported the following:
  - Academic Affairs is working on efforts to increase student retention. Enrollment targets will help guide the retention focus for the next several years. There will be an update on what the focus for retention will be after the Board of Governors meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019.
  - She asked Evan Widders to report the following:
    - The Provost's Office has partnered with Career Services to reduce the number of undecided majors by helping students move from pre-majors to their desired major pathways.
    - The Provost's Office is working on a scheduling reform. STEM prerequisite courses will be available for early registration in attempts to help with new student orientation.
    - The Provost's Office is focusing on lowering D/F/W rates in math. Some math courses will now meet five days a week in hopes of getting students into a higher math course to meet major requirements. These courses will have two days of flex schedule lab requirements.
  - The Provost's Office has partnered with TorchStar in surveying seniors to learn what made students want to stay at WVU, which also revealed why students want to leave the University. We will also be engaging TorchStar on refining our action plan relative to retention.

- Evan Widders reported on Provost Office findings of why plus/minus grading may not be beneficial. The plus/minus grading system could negatively impact three times as many students as it would benefit. There will be alternate options discussed for the new grading system in coming meetings. The information will also be forwarded to the Faculty Senate as needed to vote on implementing plus/minus grades.
- Sally Amoruso, from the EAB in Washington, DC, will be giving a presentation on recruitment challenges during the December 9<sup>th</sup> Faculty Senate meeting. The Provost suggested the possibility of conducting a workshop during an upcoming Faculty Senate meeting focused on new program development.

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

- Dean Diaz and the library committee will be gathering Faculty Senate's input on several issues that the libraries face that directly effects faculty's ease at which they can access library resources.
- Gretchen Garofoli has arranged for a free flu shot clinic at the November 11<sup>th</sup> Faculty Senate meeting. Anyone who is interested will need to bring their insurance card. The flu clinic will be available before the meeting starting at 2 p.m. and continuing after the meeting.
- The EAB will be presenting at the December 9<sup>th</sup> meeting on issues universities across the nation and region are facing regarding recruitment and retention. Other faculty and staff are encouraged to join us during this session.
- Chair Murphy, Chair-Elect Nathalie Singh-Corcoran, and Dave Hauser have met with various members of the Provost's Office to discuss each member's role, projects they are working on, and their overall missions.

5. Ednilson Bernardes, Chair, Senate Curriculum Committee, moved for approval of the following reports. Motion carried.

Annex I, New Courses Report.  
Annex II, Course Changes Report.  
New Major in Music and Health.

The following report was submitted for information:

New Minor in Entrepreneurship. Report filed.

Dr. Bernardes also proposed referring syllabi to the Teaching and Assessment Committee (TACO) if there are non-curricular changes needed; course proposals should not be held up for approval when they are referred to TACO. A motion was made and duly seconded to implement a one-year pilot program as described and to specify that reviewer comments should be entered in CIM outlining concerns with the syllabus. Motion carried.

6. Lesley Cottrell, Chair, General Education Foundations Committee, moved for approval of the following report. Motion carried.

Annex III, GEF Actions.

7. TACO report – None.

8. Roy Nutter, Faculty Representative to State Government, reported that the ACF and CCTCE met on October 24<sup>th</sup>. The CCTCE discussed the WV Invests Grant and the upcoming budget. A motion was made and duly seconded to send the 2019-2020 Advisory Council of Faculty Legislative Agenda Items to the Faculty Senate for approval. Motion carried.
9. Emily Murphy, on behalf of the BOG, stated there is no new information to report on since the last BOG meeting in September. There is a retreat scheduled for November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>.
10. 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. The executive session began at 3:59 p.m. and ended at 4:28 p.m.  
  
A motion was made and duly seconded to move the entire slate of honorary degree candidates to the Faculty Senate for a vote. Motion carried.
11. New Business – None.
12. The meeting adjourned at 4:30 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, November 18, 2019.

Morgan Boyles  
Program Assistant II