

Members Present:

Abate, M.	Deci, S.	Hood, C.	Mukdadi, O.	Spong, B.
Abraham, J.	DeMarco, F.	Horstick, E.	Mulligan, I.	Stueckle, J.
Adkins, B.	Dilcher, B.	Hutchinson, J.	Nduaguba, S.	Tanner, E.
Ameri, S.	Doyle, A.	Johnson, C.	O'Quinn, J.	Tarabishy, A.
Benincosa, M.	Fidelman, E.	Jones, J.	Ostrowski, A.	Taylor, G.
Bergeron, J.	Fint-Clark, B.	Jones, M.	Peluso, A.	Thomay, A.
Bragg, R.	Fleming, S.	Kelly, C.	Pena-Yewtukhiw, E.	Unger, K.
Brewster, D.	Fonseca, C.	Kidd, K.	Phillips, B.	Valenti, M.
Bryner, R.	Fullen, M.	Leary, M.	Powell, B.	Wartella, J.
Burnside, J.	Gabbert, K.	Leight, M.	Prinzo, L.	Watson, K.
Carder, J.	Graves, C.	Liller, B.	Reaser, R.	Weatherford, L.
Collignon, S.	Greenfield, J.	Livengood, H.	Rogers, R.	Weirich, M.
Corcoran, K.	Gritsenko, V.	Martin, E.	Scally, J.	Williams, D.
Costello, L.	Gross, J.	Matak, K.	Shannon, B.	Wilson, E.
Cottrell, L.	Hairston, P.	M'Bayo, T.	Siekmeier, J.	Woloshuk, J.
Coy, A.	Hambrick, G.	McCluskey, C.	Singh-Corcoran, N.	Woodberry, K.
Crichlow, S.	Hamrick, A.	McKenrick, S.	Soccorsi, A.	Zaynutdinova, G.
Curtis, R.	Hatipoglu, K.	Metz, C.	Song, X.	Zeni, T.
Davis, D.	Hedrick, J.	Miller, C.	Sowards, A.	

Members Excused:

Dadyburjor, D.

Member Absent:

Ahmad, M.	Dai, F.	Lituma, C.	Pyles, L.	Udassi, S.
Bardes, J.	Descoteaux, J.	McCloskey, J.	Ray Chaudhuri, N.	Vance, B.
Bogdansky, K.	Dietz, P.	McWilliams, S.	Reece, J.	Witsberger, S.
Bonasso, P.	Gorman, C.	Milans, K.	Sizemore, J.	
Bresock, K.	Kim, D.	Murray, A.	Swiger, J.	
Chapman, K.	Labus, A.	Nolan, K.	Terry, D.	
Costas, M.	Li, H.	Palmer, A.	Thayer, J.	

1. **Chair Crichlow called the meeting to order at 3:16 p.m.**
2. **The Minutes of the March 9, 2026, Faculty Senate Meeting were approved as distributed.**
3. **Report from Faculty Senate Chair R. Scott Crichlow**
 - a. Senate leadership recently met with members of the President's Office who are conducting analysis related to the AAU initiative, including benchmarking WVU against peer and aspirational institutions such as Missouri and South Florida.
 - i. Work is underway to determine which metrics matter most for potential AAU consideration, though final prioritization will rest with the Provost and President.

- b. Following up to a requested presentation regarding accessibility compliance, an accessibility presentation is being planned, likely late spring or early fall, depending on timing and availability of finalized university materials.
- c. Jason Gross was unable to attend the meeting but passed word that the governor the Governor vetoed HB 4002 and HB 5074.
 - i. HB 4002: vetoed due to concerns about legislators serving on an advisory board for a research laboratory.
 - ii. HB 5074: vetoed due to concerns about revenue flows related to medical cannabis and general funds.
- d. All four Honor Faculty Fellows are current senators: Joe Jones, Anthony Peluso, Andrea Soccorsi, and Jim Siekmeier.
- e. Cody Hood, Chair of the General Education Foundations Committee, received a Foundation Award for Outstanding Teaching.
- f. Details received from incoming Provost Wendland indicate that a thorough search will be held for the net Vice President of Research.
 - i. Faculty will serve on the search committee, though membership has not been finalized.
 - ii. Open forums will be held.
 - iii. No expectation of a hire until well into the fall 2026 semester.

4. The Consent Agenda was approved as presented.

Curriculum Committee

New Course Report – [Annex I](#)

Course Change Report – [Annex II](#)

Program Report – [Annex III](#)

5. Committee and Officer Reports

- a. Curriculum Committee Report (Cate Johnson)
For Information – Deleted Course Report – [Annex IV](#)
 - i. Johnson reported that the committee only has two remaining meetings this semester. She also encouraged faculty to complete the committee volunteer form, noting the need for broad representation on Faculty Senate committees.
- b. General Education Foundations Committee Report (Cody Hood)
 - i. Committee is verifying contact information for nearly 300 GEF courses across all campuses.
 - ii. Faculty associated with GEF courses will be asked to confirm or update contact information to support future course-level updates.
- c. Teaching and Assessment Committee Report (Ashlee Sowards)
 - i. Early Semester Course Feedback participation remains low:
 - 1. 6.1% (full term), 4.7% (first 8 week), 1.8% (second 8 week).
 - ii. SPOT survey customization remains open until April 14.
 - iii. Sowards clarified that SPOT responses are confidential. Identification is only possible in cases of conduct violation.
 - iv. Two new subcommittees will examine 1) additional spot questions, and 2) faculty feedback on SPOT use.
- d. Committee on Committees Report (Lesley Cottrell)
 - i. Committee service surveys distributed.

- ii. Chairs will be contacted for recommendations on committee membership, including strong contributors and those who did not participate.
 - iii. [Committee volunteer survey](#) is now available.
 - iv. Some committees may retain leadership for continuity if charges changed or meetings were limited.
- e. Board of Governors Report (Lesley Cottrell)
 - i. The next BOG meeting is April 16–17 and will focus on finance models.
 - ii. Subcommittee meetings have begun, with additional details online.
 - iii. Faculty presentation to the BOG will occur in June. Senators may be contacted for contributions.
- f. Student Recruitment and Retention Committee – Recruitment and Retention Data (Miriam Leary, Joy Carr)

[Presentation Slides – PDF](#)

 - i. WVU's retention reached a historic 85%.
 - ii. Strong correlation found between early block registration and higher retention/GPA.
 - 1. Before May 1: ~87% retention
 - 2. May: 81%
 - 3. June: 74%
 - 4. After July 1: 68%
 - iii. Later registrants also show:
 - 1. Lower ACT/SAT and high school GPAs
 - 2. Higher first generation and Pell eligible rates
 - iv. Units will receive college specific predictor analyses in May.
 - v. Additional work includes cross-referencing exit surveys and CARE reports.
- g. Service Committee Report – Community Engagement Grants (Becca Fint-Clarke)
 - i. Community Engagement Grants have been reinstated.
 - ii. \$60,000 available, with awards of up to \$10,000 per project.
 - iii. Proposals due May 1 for project period July 1, 2026 – April 30, 2027.
 - iv. <https://research.wvu.edu/funding/internal/internal-grant-applications>

6. Guest Reports

- a. Report from Interim Provost Paul Kreider
 - i. Dean of Eberly has been announced, Clayton Thyne. He comes to WVU from the University of Kentucky and plans to be on campus later this summer.
 - ii. Mark Paris will join WVU as Dean of Libraries and Press on April 27
 - iii. WVU Teaching, Research and Service Awards
 - 1. Catherine Gouge – Caperton Award for Excellence in Teaching and Writing
 - 2. Foundation Awards for Outstanding Teaching
 - a. Cody Hood – Eberly
 - b. Jignesh Solanki – Statler
 - c. Erin Brock Carlson – Eberly
 - d. Muzibur Rahman – WVU Tech
 - 3. First Year Seminar Instructor of the Year Award – WenJuan (Helen) Mo – Statler College
Doctoral Student
 - iv. WVU's 8th annual Research Week is April 6-10.
 - 1. More details at <https://researchweek.wvu.edu/>

- v. Graduate Student Appreciation Week also runs April 6-10. Details are available on the [Graduate Education website](#).
- vi. Three-minute thesis competition April 7 in the Mountaineer Ballrooms.
- vii. TLC is accepting proposals for engaged teaching scholars. The deadline is April 20.
- viii. The Office of Undergraduate Research is seeking mentors for the 2026-2027 academic year.

7. Senate Business and Announcements

a. Faculty Senate Elections

- i. Candidates for Faculty Senate Chair Elect presented personal statements to the assembly.
 - 1. [Catherine Fonseca – PDF](#)
 - 2. [Eric Horstick – PDF](#)
- ii. Chair Crichlow announced that candidates were sought for the Faculty Representative on the Board of Governors position and opened the floor for declarations of interest. Declared candidates:
 - 1. Lesley Cottrell
- iii. Candidates are sought to serve on the 2026-2027 Faculty Senate Executive Committee. All current senators are eligible. Interested individuals may use the [Candidate Form](#) to declare interest.

b. New Business

- i. [Tell Me More: Hope and Music](#) – Celebration for Karen Diaz. Pre-registration is appreciated but not required. April 21st 5-7pm.
- ii. Significant discussion occurred regarding the reorganization of the LGBTQ+ Center and Center for Black Culture into the new Center for Community Connections.
 - 1. Brian Powell, Statler, recognized a guest to address the Senate on the topic, with assent from Chair Crichlow.
 - 2. Ron Reaser, Statler, recognized guest to address the Senate on the topic, with assent from Chair Crichlow.
 - 3. Concerns expressed regarding loss of visibility, continuity of services, staffing uncertainty, and impacts on campus climate.
 - 4. Chair Crichlow will request an update from Vice President Gary Furby for the next meeting.
- iii. [Lavender Graduation](#) to be held on April 19.

8. Chair Crichlow adjourned the meeting at 5:06 p.m.

Corey Hunt
Faculty Senate Office Administrator