Minutes from the WVSU Faculty Senate Meeting on Friday, November 4, 2016

1:30 p.m. in Hamblin Auditorium

Senators Present: A&H: T. Alderman (Secretary), D. Johnson; BSS: F. Hailou, M.

Seyedmonir; L&C: D. Wells (Historian), M. Casey; NSM: M. Fultz, R.

Baker (Vice-Chair), R. Ford (Chair); PS: O. Banks, E. Waugh; At-Large:

J. Pietruszynski Absent: M. Ray BSS, R. Harris (At-Large)

BOG Representative: T. Guetloff; ACF Representative: B. Ladner Parliamentarian: J. Magan absent;

*Ex Officio*: Provost K. Jayusariya and SGA President: E. Roberts. Absent: Pres. Jenkins; Mr. Porterfield, Public Safety; R. Tabor, Classified Staff

Guests: Kellie Toledo; CASS, Interim Dean N. Zaman NSM; Interim Dean R. Wallace; Dr. K.

Harper, NSM; Mr. T. Bennett, Chief of Staff; Amanda Anderson from Enrollment

Management; W. Stinson, Library

1. The minutes from the Faculty Senate meeting on Friday, October 28, 2016, were approved,

on the motion of B. Ladner, seconded by E. Waugh.

2. The meeting agenda was amended as follows: A notice of the passing of James Morris, a

distinguished alumnus, was inserted, with Prof. Banks speaking of his importance to the

school, and moment of silence was observed. Prof. Banks moved, with B. Ladner second

to accept the agenda. This passed unanimously.

3. The remarks from the Chair, Dr. Ford, concerned (a) whether the minutes of the Senate

meetings were being posted, and the answer was yes, and (b)whether we know if the policy

of “clean” graduations was in effect this December. The response was no. (c) Chair Ford

also urged faculty to be responsible for their classes and other duties, noting that

some staff have trouble locating faculty. (d) He also said that President Jenkins has sent

notice via A. Anderson that there was a public forum regarding Keith Hall residents and the

mildew problem.

Reports:

4. A. Anderson spoke about the EMAS software the University is considering to streamline the

means of tracking at-risk students to improve our retention rate, of minimizing the

duplication of efforts for faculty and staff, of following FERPA guidelines, with a

“dashboard,” allowing for improved communication with and about students. The software

works with Banner. Ms. Toledo added that EMAS meets industry standards, can be

customized for our needs, consolidating ACT scores, financial aid and other data points. Dr.

Harper asked how often the data base was updated, and the answer was each new term

would generate a new field but with historical information still available. As of now there is

no link to Moodle, but Information Technology may be able to make a “crosswalk” later. Dr.

Harper asked if EMAS is used at other schools, and the answer was our recruitment office is

already using it. We can set up who get access to the data, such as faculty, coaches, chairs,

administrators, and we can determine who can “read only” *vs*. read and input data. Dr.

Baker asked about the security record of EMAS, and A. Anderson answered that it has a

secure network, hosted, with a Citric-based system. No alarms of issues have occurred so

far. E. Wood asked if administrators can see who is or is not using the system, and would

problems occurring in a student’s freshman year carry over to senior year. The answer was

yes to both questions. It was then asked if we had enough staffing to implement this

software, with a positive reassurance.

5. Mr. Bennett spoke regarding the mildew situation in Keith Hall, as it was known that

four students had reported spotting in their rooms, and it has been determined that this was

not spore-based but rather mildew due to air circulation problems and too much humidity.

The gaps between the vents and ducts was fixed with installing micro-fiber filters by an

outside company, A-Star. Chair Ford asked about getting the data and information about the

methodology the company used. Mr. Wood asked why this had occurred this fall, and that

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answer was higher temperatures this fall. Dean Zaman asked if the affected rooms have been

re-checked, and the answer was none were in a “danger zone” for health hazard.

6. Provost Jayusariya reported (a) on a visit with President Jenkins to Marshall University to

discuss 2 + 2 partnerships in engineering, while MU is still offering undergraduate classes in

South Charleston. No agreement was reached about such a partnership. (b) Regarding

undergraduate research, the Provost suggested a requirement for students, but asked about

how many requirements and if this would apply to all students, connected with the idea of

“experiential learning.” The Education Department already has such a requirement, and the

Social Sciences are interested in the idea. Dr. Johnson noted that the Music Department also

uses this idea with their students’ senior project music recital. The Provost asks us to consider it.

(c) The Provost announced that MWF 50-minute morning classes were returning fall 2017.

While some say a two-day schedule saves commuters gas money, he said that we’ll see if this

change works. Dean Zaman added that classes on MWF would start at 8 a.m. and classes at 1

p.m. could be either two-day or three-day sessions. For certain classes, he asserted, three 50-

minute classes work better. (d) The Provost wants faculty to look at a grant for course

re-design for classes with over 40-50% “D/F” grade rate. These grants would be for faculty,

and preference will be given to classes with that high “D/F” ratio of students’ grades. (e)

The Provost explained that according the HEPC, students who start at WVSU and transfer to

WVU count for their cohort, but not for the graduation rate *vs*. retention rate. Early enrolled

non-degree students at WVSU who graduate elsewhere are not counted as WVSU graduates

but do apply to our “head count.”

7. Dr. Ladner submitted a written report on the Advisory Council of Faculty, saying that we need

to voice our opinions about the looming State budget cuts and some Legislators’ mistaken

idea that HEPC is not doing a useful job. Outlines for “master courses” apply to not just

General Education but to major programs, particularly regarding transfer credits, such as in

chemistry, biology, and physics. A 70% match of such outlines/objectives is considered

acceptable to be considered a “master course.” She also reported that Marshall Univ.

matched business graduates with Legislators. Dr. Seyedmonir moved, with Dr. Hailou’s

second, to accept Dr. Ladner’s ACF report, and the motion passed.

8. Dr. Guetzloff announced that the last Board of Governors meeting was cancelled due to the

chair’s accident. There was discussion of the commuter (meal) fee. Mr. Wood noted that many

students can’t or won’t use the meals and that the fee should be voluntary. He promised to bring

this up to the University Fee Committee, and Dr. Seyedmonir moved, with Dr. Guetzloff’s

second that the Faculty Senate supports the SGA effort to make the commuter (meal) fee a

voluntary option. The motion carried. Dr. Ladner moved, with Dr. Seyedmonir’s second, to

accept the BOG report, and the motion passed.

9. Dr. Fultz reported for the Educational Policies Committee that three proposals from the

English Department had passed and that HEPC ordered that only college-credit-bearing

courses may be offered, so the English Department is dropping pre-requisites for English 101E.

He asked whether the absence of a vote total (*vs*. the simple note of a motion passing) on the

EPC form could be overlooked, and in this case the Senate agreed that it could. It is apparent

that when the HEPC mandates a policy, it is up to the faculty to decide how (not if) it can be

done. Dr. Johnson moved, with Dr. Ladner’s second, to accept the Dr. Fultz’s report, and the

motion passed. Dr. Fultz then announced the formation of the Task Force to address EPC

policies and procedures previously noted at the Senate. Drs. Fultz and Ladner are co-chairs,

with K. Steele, A. Schedl, S. Shaffer, and A. Mitiku serving, with Ms. Hunter, the Registrar.

The Task Force has met already and should be able to report to the Senate at its February

2017 meeting. He also announced that George Washington High School won over Capital

H.S. in the Science Bowl sponsored by WVSU, in which 16 teams represented 8 high schools.

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10. Dr. Ford serving as Chair of the Graduate School Council, discussed the fees for graduate

students, the text in the Catalog for course policies, and the text in the Faculty Handbook.

The application process for some students has been “de-railed” due to some communication

problem in the Admissions Office.

11. Old Business

A. Regarding Senate Committee status, Program Review has added C. Whyte and C. Steele,

and B. Ladner moved, with M. Fultz’s second, to accept these additions. The motion carried.

B. Vanderford was added to Cultural Activities and Educational Assemblies. Chair Ford

asked (again) if the Faculty Research and Development Committee has a chair. Dr.

Pietruszynski offered to be a liaison to the Committee to see who chairs it.

**B**. Regarding the Constitution/By-laws/Faculty Handbook Committee, Dr. Workman is trying to

figure out if the Land Grant Office has representatives on Senate committees. It is uncertain.

C. Regarding the administration of student evaluations of faculty, it was announced that this

remains a job for the Faculty Personnel Committee.

12. New Business

A. On the issue of tuition coverage for dependants of faculty and staff, Dr. Ford noted that the

policy is currently restrictive and he would like to find out how many such potential students

there are. Academic Affairs, Dr. Jayusariya noted, has nothing to do with this. Asking if the

Senate should pursue the matter, the sense of the body was positive.

B. Regarding safety issues on campus, Dr. Ford noted that a meeting was held for campus

plans. Dr. Baker said information about these plans should be made public. Plans are under

way for remote locking mechanisms for buildings during alarms, but then what happens to

people outside during alarms? And what happens to people using wheelchairs? Aside from

buying new cruisers, what has happened to the $600,000 Bayer grant? Cameras were

ordered and will be installed in November. Dr. Ford promises to keep us posted.

C. The General Faculty Meeting, mandated for the end of the semester, will be on Wednesday,

December 7, 2016, at 10 a.m., probably in Wallace 122.

Dr. Guetzloff moved, with Dr. Fultz’s second, for adjournment, and the motion passed at 3:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

**T. Alderman**

Dr. T. Alderman, Secretary for the Faculty Senate