Minutes from the WVSU Faculty Senate Meeting on Tuesday, August 7, 2018  
Wallace Hall Auditorium, following General Faculty Meeting


Various faculty from the General Faculty Meeting

N. Zaman, R. Wallace, P. McCoy, D. Williams

1. Andy Scheidl presented a Powerpoint presentation outlining various concerns. S. Armstrong asked for the main points. 1) He would have hired a consultant with ABET accreditation experience. 2) Hiring of Faculty 3) Upgrading of equipment.

2. N. Zaman presented a Powerpoint explaining the application process and nature of the degree. A faculty asked why Chemical Engineering was set up first? He and Provost said that Civil was denied twice as a duplicate of the Marshall degree. A. Scheidl pointed out at one point that those consulted were not ABET accreditors or faculty members. It was asked where the labs would be. The 2nd floor of the research building. M. Seyedmonir asked questions regarding the long term sustainability. It would rely on enrollment, and projections were shared. A. Scheidl suggested the numbers didn’t reflect those that are ACT ready. The Provost briefly explained the process of approval thus far and said that if the faculty wants earlier input in the process, we need to change the constitution. B. Ladner seconded the concern about enrollment and if there was data from other institutions of how that played out. T. Ruhnke said that this is a case where we’re starting anew, different from the Education Dept., with a history of success. Provost said that if we want a different process, then he will do that. B. Ladner said that other programs had buy in and on-campus talk, so maybe not a formal change, but a need for that buy in. It was asked if there was International Student interest. M. Workman asked for a confidence level in terms of the plan working out. N. Zaman said 2+2 wasn’t advertised to save money, but students came. G. Palubinskas said that if there hasn’t been money to advertise, can we afford this? Provost said the Title III money can’t be used for other programs and would have to be sent to another program startup. R. Ford said we’re doing it right to be critical, and applauded A. Scheidl. T. Ruhnke moved to approve moving forward with the General Engineering degree, B. Ladner seconded. T. Rhunke did say we should have these types of discussions in the future. Provost said he would do so. F. Vaughan asked for a brief explanation of the curriculum creation. N. Zaman pointed to U. Karunathilake as the chief author of the curriculum, who said he has experienced ABET accreditation. M. Fultz asked about recruiting, with 60-80 students who want to recruit, and that’s free. It was asked if we are apporving the entire report? It was recalled that other EPC reports were passed. T. Ruhnke withdrew his motion, replacing with the motion to approve the EPC report from the Nov. 2 faculty senate meeting. The motion carried by voice vote.