

MINUTES
THE WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
May 5, 2008

Professor Steve Kite, Faculty Senate Chair, called to order a special Faculty Senate meeting at 3:15 PM in Assembly Rooms A/B, NRCCE. Professor Stan Cohen, Past Faculty Senate Chair, College of Arts & Sciences, presided over the special session.

The Executive Committee encouraged all senators and other faculty members to read the 17-page eMBA investigative panel's report. Professor Napolitano, CEMR, made a motion to accept the panel's report. **Motion passed.**

The May 5th meeting began with a motion to adopt rules for operation of the Special Session. **Motion passed.** Each senator was given 3 minutes to speak to each of the motions.

MOTION 1

Submitted by Nigel Clark and Richard Turton (CEMR)

West Virginia University Faculty Senators are variously dismayed and angered by the findings of the eMBA report, and recognize that the incident defames and demeans our institution in the eyes of our faculty, students, alumni and peers. These events have already created rifts in our community, have shaken confidence in future University direction and leadership, and will impact our future recruitment of faculty, students, staff and donors. A change in leadership philosophy is needed beyond mere compliance with the recommendations of the report, and a spirit of shared governance will be an essential component of our recovery. In the interests of asserting faculty commitment to academic integrity and assuring our constituencies of our responsibility in governance, the Faculty Senate:

(I) censures President Garrison directly for the occurrence of the eMBA degree incident on his watch, and expects that he will espouse a management culture that assures academic integrity and transparency in all future administrative actions and hiring.

(ii) recognizes the importance that the Provost plays in leading and regulating the academic mission and expects that the faculty will have unusually strong input in the selection of our future Interim Provost and Provost.

Ballots were collected with 35 yes, 53 no and 8 abstentions. Motion failed.

MOTION 2

Submitted by Kristina Olson (CCA) and Marcello Napolitano (CEMR) and Kevin Leyden (ECAS)

Our institutional reputation has been seriously compromised and immediate steps must be enacted to restore it. We move that the Senate Committee on Shared Governance be charged to make oversight of the review panel's recommendations their first priority and ask that they provide a standing progress report at monthly Senate meetings. Their efforts must ensure the faculty's essential role in the governance of West Virginia University. Going forward, we must put measures in place to ensure academic standards and quality are the key criteria in decisions affecting the University, so that a debacle like the Bresch decision can never happen again.

Ballots were collected with 29 yes, 63 no and 2 abstentions. **Motion failed.**

MOTION 3

(Submitted by Sherman Reimenschneider and Katy Ryan (ECAS))

The Faculty Senate of West Virginia University votes no confidence in President Mike Garrison. For the good of the institution and for the benefit of our students, he must resign or the Board of Governors must require his resignation.

Ballots were collected with 77 yes, 19 no and 1 abstention. **Motion passed.**