

MINUTES
THE WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE
OCTOBER 9, 2006

1. Following the President's State of the University Address, Professor Parviz Famouri, Faculty Senate Chair, called the meeting to order in Assembly Rooms A/B, NRCCE.

Member Present:

Abbott, J.	Cottrell, L.	Held, J.	Long, K.	Shelton, E.
Almond, C.	Cottrell, S.	Hill, R.	Mays, M.	Sherwood, L.
Ameri, S.	Culberson, J.	Hornak, L.	McDiarmid, M.	Siegrist, J.
Atkins, C.	Cumming, J.	Hornsby, G.	McGinley, P.	Steranka, P.
Behling, R.	D'Souza, G.	Howard, S.	Mutz, C.	Stolzenberg, A.
Bergner, G.	Davari, A.	Iskander, W.	Napolitano, M.	Stuchell, R.
Bilgesu, I.	Dillis, C.	Jackowitz, A.	Nath, C.	Tauger, M.
Bonner, D.	Dixon, S.	Jones, R.	Nestor, P.	Urbanski, J.
Bowen, E.	Douglas, W.	Kershner, R.	Nutter, R.	Valenti, M.
Branch, D.	Etzel, E.	Kite, S.	Olson, K.	Verlinden, S.
Brooks, R.	Fitch, C.	Kleist, V.	Peace, G.	Walker, E.
Brown, G.	Gerbo, R.	Kuhlman, J.	Richards, A.	Weihman, L.
Bryan, W.	Gladwin, M.	LaGodna, B.	Riemenschneider, S.	Woloshuk, J.
Buchanan, T.	Griffith, R.	Lake, M.	Royall, B.	
Clark, N.	Hall, D.	Lastinger, M.	Sedgeman, J.	
Cohen, S.	Hartman, K.	Lively, M.	Shambaugh, N.	

Members Absent:

Anderson, R.	Garbutt, K.	McNerney, K.	Putman, H.	Valentine, S.
Bagby, M.	Graeber, J.	Melton, P.	Riley, W.	Vona-Davis, L.
Banta, L.	Grose, K.	Miller, M.	Robbins, J.	Wilcox, G.
Bryner, R.	Hoey, J.	Morgan, D.	Sand-Jecklin, K.	Wright, F.
Campbell, L.	Hurst, M.	Mullett, C.	Selin, S.	
Canfield, P.	Latimer, M.	Nuss, M.	Simile, R.	
Cook, L.	Mancinelli, C.	Petronis, J.	Stockdale, T.	
Dedhia, H.	Mandich, M.	Price, S.	Townsend, C.	

2. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the minutes from the September 11, 2006 meeting. Motion carried.
3. Chair Famouri reported on the following issues:
- Chair Famouri is a member of the presidential search committee.
 - R. William Funk and Associates is the executive recruitment company that will work alongside the presidential search committee. Mr. Funk will conduct a meeting on October 11th with the committee, and he will meet with the Senate Executive Committee on October 12th.
 - New Chancellor of the Higher Education Policy Commission, Brian Noland, will speak at the December 11th Faculty Senate meeting.
 - Mike Lastinger and Chair Famouri met with Margaret Phillips, VP Human Resources, and Toni Christian, Interim Director of Benefits Administration, who are

working with the Faculty Welfare Committee. The Chair will invite them to a spring Faculty Senate meeting.

- A standardized e-mail system will be created for the University, which can still be forwarded to other accounts such as yahoo, hotmail, etc.
- John Kuhlman and Carol Hando are representatives for the Mountainlair Advisory Council.

4. Steve Kite moved for approval of Annex I, GEC Oversight Committee Goals. Motion carried, and Annex II, Resolutions and Recommendations. Motion carried.
5. Chair Famouri said Kevin Outterson will be taking a leave of absence in Fall, 2007, so he will not be able to fulfill his role as Faculty Senate chair-elect; therefore, nominations will be taken for a new chair-elect. The Senate Executive Committee will review nominations at its October 23rd meeting, and a vote will be taken at the November 13th Faculty Senate meeting.
6. Roy Nutter, Advisory Council of Faculty representative, reported on actions taken by the ACF during its September meeting. He said Bruce Flack will work on a “master plan” for the ACF, which will take approximately 16 months, and he reported that the “Annual Faculty Salary Report is on the ACF web site at: <http://www.wvacf.org/media/14883/pers2005jan.pdf>.

Professor Nutter reviewed the following 6 statements listed on the ACF 2006-07 Legislative Agenda:

- Increase legislative funding to the National Average in order to fund: yearly merit increases for full-time faculty, new full-time and tenured faculty positions; raises for adjunct faculty salaries; the cost of inflation that annually affects each institution; improved student access and retention at each institution.
- Provide legislative funding for tuition and fees for faculty and staff dependents.
- Reinstate into State Code 18B-8-3, item C, awarding a minimum 10% base salary increase upon faculty promotion in rank.
- Increase the State’s retirement contribution to 7.5% for those Higher Education employees currently limited to 6%.
- Increase state funding to raise the target for percentage of tenured faculty in the community technical colleges system to 30%.
- Allow Higher Education employees the right to serve in the legislature.

Professor Nutter moved that the Faculty Senate endorse the 6 statements. It was duly seconded. Motion carried.

Professor William Bryan spoke against the endorsement because he believes it is “self-serving and not advancing.” He said lots of discussion time is given to issues that the Faculty Senate cannot do anything about and this is one of those things. He said issues that can make a difference are not discussed.

Professor Lastinger said he shared Professor Bryan's reservations concerning the item stated in 18B of the State Code. He believes it is not good to have a State Code for specific salary statements.

7. Provost Lang said starting in May 2007, the current graduation ceremony will be changed. He said the University-wide Sunday afternoon graduation ceremony will be replaced with 13 separate, smaller ceremonies on Saturday and Sunday. The President, Provost or Vice-President D'Allesandri will attend each ceremony to confer the degrees. The Provost said Friday evening will be reserved for a special convocation to include a prominent speaker and the awarding of honorary degrees and recognizing students who have received special honors and awards.
8. Professor Bilgesu, Chair, SEI Committee, said a FAQ sheet concerning the SEI, (Electronic Student Evaluation of Instruction) is available at the door. He said if senators would like to participate in the testing process, they can e-mail: oithelp@mail.wvu.edu or if senators have questions, they can contact the help desk at 293-4444 x1 or contact Professor Bilgesu. An electronic version of the FAQ sheet will be sent to all faculty. Students can administer electronic SEI's this fall from the Vista course webpage; the electronic version will be available to all faculty, regardless of course format, in the spring. Professor Bilgesu said the paper version is still, and will be available once the electronic version is out of the testing stage.
9. The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, November 13, 2006.

Mary Strife
Faculty Secretary