

WVSU Faculty Senate Meeting
Friday, April 1, 2016 – 1:30
Hamblin Auditorium

1. **Call to order:** The Faculty Senate Meeting was called to order by Chair, Dr. Tim Ruhnke at 1:38 p.m.
2. **Review/approval of minutes:** Minutes from the Faculty Senate Meeting held March 4, 2016 were reviewed. **Motion to accept the minutes was made (Alderman/Banks) and carried.**
3. **Approval of the agenda:** Under “New Business”, the following two items were added to the agenda: Set General Faculty meeting date and General Education recommendation regarding Freshman Experience. **Motion to approve the amended agenda carried (Fultz/Banks).**
4. **Comments from the Chair:** Dr. Ruhnke reported that the Search Committee for President is going to Charlotte, North Carolina for the weekend of April 9-10. Approximately 10 candidates will be interviewed. Once the field is narrowed, candidates will be on campus for interviews in late April.
5. **Reports**
 - a. **President Hemphill:** The President reported that earlier today, the Higher Education Policy Commission approved WVSU’s proposal to begin offering a Masters of Education in Instructional Leadership. As there has been no resolution in the Legislature regarding the budget, the institution’s budget is still in a holding pattern. All presidents of institutions of higher education in West Virginia attended a meeting earlier today and all anticipate that the cuts to higher education will be greater than the 4% cuts that have been announced. At WVSU, the President has held meetings with the Vice-Presidents in an effort to anticipate how to deal with higher cuts. No faculty layoffs were considered in these plans. However, there may be open positions that will not be filled. President Hemphill will meet with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee after meeting with the Board of Governors. He also hopes to have a plan ready to leave for the new President, should he/she choose to follow it. The President then opened the floor for questions. Dr. Ruhnke asked a question about the proposed tobacco tax. President Hemphill noted that the budget was still so uncertain at the state level, that it would be difficult to determine how a \$1.00 tobacco tax would impact funding. Higher education in West Virginia has received cuts of 18% in the last 4 years. Political leaders indicated that they do not want to continue to cut higher education, but they have also asked institutions to submit plans for enduring just such cuts. Discussion was made about tuition. In recent years, WVSU has moved from having some of the lowest tuition in the state to around the middle of the pack when compared with all institutions in WV. Our tuition is close to that of Marshall University. We need to be careful of tuition increases. Currently, some students with a full aid package have a gap between their aid and the costs associated with school. The President reported that applications and confirmations are up over last year. We anticipate increased enrollment of freshmen in the fall. Professor Marrash-Minnerly asked that the administration please be mindful of newly implemented processes regarding purchasing cards that have made it difficult to faculty to do their jobs properly. The President understood her concern and noted that if he were to do it over, he would do the same, but would fix where problems arose. He noted that it was a conservative move based on anticipated cuts and talk that payment from the state could possibly be late. Dr. Fultz asked about the April disbursement from the state and the President indicated that it will probably be on time after all. Discussion was made regarding out-of-state recruitment – Royale has been recruiting in high population areas such as Chicago and Washington, D.C. The President addressed rumors that WVSU is moving to being an online institution. He noted that we will

remain a face-to-face institution. We do have 4 completely online programs, though, including the new Masters of Education in Instructional Leadership. Discussion continued regarding budget cuts and money saving measures. Since 2012, 82 positions have been eliminated; we are about at the limits of what can be cut. Additional budget cuts would probably have a negative impact on academic programs. Dr. Guetzloff began a discussion regarding the Student Fees Committee and confusion over spending of science fees and the budget for the athletic department. According to the President, Nate Burton, Athletic Director, is holding coaches to their budget, and the department is making progress with reducing the deficit that was created when the Community and Technical College moved and the adjustment for decreased numbers of students was not made to the athletic budget for years. Additionally, Nate Burton is doing considerable fundraising for athletics.

- b. **EPC – Dr. Michael Fultz:** Dr. Fultz submitted the EPC report for this month in written format. The Education Department asked to cut the PreK-K certification program due to low enrollment. **Motion to accept the report (Alderman/Banks) carried.** The next meeting of EPC will be held on April 22, 2016.
 - c. **ACF – Dr. Rich Ford:** Dr. Ford did not report to the Faculty Senate as he was attending a state-wide ACF meeting.
 - d. **BOG Report – Dr. Tom Guetzloff:** Dr. Guetzloff referenced the March 17, 2016 meeting of the Board of Governors. Program Reviews were passed for three programs (Elementary Education, Secondary Education, and Psychology). The meeting was held in the morning and was shortened to allow for the celebration of 125 years of service. At the next meeting, a budget will be passed – this may have to happen without knowing exact details of state funding allocation.
 - e. **Teacher Education – Professor Pat Wilson:** This report was postponed until the May meeting.
 - f. **Faculty Personnel: Dr. Upali Karunathilake:** Dr. Karunathilake submitted a written report for this committee. The Committee recommends that Faculty Senate make formal mechanisms for scanning of evaluations. The previous several times, student workers have scanned the forms under the supervision of the committee chair. Discussion was made regarding the process and merit pay dates on the Faculty Personnel Calendar. **Motion to accept the report (Alderman/Banks) carried.**
 - g. **Constitution and By-laws – Dr. Michael Workman:** This report was postponed until the May meeting.
 - h. **Library Committee – Dr. Willette Stinson:** Dr. Stinson reviewed the written report regarding the library, highlighting select achievements of the year. In the concluding statement, she noted that the library makes realistic actions in challenging economic times. **Motion to accept the report (Alderman/Banks) carried.**
6. **Old Business**
- a. **Faculty Evaluation Form – Dr. Naveed Zaman:** Dr. Zaman reviewed the faculty evaluation form, noting changes based on feedback received from the faculty. Approximately 20 changes were made to language and/or numerical ratings. The plan is to use the new form for evaluation for retention, tenure, and promotion beginning next year (and merit when/if appropriate).
7. **New Business**
- a. **General Faculty Meeting Date:** The general faculty meeting for the spring semester will be held on Tuesday, May 10 from 2:00-3:15.
 - b. **General Education Committee Recommendation:** So, the GE committee would like to recommend the following to the Faculty Senate:
Whereas the intention of the First Year Experience course is to help transition students, especially those new to university life; and

Whereas most, if not all, transfer students who enter WVSU with credits that exceed 30 do so with the skills and knowledge taught in FYE; and

Whereas there is little benefit in repeating an FYE course after 30 hours of university-credit classes,

Be it Resolved by the WVSU General Education Committee that students who transfer into WVSU with 30+ hours will not be required to take an FYE course ~~unless directed to do so by the program in which they intend to achieve a degree.~~ **Motion to approve the recommendation carried with an amendment to remove language regarding allowing departments to require the course (Guetzloff/Alderman/Baker).**

- c. **Senate Executive 2016-2017:** Elections for the Faculty Senate Executive Committee will be held at the next Faculty Senate meeting.

Adjourn at 4:12

Dr. Emily Waugh, Secretary