Minutes of the WVSU Faculty Senate Meeting on Friday, May 5, 2017

Hamblin Hall Auditorium, 1:30 p.m.

Attendance: Arts & Humanities senators D. Johnson and T. Alderman (Secretary); Business Administration & Social Sciences Senators F. Hailou, M. Seyedmonir, M. Ray; Natural Sciences & Mathematics Senators R. Ford (Chair), R. Baker (Vice-Chair), M. Fultz; Professional Studies Senator O. Banks; Librarians & Counselors

D. Wells (Historian), M. Casey; Parliamentarian J. Magan

BOG Representative: T. Guetzloff, ACF Representative B. Ladner

*Ex Officio*: Security: M. Porterfield, Provost: Jayasuriya, SGA President: E. Roberts [The President was unable to attend]

Faculty Guests: K. Harper, D. Huber, M. Workman, R. Harris, P. Wilson, A. Settle, K. Steele, S. Armstrong,

T. Ruhnke, G. Palubinskas, K. Cobb

Deans/Interim Deans: R. Wallace, N. Zaman

Other Administrators: Asst. VP S. Woodard; Assoc. VP Ami Smith

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:35. Approval of the minutes was moved by Dr. Fultz, seconded by

Dr. Ray and approved by voice vote.

2. New or re-elected senators were recognized: D. Johnson and J. Barnes-Pietruszynski for Arts & Humanities,

with M. Porter as Alternate, M. Fultz for Natural Sciences & Mathematics, with S. Collins as alternate, K.

McDilda and G. Hensley for Professional Studies. For Chair of the Senate, Dr. Ford was re-elected, Dr. Barnes-

Pietruszynski was elected Vice-chair, Dr. Johnson was elected Secretary.

3. The meeting agenda was moved by Dr. Fultz, seconded by Dr. Seyedmonir, and approved by voice vote.

The General Education Committee’s report was postponed to October. The annual evaluation by the

Promotion & Tenure Committee will be handled under New Business. The issue regarding the IRB and Social

Science research will be handled under New Business.

4. Comments from the Chair: Dr. Don Anderson, who had recently died, was recognized for his service

to the Chemistry Department, as chair, professor, and tutor. The Faculty Senate Committee for the

Constitution and By-laws, which was trying to update and make consistent the documents, seems to

have finished its job. The Educational Policies Committee awaits a charge from the Executive

Committee to implement its Task Force’s suggestions. The Faculty Personnel Committee has prepared

a new instrument for evaluation of faculty. There was a student initiative to reform the student

evaluation of faculty. The General Education Committee is working on a set of procedures and policy for

submitting proposals. The Chair noted that all policies for Senate Committees should be in the

Faculty Handbook By-laws.

5. There is some confusion about the By-laws requiring the Senate to appoint a liaison to the Senate.

6. The SGA President is going to work on making sure student representatives serve on the appropriate

committees. Each Dean is to appoint one student to Cultural Affairs, and the Education Dept. Chair is to

appoint a student to the Teacher Education Committee.

7. There was no report from President Jenkins, as he was unable to attend.

8. The Provost’s report: A. Four 100% online programs have been started, with only 15 students so far

enrolled, which is a slow start. He expects more enrollment in the next academic year, such as 50 or 100.

New programs have been promised to Learning House, with whom he met on Thursday. They had no

complaints with us. The recent “lock-outs” by some security device appear to have been a response to a possible

hacking attack. Dr. Ray requested another faculty training session for Moodle. Dr. Magan asked if WVSU is

placing too much emphasis on 100% online courses, with less for courses using 30% or 50%. Dr. Hailou

suggested that complete training is very cumbersome and a full-time trainer/problem solver would be helpful.

Dr. Fultz asked if the small number of students we have is really cost-effective. How many do we need to “break

even”? The Provost responded that we are saving money. The previous online system charged $52,000 *vs*. the

per-student price for Moodle at about $12,000, and we’ll get more when Moodle brings more students. The

Blackboard system charges $60,000. Someone asked if web 10% is gone. Dr. Ray asked if a department

offering more on-line classes can get money for travel from the fees, and the answer was no, the money is for

WVSU Faculty Senate Minutes for May 5, 2017

page 2

technology only. B. We had more than 41 international students (*vs*. twenty-some last year) on campus this

year, and we will be getting some from China soon. C. Dr. Fultz asked if we can get a “button” on the Faculty

Attendance link for “all are attending,” which Dr. Guetzloff seconded. Dr. Zaman suggested it could more

like the Midterm warning grade list, where the whole roster comes up at one time. D. I.T. has the student

evaluations but won’t scan them, so Academic Affairs wants the scantron machine in Wallace Hall, to which

each College will deliver the completed forms. Regarding online classes, Dr. Kiddie has a form adapted for

them, but the Provost wants a different form. Dr. Baker asked about the snafu with Financial Aid and the

attendance reporting issue recently, and if it is necessary to calculate the number of hours each student is

present. E. It was reported that the number of core students was up this past year.

9. Dr. Ladner’s report for the ACF was submitted in written form. Dr. Guetzloff moved, with Prof. Banks’

second, to accept the report, and this was approved by a voice vote.

10. Dr. Guetzloff reported on the BOG’s special meeting. There was some question about whether a Foundation

event could be held on campus with WVSU’s liquor restriction. The next meeting will be held on Sept. 16.

There is an air of uncertainty regarding the size of the State’s budget cuts.

11. Professor Cobb reporting on the Faculty Scholarship Committee, said that only two students per College were

awarded money because we can’t use the principal, only the interest. She is sending an e-mail for

nominations for scholarships. This is not a “need-based” scholarship.

12. The Honors Committee report from Dr. Palubinskas was postponed.

Old Business

13. For the Senate’s standing committees, Dr. Baker said a list will be ready soon. For the schedule of who reports

to the Senate, EPC will report monthly except in September. Honors Committee will report in October.

The Research and Faculty Development Committee reports in March.

New Business

14. D. Wells was nominated to continue as Historian of the Faculty Senate, and was elected by voice vote.

15. Chair Ford recommended that each dean have her/his faculty compile a list of technological needs for the

faculty and for the classrooms. He asked who exactly is in charge of the equipment. This needs some

clarification.

16. Land Grant (Gus R. Douglas Institute) representatives no longer need to be represented on Senate committees

since they are already represented as faculty members. Dr. Fultz moved, with Dr. Seyedmonir’s second, to

accept this suggestion, which was approved by voice vote. The Constitution and By-laws Committee shall now

take up the revision of membership.

17. It is now official policy that faculty report student attendance in all their classes.

18. Chair Ford asked if WVSU still enforces its policy regarding “clean” graduation. Can students march if they

are close to having the required credits? There seemed to be no answer.

19. Since student evaluations were not available, self reports will be incomplete.

20. For Promotion and Tenure and Retention, 15 or 16 were promoted (?) New faculty must use the new form

for evaluation. Continuing faculty can use the new or old evaluation. The Committees need to

know which form faculty are using, of course. The process of applying has not changed, only the instrument.

21. Someone noticed that the College of Business Administration & Social Sciences has no representative on the

Institutional Review Board, which can interfere with its ability to assess some proposals. (The President

appoints members to the IRB.) A form is needed for projects that have been approved. The Provost said that

he can fix the issue of representation. Faculty need training for what information is needed in proposals and

the deadlines. Chair Ford said he will notify Dr. Harrison, the chair of the IRB.

22. Dr. Fultz moved, with Dr. Seyedmonir’s second, to adjourn the meeting, and the motion passed on voice vote

at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. T. Alderman, outgoing Secretary for the Faculty Senate