

Minutes  
Faculty Senate Executive Committee  
January 26, 2009

1. Chair Virginia Kleist called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. in the President's Conference Room, Stewart Hall.

Members present:

Clark, N.	Kleist, V.	Perone, M.	Wilson, C. B.
Hartman, K.	Magrath, P.	Sedgeman, J.	Woloshuk, J.
Jackowitz, A.	Martin, J.	Stolzenberg, A.	
Kirby, B.	McDiarmid, M.	Strife, M.	
Kite, S.	Nutter, R.	Torsney, C.	

Members absent:

Cumming, J.	Dean, R.	Peace, G.
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Guests:

Swaim, K. (D.A.)    Shaner, C. (D.P.)

2. Interim President Magrath said that because of the current economic recession, WVU is not free of challenges. He said that other universities are already making reductions in higher education, for example:

Washington State, 13% reduction imposed by governor on top of an already 8% reduction

Utah State, 15% reduction for higher ed on top of an already 7% reduction

South Carolina, 20% reduction

Arizona, 22% reduction in state support

Virginia, proposed 5-7% reduction this year; 10-15% reduction next year

President Magrath said that WVU is not in that situation and hopes that we never will be.

President Magrath said that the Committee to Rescind Asinine Procedures composition is almost in place. Members are Chair Nigel Clark (CEMR), John Barnett (Microbiology), Chris Martin (Community Medicine), Lisa Weihman (English), Mark Kregecz (Finance & Facilities, EBO), Beth Mancelli Wyant (OIT EBO), Fred King (ECAS Dean's Office), Kathy Curtin (Dining Services), Russ Dean (Provost's Office), and three others pending. The committee charge is "to balance productivity with accountability and increase efficiency and moral; identify policies, procedures, practices and processes that seem unduly complicated or redundant; determine which of those that are externally controlled should be pursued for changes and which of those that are internally controlled should be pursued for changes; work in collaboration with administration to encourage implementation, communication regarding outcomes and future steps. The committee will begin meeting in early February. A report will be given to the President as to the nature of the next steps by the end of February/early March.

When asked for input, Professor Clark said that he anticipated that the committee would tackle issues on a variety of levels. He would like the committee as a whole to determine which levels to address.

3. Interim Provost Martin said that the committee has completed interviews with applicants for Cheryl's position and that she and Associate Provost Dean are doing separate, individual interviews. A decision will be made by early next week.

Provost Martin said that next Monday (February 2) the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) report will be presented at the NRCCE Building. The Provost's Office received a draft copy of the report and has begun formulating responses to the recommendations. This information will be presented to the President. President Magrath will then address the recommendations and plans of what will be, or have been done. She said she believes the consultants have done a good job reviewing WVU's record management process.

Provost Martin said that one of the things they became aware of is that a University Registrar is necessary. The job description is ready and will go out this week. A search committee has been appointed, which will meet on Friday.

4. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the Minutes of the December 15 meeting.  
Motion carried.
5. Draft Minutes for the January 12 Faculty Senate meeting were reviewed.
6. Chair Kleist reported that:
  - She and Professors Clark and McDiarmid will meet with Trish Gyurke and Margie Phillips on February 13 to discuss the Background Check Policy.
  - She met with Toni Christian to discuss the 403(b) report that Professor Nutter referred to in his ACF report at the December Executive Committee meeting. Ms. Christian said that this is a requirement of the federal tax code.
  - The Research Committee is exploring documentation on past successes with respect to grant funding.
  - Two faculty representatives were elected to the Research Corp Board at an Executive Session immediately following last month's meeting. She said that Pat Callery's term expires June 30. At the February 9 Faculty Senate meeting, she will seek Board nominations; then an election will be held at the February 23 Executive Committee meeting, in Executive Session, to elect Professor Callery's replacement or reappoint him. In the Executive Session, it will also be determined who has which term so the terms will be staggered.
  - She received 29 questions from faculty senators to send to the Presidential Search Committee. She chose three questions, which the Executive Committee elected members agreed with, and then sent all 29 questions, with the three highlighted, to the Presidential Search Committee.
  - Professor Leslie Tower will be sending a Council of Women's Concerns survey out within the next few weeks. The survey was endorsed by the Faculty Welfare Committee. A comprehensive survey for faculty from the senate is on back burner.

- The University Assessment Council has been reconstituted and will be seeking representatives. Professor Kite distributed a hand-out clarifying the membership, charge, and sponsored activities of the Council.
  - The University Child Care Advisory Committee was seeking faculty representation. Bobbie Warash (Child Development and Family Studies) and Lisa Weihman (English) have agreed to serve. The Committee is being formed to work on planning and operational activities. She said that Narvel Weiss reported that the building is coming along and the vendor has visited and he is pleased with the progress of the building. Professors Warash and Weihman will have a Committee report for the Executive Committee in May or June.
  - The Mountainlair Advisory Council was seeking faculty volunteers. She suggested using last year's volunteers, which they agreed to do.
  - She and Professors Clark and Kite met with Scott Cosco at the Governor's Office last week. They presented him a faculty list of possible BOG recommendations. She received a letter from the Governor thanking her for the submissions. She feels there's a good dialog with the Governor's Office and that they're receptive to the submissions.
  - On the same visit to Charleston they also met with representatives Shook, Fleischauer, and Oliverio to discuss adding a faculty BOG representative in the future.
  - She reviewed the job description for the University Registrar position and made a few comments and suggestions to Provost Martin.
  - She will not be at the May Faculty Senate meeting.
7. Professor Stolzenberg, Curriculum Committee Chair, moved and it was duly seconded to approve:
- Annex I, New Courses and Course Changes. Motion carried, after changes – drop BIOL 384 and revise rationale of HIST 350 and 438.
  - Annex II, Capstone Request for JRL 459. Motion carried.
  - Annex III, Medical Technology Program Modification (Degree designation and title change. Motion carried.
  - Annex IV, Alteration Report, was presented for information.
8. Chair Kleist presented a summary report from the Ad Hoc Committee on Writing on behalf of Committee Chair Valerie Lastinger. The report highlighted the results of faculty and student forums and surveys, writing in a national perspective, ways to strengthen the “W” requirement, and writing portfolios. Associate Provost Torsney said that WVU rated very highly in the National Survey for Student Engagement (NSSE) data because students are doing very well writing in part because of the writing requirement. The Committee explored, as an alternative to the writing requirement, an E-Portfolio approach to writing across the curriculum. Professor Kite suggested omitting the last sentence "Eventually, the portfolio is a model that ...." of the paragraph beginning "For now, the committee..." on page six of the report. He feels that some might view this as trying to "get this as a requirement across the board". The Committee would like to ask for a Faculty Senate vote on whether to explore feasibility of an E-Portfolio approach and, if so, only to proceed with a pilot to see if it works. It was moved, and duly seconded, to accept the report, with stipulations that have been raised, and recommend it go to the Faculty Senate. Motion carried.
9. Professor Nutter, ACF representative, distributed a report of the HEPC January 23 meeting. Professor Nutter highlighted the items he felt would be of interest to the Committee:

- Budget update. Dr. Noland said that while WV is currently in better economic shape than most states, his office will begin to prepare for the dark days ahead for the State, forecast by lowering gasoline prices and the national alternative energy initiative.
- Asserting that a common and seamless curriculum from one institution to another ought to be the goal in nursing education.
- West Virginia is rated 14<sup>th</sup> among the 16 SREB states in faculty salary. This is statewide; WVU would look better if not considered with statewide salaries.
- 80% of high school seniors plan to attend college, while only 57.5% actually do.
- The PROMISE Scholarship. Some of the questions asked were:
  - Has PROMISE elevated the quality of students pursuing higher education? Yes.
  - Has PROMISE kept entering college freshmen in WV? Yes.
  - Has PROMISE improved the academic performance of college students? Yes.
  - Has PROMISE kept graduates in WV? Not necessarily.
- 2010 Capitol Bond Project Priorities. Projects were approved for funding by the HEPC, but if the full funding of Bonds are not available because of the market, then the entire list will be brought back to the HEPC for more priority discussion.

10. Professor Sedgeman, SEI Committee Chair, distributed a draft copy of a SEI Committee Faculty Survey and asked for comments and recommendations. She will make the recommended changes and forward the survey to the Faculty Senate.

11. Professor Kite, CCCP Committee Chair, said that he feels a way of increasing the success rate of applications for new courses should be a priority. He feels a Syllabus Wizard would be a useful tool. He would like to see trial runs made this year and so it could be functioning next fall. He said that although the Syllabus Wizard will be available, it is not mandatory that it be used.

12. The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, February 23.

Mary Strife  
Faculty Secretary