

General Faculty Meeting
Tuesday, May 10, 2016, 2:15 pm
Fleming Hall (FN223)

2:00 pm, Lloyd Lobby, Walker Convocation Center – Introduction of the 11th President of WVSU

1. Approval of January, 2016 minutes
2. Approval of agenda
3. General Faculty meeting agenda
 - o Resolution of Appreciation for President Hemphill
 - o *resolution of appreciation for Dr. Tim Ruhnke*
 - o BOG - Guetzloff
 - o State Budget
 - o Faculty Evaluation Instrument
 - o Elections

Adjourn

General Faculty Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2016 – 10:00 a.m.
122 Wallace Hall

- I. **Call to order:** The General Faculty Meeting was called to order by the Senate Chair, Dr. Tim Ruhnke at 9:48 a.m.
- II. **Approval December 8, 2015 General Faculty Meeting minutes:** Minutes from the previous General Faculty Meeting were reviewed. Dr. Timothy Alderman moved to approve the minutes, Dr. Genia Sklute seconded. **Motion to approve minutes carried.**
- III. **Approval of agenda:** Dr. Ruhnke added two agenda items "Board of Governors Report" and "Announcements". **Motion to approve the amended Agenda was made (Shaffer/Alderman) and carried.**
- IV. **Online Programs – update:** The contract with Learning House is with the WV Attorney General's office for approval. The Provost indicated that the contract should be finalized next week. Training for faculty should start as soon as the contract is finalized. Additionally, the Center for Online Learning's staff will be available to help with training faculty and students. For Web100 classes for the fall 2016 semester, faculty will start working with Learning House in early spring with plans to have those courses ready for fall by June. Web100 classes for Spring and Summer of 2017 will also need to be moved to Learning House (Moodle) before Sakai is discontinued in December 2016. Discussion continued regarding the logistics of transferring courses from Sakai to Moodle. Faculty with questions about logistics should see Dr. Thomas Kiddie, Director, Center for Online Learning.
- V. **Board of Governors update:** Dr. Guetzloff provided the update of activities of the Board of Governors (BOG). The majority of the recent work of the Board of Governors has been related to the Presidential Search.
- VI. **Presidential Search:** Drs. Guetzloff and Ruhnke discussed the Presidential Search. Dr. Brian Hemphill, President, is leaving WVSU effective July 1, 2016. The Board of Governors (BOG) moved quickly to develop the plan for the search for a President. Faculty representatives for the Presidential Search Committee include the following: Dr. Jonathan Eya, Professor of Biology, Dr.

T. Ford-Ahmed, Professor of Communications, and Dr. Tim Ruhnke, Professor of Biology. Faculty comments/concerns regarding qualities desired in a candidate should be shared with faculty representatives to the Presidential Search Committee by January 22, 2016. This is a common time for presidential searches. The BOG should select a search firm during the January 28, 2016 BOG meeting. Discussion was made regarding the tenure of the new President and whether newly implemented policies and procedures would be continued. General informal consensus indicated that faculty members are interested in a President with strong academic ties, in addition to one who is an accomplished fundraiser. Dr. Ruhnke will update faculty of progress of the Presidential Search Committee through emails. Tentatively, we can expect candidates to be on campus in late April or early May. The Presidential Search Committee will make a recommendation to the BOG and the BOG will select the Presidential candidate.

- VII. **Retention Plan:** The webpage for the WVSU Retention Plan is not live (<http://wvstateu.edu/Academics/RSSC-Example/Retention-at-State.aspx>). Dr. Ruhnke will email the link to faculty. Focused input from faculty could be helpful and should be shared with Katherine McCarthy, Vice President of Enrollment Management and Student Affairs and Dr. T. Ramon Stuart, Associate Vice President of Academic Affairs who co-chair the Retention Committee. Dr. Ruhnke gave a brief overview of the website. The Retention Plan consists of the following components: Advising, Course Scheduling, Data Driven Decision making, 1st Year Seminar, New Student Orientation, and Student Life. Each component is listed on the website with strategies and progress so far. The new Director of Institutional Research and Assessment started on December 10, 2015. General discussion continued regarding retention of students. Topics included the following: metacognition, 1st Year Experience courses, probation, and individual needs of students (with regards to balancing work/life/school schedules). Discussion was made regarding reporting last day of attendance for students who fail classes. The federal government requires this date and it does have ramifications for students and possibly the amount of financial aid they are required to return. If the student never attended class, the date space should be left blank. Suggestion was made to include a box to mark noting that the student never attended (in order to avoid possible confusion). Another suggestion was that the Faculty Referral system could be updated to be more user-friendly and less repetitive.
- VIII. **Announcements:**
- a. Dr. Rich Ford announced the Great Teachers Seminar to be held June 20-23 at North Bend State Park. Previous participants noted the high quality of the seminar.
 - b. Dr. Genia Sklute reminded faculty of the Relay for Life fundraiser. The university goal is to raise \$20,000 for the charity. Faculty can help in a variety of ways – as team leader, as adviser of student organizations, with departmental teams, etc. As part of this fundraiser, the Honors Program is hosting The Night of the Arts on February 26, 2016.
- IX. **Other: Dr. Jack Magan moved (seconded by Dr. Kathy Harper) to thank Dr. Tim Ruhnke for effective service as Chair of Faculty Senate. The motion carried.**

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m.

Dr. Emily Waugh, Secretary

Resolution by the Faculty of West Virginia State University
In honor of
Professor Timothy Ruhnke
On the conclusion of his service as chair of the Faculty Senate
May 10, 2016

The Faculty of West Virginia State University hereby expresses its appreciation for Dr. Timothy Ruhnke's service in the role of its leader as chairperson of the Faculty Senate.

Not only did Professor Ruhnke serve at a time when the position demanded much more of its occupant than would normally be expected, but also

he carried out those duties in ways that showed concern for the needs and points of view of all segments of the campus,

he focused on the long-term consequences of each action, and

he maintained good will and a sense of humor, even in the face of what often seemed to be catastrophes.

Thank you, Tim, for your outstanding service to this faculty and this University.

Dr. Jack Magan