

Minutes  
Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
Monday, December 14, 2020

1. Chair Nathalie Singh-Corcoran called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. Committee members and guests participated via videoconference.

Members Present:

Atkins, C.	Gee, G.	Nutter, R.	Vanderhoff, J.
Bastress, R.	Hauser, D.	Reed, M.	Veselicky, L.
Chisholm, S.	Hileman, S.	Singh-Corcoran, N.	Wayne, S.
Di Bartolomeo, L.	Martucci, A.	Sowards, A.	
Elliott, E.	Murphy, E.	Steele, J.	

Members Absent:

Cottrell, L.

Guests:

Becker, K	Germana, M.	Neidermeyer, P.	Staples, C.
Brugnoli, A.	Kreider, P.	Shannon, R.	Thomas, R.
DeBastiani, A.	Latimer, M.	Slimak, L.	Widders, E.

2. Chair Singh-Corcoran presented for approval the minutes from the November 16, 2020 meeting. Motion carried by unanimous consent.
3. President Gordon Gee reported the following:
  - The Pfizer vaccine will soon be distributed on campus. The vaccine is 95% effective; by comparison, the flu vaccine is 40-60% effective. Distribution of the Moderna vaccine will begin next week.
  - The governor has directed funding for a laboratory which will address the COVID-19 testing shortages and lagging turnaround times.
  - Mylan has announced plans to close its manufacturing arm, which provides 1500 jobs in our community. They will maintain their research and development arm; the university does a tremendous amount of collaboration with them.
  - We continue to have an increasing need for professionals to join our health care team. Among other activities, we will be opening our new Children's Hospital next year.
4. Provost Maryanne Reed reported the following:
  - The Student Government Association voted to request a pass-fail option for fall 2020 and spring 2021 and additional non-instructional days for spring 2021. The pass-fail option was denied for several reasons, including the potential for this to disadvantage students who apply to graduate or professional school. The second request was granted, with March 2 and May 3 being added to the academic calendar as non-instructional days.

- Melissa Latimer and her team are continuing to develop sessions that address the well-being of faculty. Dates and times will be announced.
- HEPC has been identified as a distribution hub for some vaccines. We will be receiving a first batch of vaccines on December 31.
- On January 15, Talent and Culture is going to be rolling out a voluntary phased separation agreement. This new program will provide incentives for faculty and staff who wish to formally separate from WVU over a limited, phased period. Those with 15 or more years of service may qualify. The goal is to create some cost savings that can be retained in the academic units.
- At the request of the Inclusion and Diversity Committee, Presha Neidermeyer will discuss SEIs and other methods of faculty teaching evaluation at the January Faculty Senate meeting.
- Strategic transformation will be discussed at the Board of Governors meeting on December 18. Now is the time to carefully, strategically, and thoughtfully examine what we are doing on the academic side, to include where we see opportunities for growth, how we maintain our relevance, how we support student success, and how we do all of those things in a very competitive environment where enrollments are down.

5. Chair Singh-Corcoran reported the following:

- She had asked faculty members serving on COVID committees to provide her with a brief update. She will share that information at the January Faculty Senate meeting.
- She, Dave Hauser, Ashley Martucci, and Emily Murphy met with Lisa Castellino, Associate Vice President of Institutional Data and Analytics, to get a sense of her role at WVU. Dr. Castellino mentioned that we have data in lots of different places; she is trying to determine ways to centralize that data and make it more accessible. She requested a monthly meeting with Senate leadership. The group also floated the idea of creating a new Faculty Senate committee on data governance.
- She is organizing a faculty panel on classroom engagement with Chambers College Senator Suzanne Kitchen. The panel is also being promoted by the Office of the Provost. The panel will take place from 3-4 p.m. on January 12.
- Rob Alsop will attend the January Faculty Senate meeting to discuss the new legislative agenda and to provide a budget update.

6. Jennifer Steele, Chair, Senate Curriculum Committee presented the following reports for approval. Motion carried by a vote of 12-0.

Annex I, New Courses Report  
 Annex II, Course Changes Report  
 Annex III, Capstone Courses Report  
 New Major in Art Therapy  
 New Certification in WVUteach Earth and Space Science

The following reports were submitted for information. Reports filed.

Annex IV, Graduate Programs Report  
 New Minor in Secondary STEM Education  
 New Minor in English

7. General Education Foundations Committee – no report.
8. Jessica Vanderhoff, Chair, Teaching and Assessment Committee, reported that the committee will be moving ahead with the early semester, teaching assessment for spring.
9. Michael Germana, Chair, Committee on Committees, Membership, and Constituencies, presented the following report for approval. Motion carried by a vote of 13-0.  
Annex V, Committee Appointments
10. Roy Nutter, Faculty Representative to State Government, reported that shared governance seems to be the most common area of concern statewide. ACF is still working on finalizing their legislative agenda.
11. Board of Governors Report – None.
12. New Business – None.
13. The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, January 25, 2021.

Judy Hamilton  
Office Administrator