**West Virginia State University**

**Faculty Senate Executive Committee**

**Minutes – September 25, 2020**

Attendees: Jessica Barnes-Pietruszynski; Leighann Davidson; Richard Ford; Michael Fultz; Tom Kiddie; Frank Vaughan; Edward Lomax; Jeff Pietruszynski; Barbara Ladner and Scott Woodard.

J. Barnes-Pietruszynski asked for us to review the agenda.

M. Fultz moved to approve agenda and F. Vaughan seconded.

M. Fultz moved to approve minutes and F. Vaughan seconded

**NEW BUSINESS**

S. Woodard thanked everyone for the invitation and wanted to discuss the self-report document. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski asked if the document would be altered and S. Woodard said he was going to present the information at faculty senate and gather feedback before he said yes/no. The self-reports and portfolios due dates will be altered in the calendar to allow more time and alleviate any obstacles. S. Woodard indicated since J. Pietruszynski and the executive committee were comfortable with altering the date, he suggested we change the date to October 8 instead of October 1. J. Pietruszynski said he would end out an email later today to the faculty illustrating that change and also asked whether anyone had contacted R. Harris to determine the faculty who were going up for promotion/tenure. M. Fultz indicated that R. Harris said he had received five letters for promotion and tenure.

M. Fultz suggested we get something in writing from the Chair of the Faculty Senate and the Interim Provost that states the university can use the self-report data for funding/grant purposes to illustrate how COVID-19 has affected teaching/instruction, but cannot be used to evaluate the faculty for the 2019-20 and 2020-21 academic years.

S. Woodard also wanted to talk about the revitalization of FACET (Faculty Center of Excellence in Teaching). He indicated it was very important to have a center of excellence that concentrated on pedagogical training. He has identified $4,000.00 in funding from the Estate of Charlotte Jiles, which was bequeathed to academic affairs for educational assemblies and training. S. Woodard reviewed the original FACET proposal and thinks it is a good model, but needs to get started again. He indicated there is a director for the center along with a board of advisors, but he would also like to see someone from the Education Department on the committee, since we would be conducting training sessions and pedagogy. There will be a representative from each college, but it did not specifically state the education dept. He just wanted to put this information out to the faculty senate, so that we can start the process. S. Woodard also would like to have a resolution to put forward to the faculty senate next week. M. Fultz asked if he wanted a resolution for faculty senate at large. S. Woodard said it was vital that we get collaboration on this. J. Pietruszynski stated that he and J. Barnes- Pietruszynski would draft the resolution and indicated that the original budget was only $400.00, so the $4,000.00 funding would be a great addition. S. Woodard also indicated he would like to FACET to have a physical presence on campus. M. Fultz stated that there is a grant to assist with mentoring from R1 universities to provide post-doctoral fellows. S. Woodard said he would like to set this up on the calendar to begin in the spring 2021 and said it was time sensitive but would like to see this being looked into quickly. J. Pietruszynski said he had all of the old documentation, so he could get this up and running in a few weeks. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski asked how the director would be selected. S. Woodard indicated that the director would be appointed by academic affairs and the other positions would be selected by faculty senate. S. Woodard said he would be inclined to appoint J. Pietruszynski to the position since he was involved from the beginning. J. Pietruszynski accepted and said he shared S. Woodard’s vision on this. B. Ladner said we could even bring back the teaching lecture series or faculty presentations. S. Woodard said there is an HLC piece here too, where we can show that the university is developing the faculty properly. He indicated there could be 5 or 6 sessions with varying topics each semester for the faculty to attend. R. Ford asked what do we need for the resolution and would the Masters of Education program be involved. M. Fultz indicated that it has already been stated that someone from education should be involved. B. Ladner indicated that the education students who are doing teaching or training to teach should definitely be included, especially the graduate students who are teaching for us. S. Woodard indicated that he just wanted a collaborative effort between academic affairs and faculty senate. He also said we could invite K-12 teachers into the seminars and B. Ladner said she has several online resources she found that could be used to build a website to include all of this information. S. Woodard said it would be great for us to support the emerging K-12 teachers around the area. J. Pietruszynski would put together a resolution and have it out Monday.

**FSS ELECTIONS**

R. Ford updated on faculty senate election said 23 positions were unfilled. He asked if anyone knew who the student volunteer was for Academic Appeals. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski stated that T. Sweeney sent something out yesterday, so that may give us the answers regarding student representatives.

R. Ford asked if anyone had any updates on the Arts/Humanities rep. for Cultural Activities was and J. Barnes-Pietruszynski stated it was Lan Wang. He asked about Business & Social Science representatives, but nobody had any updates. Also, still need the appointed representatives from the Deans.

R. Ford asked if Frehot Heilou was the athletic representative for Business/Social Sciences, but nobody has any updates. There were also questions about whether the Athletic Committee was going to be a 3-year term and whether ex-officio from coaching and the W club would be voting/non-voting. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski and L. Davidson stated that we were going to add the Athletic Committee to the list for the 3-year term committees in the constitution and determine how the college reps would switch, so the entire committee does not turn over each time. M. Fultz suggested that we make it clear in the constitution whether the ex-officio positions would be voting or non-voting. R. Ford suggested we clean the constitution since there were several things we had discovered. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski indicated we need to get a working committee together to make it reflect the same language and correct all of the new additions.

R. Ford asked who the Arts/Humanities rep was for General Education, he indicated it was Josh Martin, but who else. B. Ladner stated it was Anne McConnell, but she is on sabbatical this semester and will be back in Spring 2021. R. Ford wrote Anne in for the rep. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski stated that the other Arts/Humanities rep was Dirk Johnson and he had one more year. B. Ladner stated that Anne McConnell was at large. He asked about the Business/Social Sciences rep, but nobody had any updates. R. Ford also asked who the Library/Counseling rep for General Education was and indicated he thought it was Kelli Toledo. B. Ladner said she thought it was Kelli Toledo. M. Fultz asked E. Lomax but he did not respond. B. Ladner asked F. Vaughan if he knew who the General Education rep was from Business/Social Sciences, but he did not know. He indicated he would try and find out.

R. Ford said the faculty senate needs to nominate individuals for Program Review and the GRDI representative for Faculty Research and Development needs to be appointed by Vice President of Research. M. Fultz said he would follow up with them.

R. Ford asked about the Arts/Humanities representatives for the retention committee. He said C. Taylor-Johnson was one, but he was not sure who the other one would be. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said they are still looking because C. Susman was nominated, but she was not tenured, so she could not be on the committee.

B. Ladner said should would be willing to serve as the at large for the Honors Committee.

R. Ford said he would need to update the information and who the chairs of those committees are would be helpful, so he had the correct information. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said she would like to encourage the committees to meet and appoint a chair or coordinator. She also asked R. Ford to send her a list of the Business/Social Science positions needed and she would send some emails or go over and talk to people to try and get the information.

R. Ford said he would like to suggest that before the next election, we allow nominations ahead of time, so we could avoid having multiple nominees to the same committees. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said that would be great, but she said that faculty will say they did not see the email and want to nominate others. B. Ladner said she thought it would be unusual to not allow nominations from the floor, but we should try to get as many nominees as we can before the general faculty meeting because if we don’t allow them during the meeting, there will be a fight. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski suggested in doing a hybrid style.

M. Fultz asked who runs the faculty senate website. E. Lomax stated that Deborah Wells is still managing the faculty senate website. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said that it should be turned over to the historian. E. Lomax stated that he is responsible for ensuring that the content is updated. M. Fultz said that the Committee should be ACF instead of AFC and Kathy Harper is no longer on the executive committee. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said it looks like it was updated over the summer, but not since.

M. Fultz said he was texting with T. Ruhnke about the honors committee. He gave three names as recommendations for that at large position. L. Davidson; M. Carrol or D. Williams. M. Fultz suggested we approach them and see who is willing to serve and have a vote by acclimation by the faculty senate or general faculty. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said she thought that was fine. M. Fultz asked if L. Davidson was willing and she indicated she was not eligible since she already served on the Cultural Activities Committee. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said she would email D. Williams and M. Carroll to see if either of them would be willing. F. Vaughan said he would be willing to serve on the Honors Committee if Matt and Debbie were not.

**ACF**

B. Ladner indicated the language about two positions in WV Code which are the BOG rep and the ACF rep specifies that they are allowed to succeed themselves and have 3 re-elections but nothing about term limits. She stated that she was not sure the constitution needs to be changed because it does not specify any term limits for ACF; although we had been operating as though it did. But she does not think that is productive because it takes about 2 years to get up to speed and now B. Ladner is the webmaster. Also, a lot of institutions do not have term limits. B. Ladner suggested we amend the part to include the code and not the bill and include there is nothing that specifies term limits for ACF. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski stated that we should include the language that there are no term limits and suggested we update the constitution. M. Fultz said this position requires a lot of work and B. Ladner is willing to do it.

**BOG**

F. Vaughan said there is a full board meeting on Thursday, October 22, 2020 and the information will go out when it is received. He indicated he thought the meeting would be in person with a zoom option.

**OCTOBER FACULTY SENATE AGENDA ITEMS**

J. Barnes-Pietruszynski asked about other agenda items for Friday (October 2) Faculty Senate meeting. L. Davidson emailed Karleen to reserve Wallace 122 for the meeting. B. Ladner will setup the zoom account.

1. Self-Reports with the proposed amendments
2. Nominations for Program Review from the Senate to the Provost
3. FACET – Resolution
4. COVID Updates
5. Athletic Committee – Voting/Non-Voting
6. Board of Directors for R&D
7. Nominating Members - J. Barnes-Pietruszynski stated we nominate and vote for the BOG rep, doesn’t see why we couldn’t do it for R&D rep
8. Issues to R&D that Faculty Senate want M. Fultz to bring up
9. Constitution Cleanup

R. Ford asked when the senate makes a motion, who in Constitution/By-Laws makes sure that is complete. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said she did it last year because she was on that committee but we should probably figure that out. R. Ford said he is on there and willing to make sure things are updated. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said that would work.

**COVID-19 ISSUES**

J. Barnes-Pietruszynski indicated she received an email from P. Carney that looked like a form email in regards to contact tracing and informing her to contact J. Davenport. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski called J. Davenport and he indicated that email went out to everyone, but he was not sure why that email was sent. J. Davenport clarified that if any faculty/staff was in contact with a student who had tested positive, they would get a call from him or his office.

M. Fultz suggested that we need to know what is happening to the data the university is collecting with test results and the Campus Clear app. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said that when individuals were tested, they released that data to WVSU. L. Davidson shared that another testing was scheduled for October and WVSU was trying to get as many students tested as possible, so they are looking for incentives. M. Fultz indicated his wife sets on a board for private school and was told that higher education should be conducting randomized testing. B. Ladner said Marshall was testing, but it was voluntary. M. Fultz asked F. Vaughan if he knew anything about randomized testing. F. Vaughan indicated they are randomized testing athletes, but beyond that he has not heard anything because we did not have the money to pay for it. L. Davidson stated that she had been quarantined through contact tracing and had to be tested before returning to campus. F. Vaughan indicated he had been tested four times and they were all negative. B. Ladner stated that her husband was part of the randomized testing this week, but he had been tested at the beginning of the semester and it took 9 days to get his results. M. Fultz indicated they recently revised the Campus Clear questions.

M. Fultz said a lot of individuals do not know what is going on with COVID. The cashier’s office bottle was crushed and still do not have a new one. He asked whose job it was to ensure that things are refilled and working properly. B. Ladner said she was in a classroom where the hand sanitizer dispenser did not work. M. Fultz said we are failing on this cleaning issue. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said she knew they were looking at the contract. Byers told J. Barnes-Pietruszynski that we had been paying $500,000 a year, but they wanted $800,000 per year with the increase in cleaning and they still do not do a good job. R. Ford said N. Zaman keeps asking for the contract from K. Williams, but has never received a copy.

**NEW BUSINESS**

J. Barnes-Pietruszynski will be meeting with President Pride on Tuesday and wanted to know what the executive committee wanted addressed. M. Fultz said he talked to her during that faculty senate meet/greet and talked to her about the awards. He emphasized that those awards should be endowed so they could be continuous for those faculty who are trying to make a difference. F. Vaughan stated that one of her goals is to increase endowment, so that should align with her goals.

J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said she is going to bring up that the Faculty Senate Chair should be part of the president’s cabinet. M. Fultz asked if we are going to try and get the Faculty Senate Chair added, should there be a push to add the Staff Council Chair as well. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said they should be. B. Ladner asked what committee. M. Fultz clarified, the president’s council. F. Vaughan said it is usually Faculty Senate Chair or ACF Rep., but not both at once. B. Ladner said it should be the Faculty Senate Chair because the ACF role is more about working with faculty around the state and the possibilities of partnering with the presidents of the institutions, not as an advisor to the WVSU president. B. Ladner asked if the student government rep was on the cabinet. M. Fultz said he did not think so, it’s just the Vice Presidents. B. Ladner suggested that there should be a body that meets regularly that includes the Faculty Senate President, Staff Council President and the Student Government President. F. Vaughan stated that we should invite her to the executive committee next month, because a big concern is there are several high level positions being announced with a 2-week time frame. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said that is on her list, but she focused on the Provost search since that one would affect faculty the most. F. Vaughan discussed the Provost committee selection and indicated he was told she wanted an unranked list of three candidates to be submitted to her for consideration. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski indicated she was going to tell her how much the faculty appreciated S. Woodard’s leadership during this pandemic. M. Fultz stated that you get answers from him, you may not always agree with him, but he gives you an answer. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said she was also going to talk to her about shared governance by giving her some context on the background and why the faculty are concerned and do not feel like they are involved in the searches and emphasized faculty involvement.

**OLD BUSINESS**

1. Ad Hoc Committees = J. Barnes-Pietruszynski discussed that these committees paused in March. M. Fultz suggested we prioritize the things that need to happen, such as the Academic Dishonesty Statement that need to be finalized this semester and the other things can wait until the Spring. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski will send out a list and determine how to prioritize and begin working on these things.
2. Term Faculty = J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said this could wait until the Spring.