**Minutes of the WVSU General Faculty Meeting on**

**Tuesday, August 9, 2016, at 10:15 a.m. in Wallace Hall, Room 122**

The Chair of the WVSU Faculty Senate, Dr. Richard Ford, called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m. First the Chair exhorted the members to remember the importance of the faculty to the University’s mission, and a suggestion to inform Dr. Ladner, the WVSU representative to the state-wide Advisory Council of Faculty, of any of our concerns or questions, an idea seconded by Dr. Ladner. The next order of business was to approve the minutes from the previous General Faculty meeting on May 10, 2106. Dr. Magan made some corrections, and the minutes were approved by voice vote after motions by Dr. Magan, with a second by Dr. Peyton. Next the agenda for the meeting was presented; Dr. B. Wilson moved and Dr. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski seconded, and the agenda was approved by voice vote.

**1.** Nate Burton, the new Athletic Director, addressed the faculty, giving his phone extension of 4354. He will have access to the Faculty Referral site to try to ensure that athletes achieve his goal of a 3.0 G.P.A. In the past half of them managed 2.9 G.P.A., and the letting him know of concerns or questions. Prof. Hodges asked if faculty can get access to students’ grades, and the answer was yes, via Moodle for online classes, but no otherwise. Someone asked if we can send notices re: athletes on the Faculty Referral site to coaches also, and apparently not. Dr.Guetzloff announced that he is now the Cross Country athletic coach, and said that individual coaches have study hall requirements for their athletes but the Athletic Department overall does not. Basketball Coach Poore said his players have study hall 8:15-9:15 a.m. Dr. Ladner asked if the game schedule and class schedule of athletes are coordinated. Someone asked about a report that athletes were told not to take Web 100 classes in the summer, and a coach said that was not a policy. Notice can be given re: baseball and softball games a week in advance, but weather can interfere with that schedule. Dr. Settle advised that adjunct instructors need to know that athletic games/events are excused absences. Student/athletes are told that they have to take exams or hand in assignments early, not after the rest of the class. Dr. Magan noted that classes that meet once a week are not appropriate for athletes in their playing season. It was stated that if instructors have a “drop one test grade” policy, it is not fair to force student-athletes who miss an exam due to a game to use the “drop one test” for the missed exam. Dr. Ford asked if coaches can drop in on classes to check on their student athletes.

**2.** Amy Postalwait, Specialist from the Office of Sponsored Programs, addressed the faculty on the assistance her office can provide in advance or during grant applications, for funding, for budgeting, and for responding to Requests for Proposals. We are to let her know when we receive grants, of course, and let her know of interests we have so she can search for grant sources. Her office is 300 Curtis Complex.

**3.** Dr. Pietruszynski, Chair of the General Education Committee, noted that new students should be advised to follow the new Core Curriculum requirements, and the continuing students can still fulfill the old requirements if they wish. Since Dr. B. Wilson is handling assessment for General Education, she will e-mail everyone a draft of G.E. assessment program today. Dr. Shaffer is piloting a Communications 100 (Speech) this fall. Dr. Pietruszynski’s committee welcomes new additions and changes to the Core, and a new handbook for the Educational Policies Committee with procedures to revise objectives and requirements is being prepared. He especially welcomes new interdisciplinary courses.

**4.** Dr. Guetzloff, faculty representative to the WVSU Board of Governors, explained that the BOG is looking at enrollments of “core” students, “dual-credit” students, and Learning House/Moodle students. The current retention rate of 59% needs to be improved, since improvement will have positive financial effects. Three BOG members are retiring, but until they are replaced they have to attend meetings. His term as the faculty representative expires this spring and is term-limited. Dr. Ruhnke noted that both former representative Dr. C. Smith and Dr. Guetzloff have done a good job making the BOG pay attention to faculty concerns.

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**5.** Dr. Ladner, WVSU representative to the Advisory Council of Faculty, said that she attended a workshop in July with some people from the Higher Education Policy Commission and the state Commission for community colleges. The ACF is looking at the challenges facing the state’s colleges and universities, especially with policies for new programs. A retreat with key legislators is being planned.

**6.** Vice-Chair of the Faculty Senate, Dr. Baker, then oversaw the elections for at-large positions on Faculty Senate Committees. A general policy for filling positions was announced such that when two positions are being filled, one with a partial term, the faculty member receiving the fewer votes gets the partial term.

The results of the vote tabulation from later that day are as follows:

Academic Appeals: M. Kane, A. Mitiku; alternates B. Hauser and Carrol?

Cultural Activities: J. Barnes-Pietruszynski, Z. Fitchner

Educational Policies: U. Karunathilake, K. Harper, K. Anderson

Faculty Personnel: L. Niu, S. De

General Education: B. Korn

Honors: A. McConnell (1of 3), S. Armstrong (3 of 3, filling an unexpired term)

Promotion and Tenure: E. Waugh

Research and Faculty Development: A. Bejou

Retention: M. Workman

Faculty Grievance: B. Ladner, M. Porter, F. Vaughan, S. Shafer, ? Pennington, J. Natsis, Cruz-Milan,

Zhao, Kail, Dianellos, Echols, D. Dean

College meetings later today are to elect representatives to various committees.

The WVSU General Faculty meeting adjourned at Noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Tim Alderman, Secretary of the Faculty Senate