MINUTES
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
Monday, February 24, 3:00 P.M.
Location: Virtual Meeting via Zoom

Members Present:

Bilgesu, I.	Graves, C.	Prinzo, L.
Chisholm, S.	Hood, C.	Ripley Stueckle, J.
Cottrell, L.	Kreider, P.	Tack, F.
Crichlow, S.	Murphy, E.	Terry, D.
Davis, D.	Nix, A.	Titolo, M.
Elliott, E.	Pena-Yewtukhiw, E.	Wayne, S.

1. The Minutes of the January 27, 2024, Executive Committee Meeting were approved without corrections.

2. Report from Faculty Senate Chair Diana Davis
   a. Dr. Michael Benson was announced as the 27th President of WVU.
      i. Acknowledgements were given to faculty representatives and leadership involved in the search process.
      ii. Dr. Benson plans to meet with the Faculty Senate via Zoom this spring.
   b. Faculty Senate leadership is engaging with administration on key issues such as the academic calendar, curriculum approval process, and the upcoming HLC visit. Updates will follow in future meetings.
   c. Diana and Scott Crichlow have been meeting with faculty senators from each constituency to better understand concerns and priorities across the institution. A report on findings will be delivered after all meetings are complete.

3. The Consent Agenda was unanimously approved as presented.
   Curriculum Committee
   For Approval – New Program Report – Annex I
   For Approval – Program Change Report – Annex II
   For Approval – New Course Report – Annex III
   For Approval – Course Change Report – Annex IV

   General Education Foundations Committee
   For Approval – GEF Actions – Annex V

4. Curriculum Committee Chair Darko Velichkovski was absent.

5. General Education Foundations Committee Report (Cody Hood)
   a. Hood shared updates on collaboration with the Honors College regarding the evaluation of Honors fellow courses with GEF attributes. Hood noted he welcomes any feedback on the matter.
   For Information – Honors Faculty Fellow Courses – Annex VI

6. Teaching and Assessment Committee Report (Sheri Chisholm)
   a. Chisholm had no updates to report. The next committee meeting is on March 3.

7. Committee on Committees Report (Ilkin Bilgesu)
    a. The committee has set a minimum member composition for three recently established Senate committees and the Research Committee, which is a merger of two previously existing committees.

    For Information – Committee Composition Report – Annex VII

8. Report from Faculty Representative to State Government Eloise Elliott
    a. Updates were provided on multiple state legislative bills, including Senate Bills 474 and 460, and House Bills 2396, 2166, and 2737.
    b. Eloise Elliott announced the development of a dedicated Faculty Senate page for tracking legislative bills of faculty interest.

9. Board of Governors Report (Lesley Cottrell)
    a. Cottrell thanked faculty for their engagement and support during the presidential search process.
    b. The Board of Governors has revised the University's travel policies, removing the requirement that travel must be booked through a travel agency.

10. Faculty Welfare Committee Report (Daniel Brewster)
    a. Brewster presented survey results on faculty feedback regarding promotion and tenure updates.
    b. Specific concerns about evaluations, peer review processes, and campus inclusivity were noted.

    For Approval – University Procedures for Promotion and Tenure Feedback Report – Annex VIII
    Feedback Report approved by unanimous consent.

11. Report from Associate Provost Lou Slimak – Updates on HLC Self-Study, Blackboard Ultra
    Link to Presentation - PDF
    a. The HLC Self-Study report has been submitted. Lou provided an overview of survey results and preparation for the upcoming site visit.
        i. Student survey responses were very similar to the same survey administered in 2018. Roughly 200 written responses received, closely split between positive and negative, with academic advising being the largest point of focus.
    b. Updates on transitioning to Blackboard Ultra were shared, including timelines and expectations for faculty compliance.
        i.   Summer 2025 is the last term with eCampus Original as the default version. Fall 2025 and onward will use Ultra by default.
        ii. Faculty are encouraged to request development shells from ITS to gain familiarity.
        iii. eCampus Original will be retired on March 23, 2026.

12. Report from Interim Provost Paul Kreider
    a. Expressed optimism regarding Dr. Michael Benson's upcoming tenure.
    b. Congratulated the WVU Mine Rescue team for winning the international intercollegiate Emergency Rescue Development Competition for the third year in a row.
    c. Day of Giving: Scheduled for March 26.
    d. Benedum Distinguished Scholarship Celebration: Scheduled for March 11.

13. University Procedures Updates, Process, and Discussion

For Approval – Proposed Changes to University Procedures for Faculty Appointment, Annual Evaluation, Promotion, and Tenure – Annex IX

    a. Motion to approve (F. Tack). Seconded.

    b. Scott Crichlow moved to amend the document on page one, bullet 4, sub-bullet 2, striking the words "inclusion of" and inserting "specific".
Amendment approved by unanimous vote.

    c. Motion to approve Annex IX as amended carried with 14 in favor and none opposed. Document will be forwarded to Faculty Senate for further consideration.

14. Executive Session - University Promotion & Tenure Advisory Panel Appointments
Motion to enter executive session (S. Crichlow). Seconded.
The Executive Committee entered executive session at 4:06 p.m. to review and vote on faculty appointments to the University Promotion and Tenure advisory panel. Attendance included those members present and Office of the Provost representative Chris Staples.
The meeting resumed open session at 4:11 p.m.

15. No new business was brought forward.

16. Chair Davis adjourned the meeting at 4:12 p.m. to reconvene on March 24, 2025.

Corey Hunt
Faculty Senate Office Administrator

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