

Minutes
Faculty Senate Executive Committee
Monday, August 23, 2010

1. Chair Alan Stolzenberg called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. in Room 126 at the Evansdale Library.

Members Present:

Bastress, R.	Clements, J.	Kershner, R.	Stolzenberg, A.
Bilgesu, I.	Cottrell, L.	Nutter, R.	Urbanski, J.
Boyles, J.	DiBartolomeo, L.	Peace, G.	Wheatly, M.
Clark, N.	Edwards, B.	Petty, T.	

Members Absent:

Butcher, F.	Strife, M.
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Guests:

Cumming, J.	Lastinger, M.	Robinson, S.
Dean, R.	Leppar, J. (DA)	Shaner, C. (DP)
Griffith, R.	Mazzella, D. (NIS)	Wilson, C.

2. President Clements reported that:

- Things went very well at yesterday's student welcome.
- Student move-in went well last week.
- Last year, research hit an all-time high. Research dollars went from \$152 million to \$177 million. A \$6.5 million dollar NSF grant to Maura McLaughlin was announced today. Even in tough economic times the University is strong and people believe in what we do.
- This year the big focus is on the strategic plan. Provost Wheatly and Chancellor Colenda, with Nigel Clark are doing a great job leading the effort.

3. Provost Wheatly said that:

- Last week about 75 faculty attended new faculty orientation, although around 160 have been hired since the last new faculty orientation.
- The search committee for the new dean of Creative Arts started today.
- Tomorrow morning the search will begin for the new dean of the Ag School.
- She is very involved in strategic planning. She feels a very good plan is coming together. They presented the plan to the BOG for their initial input and she believes the plan from this point forth is to further refine it. The President will make a statement about it at his State of the University Address and from there for discussion.
- There is quite a bit going on with undergraduate student success and retention. Associate Provost Dooley has been working on a number of fronts. Bernadette

Jungblut has been hired as Director of Student Retention and Success. They have been working with the Registrar's Office as well.

- Nigel Clark and Associate Provost Dean are looking at the funds available for Faculty Senate grants. She would like for them to figure out how much money is needed and where should that money come from. Historically, funds have come from the Provost's Office but should the Research Corp, Foundation, and HSC be contributing.
- That there are omissions in the area of advising. There are no pre-med or pre-professional advising. They are looking at what they can do in the area of advising.

4. Chair Stolzenberg thanked everyone who came to last week's retreat. He reported:

- The revision of the Faculty Constitution will be presented to the University Assembly in October. The new text will be placed on the Faculty Senate webpage and faculty will be notified that it is there. A mail ballot will follow.
- Virginia Kleist and C. B. Wilson have been working on the revision of the Faculty Handbook. One issue they found in the way the handbook is written is that it essentially ties to policies on a number of websites and as soon as those websites change the Faculty Handbook comes out of date.
- He's trying to come up with people to present at the Senate meetings. Someone from TIAA-CREF will speak in October.
- The BOG will meet on campus on September 16.

5. It was moved and duly seconded to approve the minutes from the May 24, 2010 meeting. Motion carried.

6. Professor Nutter passed out a list of eight issues that the Advisory Council of Faculty are going to target at the Legislature. He said that some of them may be pulled; wording may be changed on some. He said he would like to have the Faculty Senate endorse this list and moved that it be on the next Faculty Senate agenda. Motion was seconded. Motion carried with one abstention.

Professor Nutter said the ACF retreat was held at the end of May. He had a hand-out of highlights of the meeting that included a list of new members and comments from Chancellor Noland.

He said that the ACF met on August 17. At that meeting HEPC Vice Chancellor Bruce Flack said that important issues for this year are: Series 11: Submission of Proposals for New Academic Programs and the Discontinuance of Existing Programs which essentially requires all schools to submit new programs for approval through HEPC, including WVU and Marshall. And Series 21: Freshman Assessment and Placement Standards, which is essentially tightening the standards.

Mr. Flack said that: 1) loss of tenure faculty and retirement is a nationwide issue; 2) WV needs to concentrate on college completion; and, 3) the budget is still a concern.

7. Associate Provost for Graduate Academic Affairs Jonathan Cumming discussed the Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory and Incomplete grading policy for graduate students. He said the goal is to limit the use of the “I” grade at the graduate level where casework is unavoidably incomplete and to provide units with a mechanism to assign grades to these courses without overly inflating or deflating the student’s overall GPA. He will present the proposal to the Graduate Council and again to the Executive Committee before presenting it to the Faculty Senate.

8. New Business:

Chair Stolzenberg said Amy Baker, OIT, asked him about receiving comments from the Faculty Senate about a Usage Standards Policy that their developing. The policy will be distributed to Executive Committee members for comment.

Professor Kershner raised concerns about whether it’s necessary to swipe your ID to ride the PRT in extreme weather conditions. Professor Lastinger will bring this up at a Parking Committee meeting.

9. The meeting adjourned at 4:17 p.m. to reconvene on Monday, September 27, 2010.

Linda Cunningham
Committee Secretary