

Minutes
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
September 22, 2008

1. Chair Virginia Kleist called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in the President's Conference Room, Stewart Hall.

Members present:

Clark, N.	Kleist, V.	Nutter, R.	Strife, M.
Cumming, J.	Lastinger, V.	Peace, G.	Torsney, C.
Dean, R.	Magrath, P.	Perone, M.	Wilson, C. B.
Hartman, K.	Martin, J.	Sedgeman, J.	Woloshuk, J.
Kite, S.	McDiarmid, M.	Stolzenberg, A.	

Members absent:

Jackowitz, A.

Guests:

Marra, A. (DA) Shaner, C. (DP)

2. WVU Interim President Peter Magrath said that he'll be doing his State of the University address in a couple weeks. He requested that Chair Kleist also make comments at the address. He said that BOG Chair Carolyn Long and a classified staff representative will also be asked to comment.

President Magrath said the presidential search process is going well, and the search committee is being organized. He has been in contact with committee chair Gene Budig, who is anxious to begin the search process. He said that although all the members for the committee have not been picked yet, many of the members have been appointed and there is a meeting planned for early October in Morgantown. He said a Request for Proposal (RFP) will be started for a search firm to do background checks of presidential candidates. President Magrath said that he does not have a candidate, but he does have names of people who are worth looking at.

3. Interim Provost Jane Martin said that last week's Deans Retreat was very productive. She and Associate Provost Russ Dean will be preparing a report for the Deans.

Provost Martin said that Margy Phillips, HR, listened in on a TIAA-CREF presentation that assured people that they are in good shape and that employee funds are not in danger. The presentation is available on the TIAA-CREF website.

4. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the August 25, 2008 Minutes. After corrections, motion carried.
5. The draft minutes for the September 8, 2008 Faculty Senate meeting were reviewed.
6. Chair Kleist reported that:
 - She attended a BOG meeting on September 12. She reiterated the value of shared governance and communication between the Board and the faculty.

- She and Professor Kite will attend the employee remembrance ceremony on Thursday at the Erickson Alumni Center. President Magrath will also be attending.
- She and Professors Kite and Clark will be visiting Tech on October 2. She invited committee members to join them.
- Curt Petersen will report to the Faculty Senate about the Research Corp at its October 13 meeting.
- She met with Sarah Bishop, OIT, about e-syllabus progress. She said that Sid Morrison has assigned three programmers to the project. It is far more complicated than originally thought because of the idiosyncratic nature of syllabi.
- She submitted an article to the Spirit regarding Faculty Senate's collegial interaction.
- The Presidential Search Committee met and agreed that their discussions would be confidential. There were 25 submitted names. No candidates will be discussed in public. They discussed:
 1. What does balancing representation across the faculty mean?
 2. What characteristics will be looked for in representatives?
 3. What backgrounds are looked at when picking representatives?
 4. Putting aside allegiances to committee member's college.
 5. Members are interested in deep researchers, good teachers, good leaders, open mindedness. Someone with broad university perspective and broad university experience.
 6. Someone who would listen to constituents; reflect and communicate with everyone. Integrity of character, statesman, and trust were discussed. The committee will meet again tomorrow (Tuesday, September 23). The committee will chose the representatives by the end of the week and then, as required, formally present the list of names to BOG Chair Carolyn Long.
- 7. Professor Stolzenberg, Curriculum Committee Chair, moved for approval of Annex I, New Courses and Course Change report. It was duly seconded. Motion carried. Annex II, Alteration Report, was presented for information.
- 8. Professor Lastinger, General Education Curriculum Oversight Committee Chair, moved for approval of Annex III, Course Recommendation. It was duly seconded. Motion carried. Annex IV, GEC Audits, was presented for information.
- 9. Professor Lastinger reported that the Writing Committee that was formed last spring has had public forums. The committee met to review the information obtained at the forums. She said that the first faculty and student survey, how students and faculty feel about the current writing requirements and what their hopes are, had about 420 students and 380 faculty replying. She said that a lot of people are happy with the writing requirements. They found that students like having feed-back from their writing assignments. Faculty said they felt it was one of the most helpful things they did because in the writing courses they helped students work through different drafts.

Professor Lastinger said that, at this point, the current writing requirements will be kept. But, in order to satisfy programs who want more flexibility there will be other options in which you will be able to fulfill the writing requirement: 1) take a writing course; or, 2) produce a writing portfolio. With a writing portfolio students will be able to accumulate papers, projects, writing done throughout their time at the university, and keep those documents in a portfolio that will be assessed before they graduate. With the portfolio, students will have an option to exceed the writing requirement and receive some type of certificate. She said that the WVU purchased an e-portfolio system that will be piloted this year, hopefully in the fall, if not in the spring. The system will be open to faculty in fall 2009. She said that since they don't know if there will be sufficient turn around time to present a proposal to GEC, or to a college writing board, she doesn't feel that a portfolio will be available until fall 2010.

Professor Lastinger said that the committee is meeting every-other-week. The committee hopes to have a recommendation by the end of this semester and then go to the Faculty Senate in January and present their proposal for approval.

10. Chair Kleist said that WVU does not have a student work retention policy. Some faculty keep grades for years; others throw away grades after one year. She believes there should be a University policy covering this issue. This issue will be revisited after the external audit of records report is submitted later this year.
11. Chair Kleist commended the Executive Committee members for their participation and research in the presidential search committee and how it was put together. She now looks forward to faculty engagement in the process. Professor Kite handed out two documents, one with responses (37) asking for a formal list of presidential attributes to be part of the job description that contributors agreed to have placed on a website; the other contributors (4) declined to have their responses posted on a website. Executive Committee members will meet with the three faculty representatives to the Presidential Search Committee to discuss attributes faculty feel are important in the presidential search. Chair Kleist will arrange this meeting.
12. Chair Kleist said that there has been progress in the area of shared governance. She said that last year's Work Group on Shared Governance met through the spring. Members were: Parry Petropolis and Robert Wells (BOG), President Garrison, Russ Dean and Pat Chase (Administration), Marjorie McDiarmid, Donald Hall, Kim Horn, Larry Hornak, Art Jackowitz, and Steve Kite (faculty). Achievements include: a Board member who had higher level academic experience from a prominent research institution [Vest]; and good faculty/Board interaction, evidenced by improved relations with the Board. Another item that has been reinstated is formal faculty presentations at the BOG. Chair Kleist and Chair-elect Clark will join BOG representative Steve Kite in a formal presentation to the Board.
13. Chair Kleist said that Constitutional issues have come to her attention that need addressed: 1) how are senate representatives elected to the BOG; and 2) how could an additional senate representative be elected to the BOG. This will be given to the Constitution Committee for further review. Professor Kite said that Professor Larry Hornak will replace Professor Michael Lastinger on the Constitution Committee.

14. Chair Kleist asked if there was a plan to have students safely cross the road from the Coliseum to Evansdale Campus. Professor Clark said that Parking and Transportation is working on this issue.

15. The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m. to reconvene on October 27, 2008.

Mary Strife

Faculty Secretary