

Minutes of the WVSU General Faculty Meeting on Tuesday, May 10, 2016, at 2:30 p.m. in Fleming Hall

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. by the Chair, Dr. Ford. The minutes from the January 13, 2016 General Faculty Meeting were perused, and it was moved and seconded to approve them by voice vote. The agenda for today's meeting was presented, moved, seconded, and passed by voice vote.

1. The first order of business was to approve a resolution recognizing President Hemphill's service to WVSU. Dr. Ruhnke spoke for this resolution, as he had been Chair of the Faculty Senate when it approved the resolution on Friday, May 6, 2016. It was moved and seconded to endorse the Faculty Senate's resolution, as stated here:

Be it resolved that the Faculty of West Virginia State University expresses its gratitude and appreciation to President Brian O. Hemphill, Ph.D. for his four years of dedicated service as President of West Virginia State University. President Hemphill arrived at WVSU at a critical point in its history and quickly began working to re-invigorate WVSU. During President Hemphill's tenure, WVSU completed a Capital Campaign that greatly exceeded expectations, earned re-affirmation for a maximum term, increased enrollment, launched new academic programs, and made great strides in improving its image in the Kanawha Valley. Our University is a better one as a result of his efforts. As Dr. Bryan O. Hemphill nears the end of his service as the 10th President of West Virginia State University, we the West Virginia State University Faculty express our deep admiration and wish him great success in his future endeavors.

2. The second order of business was to approve a resolution recognizing Dr. Ruhnke's service to the WVSU Faculty and Faculty Senate. Dr. Magan presented the motion for the resolution, with Dr. Ladner's second, and the motion passed with a standing ovation, as stated here:

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 outstanding service in the role of its leader as Chair 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 leadership and service to this faculty and this University.

3. Dr. Guetzloff then presented a report on the WVSU Board of Governors. At this point the WV Legislature had not finalized the State's budget, but WVSU's 5% tuition increase was approved, along with a pledge that no faculty positions will be cut, though some "lines" will be lost. Dr. Guetzloff voted against the school's budget due to his issues with the Athletic Department's budget over-runs. The WVSU Provost's position is to be "acknowledged" by the vice presidents. When Dr. Ruhnke added that Marshall University will be offering some undergraduate classes in South Charleston this fall, Dr. Guetzloff noted that Historically Black Colleges and Universities have filed suits when other schools tried to encroach on those schools' territory.
4. At this point no one knew what the State Budget was going to turn out, and how it would affect WVSU, until the Legislature's Special Session started.

5. Dr. Jayasuriya, the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, noted that the revised Faculty Evaluation instrument has passed through the Faculty Senate more than once, with individual faculty input. He added that this instrument is subject to revision before it goes into full effect in AY 2019-20, but chairs and deans will be using it this fall. When he was asked about the chairs' and deans' evaluations going to faculty for comment before *his* evaluation, he replied that instead faculty will have narratives for each section and self-evaluation. Dr. Ruhnke suggest we use institutional and outside service rubrics on a random selection of faculty portfolios to see how they work. New faculty can see other faculty members' reports to see how the evaluations work; e.g., how does one get points in this or that category, or will everyone get points in every category? The Faculty Handbook will have to be revised/adjusted to reflect the new instrument's criteria.

6. Elections:

Nominations for a replacement for Dr. Ford's position on the state-wide Advisory Faculty Council were accepted, and Dr. Barbara Ladner was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Nominations for the Program Review Committee were accepted, and Dr. Mike Anderson was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Nominations for the Faculty Senate Executive Committee were accepted, and Dr. Jeff Pietruszynski was nominated and elected by acclamation.

Dr. Jack Magan was appointed as Parliamentarian.

The WVSU General Faculty meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Tim Alderman, Secretary of the Faculty Senate