

MINUTES
THE WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
Monday, April 13, 2009

1. Professor Nigel Clark, Faculty Senate Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. in Assembly Rooms A/B, NRCCE.

Members Present:

Abate, M.	Connors, J.	Kirby, B.	Olson, K.	Stolzenberg, A.
Abraham, R.	Davari, A.	Kleist, V.	Peace, G.	Stuchell, R.
Ahern, T.	Davis, S.	Kuhlman, J.	Perone, M.	Tallaksen, R.
Anderson, J.	Famouri, P.	Lake, M.	Petronis, J.	Tower, L.
Bergner, G.	Fredette, H.	Latimer, M.	Rafter, J.	Turton, R.
Bilgesu, I.	Graber, S.	Long, K.	Rauch, H.	Urbanski, J.
Bonner, D.	Hall, D.	Malarcher, J.	Riley, W.	Vona-Davis, L.
Bowen, E.	Hartman, K.	Mancinelli, C.	Rockett, I.	Walker, E.
Boyles, J.	Hash, K.	Mandich, M.	Ruscello, D.	Watson, J.
Bredchoft, T.	Higgins, C.	McDiarmid, M.	Sand-Jecklin, K.	Weihman, L.
Brooks, J.	Huffman, V.	Meckstroth, R.	Schreurs, B.	Wenger, S.
Bryner, R.	Hutson, Z.	Murthy, K.	Shelton, E.	Wilcox, G.
Caldwell, J.	Insch, G.	Nelson, C.	Sherlock, L.	Wilson, M.
Campbell, L.	Iskander, W.	Nichols, A.	Spleth, J.	Woloshuk, J.
Clark, B.	Jackowitz, A.	Nutter, R.	Stack, S.	
Clark, N.	Kershner, R.	Oberhauser, A.	Steranka, P.	

Members Absent:

Bagby, M.	Comer, P.	Hunter, S.	Richards, A.
Banta, L.	Cottrell, L.	Lively, M.	Riemenschneider, S.
Blaydes, S.	Cottrell, S.	McCombie, R.	Robbins, J.
Branch, D.	Hermosilla, P.	McGinley, P.	Siegrist, J.
Chetlin, R.	Hessl, A.	Miller, M.	Valenti, M.

Members Excused:

D'Souza, G.	Lastinger, V.	Parks, E.	Sedgeman, J.	Walls, T.
DiBartolomeo	Nath, C.	Plein, C.	Serafini, M.	
Hileman, S.	Nestor, P.	Ryan, K.	Sherwood, L.	

2. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the minutes from the Monday, March 9, 2009 meeting. **Motion carried.**
3. Last month the May 5th minutes were tabled for revision. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the minutes from the May 5, 2008 special Faculty Senate meeting as revised. **Motion carried.**
4. Interim President C. Peter Magrath said he and president-elect Clements have held discussions concerning the search for the permanent provost. He said the search committee will be announced by the end of the week, and it will include 14 persons; six administrators, six faculty, one representative from the student government, and one representative from

staff council. The group will be appointed by Interim President Magrath and Faculty Senate Chair Nigel Clark.

The Interim President said the budget situation for next year remains unresolved because the State and the Governor want to sort out the budget situation. He said there should be a clearer picture within the next 4 – 5 weeks, so there is time to put the budget together. It is clear that the budget will be a card budget minus a certain percentage. He said it will not be a nice thing, but it will not be as bad as it is in many other places. Interim President Magrath said that he is optimistic that WVU can keep things together with stimulus money, and there will be a modest tuition increase. With a few exceptions, we will basically not be in a position to do salary increases for faculty or staff.

Interim President Magrath said the legislation that cleared over the week-end will add one additional faculty member to the Board of Governors; the representative has to be a faculty member from either the Health Sciences or Extension. The Faculty Senate will have to sort out how to juggle the requirements that are in this new law. The law also states that new BOG members will receive orientation and training, which can be done at WVU through a continuing education program.

The Interim President said the Promise Scholarship awards for 2010 will be capped at \$4,750, and academic level requirements will remain the same as they currently are. There will be some increase in state funding to accommodate the higher costs.

5. Interim Provost Jane Martin said the Dominion Post interviewed Associate Provost C.B. Wilson, Chair of the Registrar Committee, about the status of the registrar search, and it put a nice article in the paper. She said a total of three applicants will be coming to campus; two candidates will come next week and one candidate the first week in May, and they all have experience. One candidate is the associate provost and registrar from North Carolina, Chapel Hill; one candidate is the registrar from the University of Maryland, Baltimore Campus; and one candidate is the registrar from the University of Southern Connecticut. The Interim Provost said the deciding group is anxious to get the candidates here so a decision can be made.

The search committee reported that they have close to 100 applications for Sid Morrison's position. The Interim Provost said this week references are being checked for six applicants, and they all seem to be well qualified for the position. The committee, which will be chaired by Sr. Associate Provost Russ Dean, plans to meet on Friday.

Jonathan Cumming is chairing the search committee for the Associate Provost for International Program's. Applications are coming in and the deadline is April 15, 2009, so interviews will begin when the date closes.

A reception will be held for Cheryl Torsney on Wednesday, April 22nd, 4:00 p.m. in Elizabeth Moore Hall. Interim Provost Martin said everyone was invited to attend and wish Cheryl well, and thank her for her years of service.

6. Chair Clark reported that Senate Bill 373, The Promise Scholarship, and House Bill 2961, deal with one more seat on the Board of Governors. The Bill will become active on July 1, 2009, which means the Executive Committee will need to consider options for the method of electing the second representative and will need to bring it before the Faculty Senate in May or June. Details will be provided after the Bill is read.

Chair Clark said the Committee to Rescind Asinine Procedures has prepared a web submission page where faculty and staff can record responses and submit them to the Committee. The following 4 units are working as pilots for the program: English, Community Medicine, Center for Alternative Fuels and Omissions, and the dean's office in the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences. The four constituencies will initially try the forms and submit any problems they encounter; the Committee will see if it needs any revisions, and then it will be opened to the general University. The Chair said if the Committee sees things that are readily corrected, they will assist on a one on one basis, but the intent is to look at classifying the issues and make recommendations for large scale improvements. He said it is becoming clearer to faculty and leadership that faculty has a full slate between teaching and research, so this will help to remove burdensome procedures.

7. Chair Clark said senators received information about nominations for Faculty Senate Chair-elect, and the only response was from Alan Stolzenberg, Chair of Curriculum Committee. His application was reviewed by the Senate Executive Committee, and it recommended Professor Stolzenberg for Faculty Senate Chair-elect.

The Chair asked for nominations from the floor, none being submitted, it was moved and duly seconded to close the nominations. Motion carried. Professor Stolzenberg spoke before the Faculty Senate. Ballots were distributed, collected and counted. There were 72 votes for Professor Stolzenberg and one write in nomination.

8. Chair Clark said an e-mail was sent to all senators concerning the selection process for faculty serving on the Provost Search Committee. Applications from senators or nominations from faculty for senators were requested. The cutoff date was noon today, and he said 13 names have been received. A workgroup will convene after today's meeting to select 5 candidates, and they will be forwarded to Interim President Magrath.
9. Professor Stolzenberg moved to approve Annex I, New Courses and Course Changes with the removal of SOCA 207. Motion carried. He submitted Annex II, The Alteration Report, for information.
10. Professor Beverly Kirby moved to approve Annex III, GEC Course Recommendations. Motion carried. She submitted Annex IV, successful GEC Audits and Writing Requirement Audits for information.
11. Chair Clark said it has been requested to add Veteran's Day to the list of "Days of Special Concern", and the Senate Executive Committee voted in favor of this request. He said it would mean that students who are absent from class that day may ask for a make-up examination. It was moved and duly seconded to add this day. Motion carried.

12. Associate Provost Torsney said last month the calendar was tabled so the week of spring break could be revised. She said spring break has been pushed back a week, so the new date will be Saturday, March 19 – Sunday, March 27, 2011. She said she also added Veteran's Day as a day of special concern. She moved for approval of the calendar, and it was duly seconded. Motion carried.

13. Professor Nutter, ACF representative, gave an ACF report. He said it has been a request for faculty to serve on the Legislature, so a way for this to occur is for faculty to be considered an employee of the Board of Governors, and not a state employee, which is the way the law is written.

He said House Bill 3229 passed, which included the EPSCOR Advisory Council being reappointed to advise the Higher Education Policy Commission and other state policy makers; it includes thirteen members including representatives from Marshall and WVU.

14. Dr. Fred Butcher, Interim VP, Health Sciences Center, gave a presentation concerning the structure of the Health Sciences Center.

15. New Business

Professor Donald Hall requested the status of the process concerning the criminal background check used for hiring faculty. Chair Clark said there was an interest for a background check from Human Resources, so the Chair, and Professors Kite, McDiarmid and Kleist met with some representatives from Human Resources. They asked for the nature of the background check and whether it exists at other institutions. Chair Clark said Human Resources assured the group that nothing will proceed until they have met again, and a proposal will not be approved until it has been presented to the Faculty Senate.

Professor McDiarmid asked senators to thank Professor Cheryl Torsney for working long and hard with the Faculty Senate on its academic activities and now as she goes on to different pastures.

16. The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, May 11, 2009.

Barbara Dunn
Committee Secretary