

**Minutes from the WVSU Faculty Senate Meeting on Friday, March 5, 2020
Hamblin Hall Auditorium, 1:30 pm**

Attendance:

Senators: A&H – D. Johnson (secretary), J. Barnes-Pietruszynski (Vice-Chair); BSS – R. Francis, M. Workman; NSM – R. Ford (chair), M. Bhuiyan, M. Fultz; PS – L. Good, L. Davidson; LC – M. Casey, D. Wells; Parliamentarian – J. Magan; ACF – B. Ladner, BOG – F. Vaughan

Visiting – A. Settle, K. Steele, R. Taylor, J. Oden, S. McGhee, O. Banks, G. Palubinskas, D. Williams, T. Sweeney, M. Wilson, A. Bejou, R. Kendrick, K. Harper

Deans – N. Zaman (NSM), Rob Wallace (A&H)

Administration – R. Byers (Provost), Y. Underdue-Murph

1. M. Fultz moved and J. Barnes-Pietruszynski seconded approval of the agenda. The motion carried by voice vote.
2. M. Fultz moved and J. Barnes-Pietruszynski seconded approval of the minutes from Feb. 7, 2020. The motion carried by voice vote.
3. R. Ford reminded the Senate that standing committee meeting minutes are to be uploaded.

The constitution is not in the Faculty Handbook. When is that deadline? The Senate would not need to approve the handbook.

The upcoming dept. chair elections are moving forward. The rules sent out are from the handbook. Please remember the 3 weeks prior notice to make all eligible voters aware.

College elections for senators are coming up. Consider using this time to elect standing committee members for the fall.

The professor facing student backlash has shared information with R. Ford regarding the slide that had upset students to provide rationale and perspective on its intention.

4. Provost Byers – He has notices things that need to be changed, and he will be arranging some committee work to continue the positive changes he has seen go on the past few years since he left. He will be looking for help on ad hoc committees. HLC will be the focus of the March Academic Leaders Meeting, but May's will focus on the proposed changes.

Presidential search: He suggested hiring someone excellent in fundraising, who will then turn the academic mission over to the Provost. President Jenkins had a death in his family and has been traveling, so hasn't made decisions regarding a number of initiatives/issues Dr. Byers has proposed.

J. Oden asked about the progress on resolving the issue between a professor and her students, being aware of social media hints, etc. The professor's department chair and dean conducted a multiple-session investigation into the situation. The professor also came to Dr. Byers to talk through things and he is waiting for the information to come from the investigations.

R. Ford asked about the Associate Degree programs. Dr. Byers is still needing to talk with BridgeValley before taking the next step. R. Francis asked what their anticipated response would be. He said that we would offer no competing programs. He also said that EPC would not need to approve these because the courses are already being taught. R. Francis said that some of the 2+2 agreements aren't working because of credits not transferring as well as they thought. J. Oden asked if 2+2 and articulation agreements are the same. Not exactly.

5. Enrollment: Dr. Underdue-Murph spoke to the Senate. J. Means was going to join her to talk about recruiting initiatives and faculty participation, but she will stand in. There has been an admit list distributed for the past year, with faculty helping to make calls. They also make calls to those who have applied but do not chose to come. Did they choose another 4-year school, a 2-year school? Her area identifies the students who are planning to do a 2-yr. school to keep in touch with that student to encourage them to come to State after they graduate. Respective deans, with Dr. Jenkins and Dr. Underdue-Murph, created a template to welcome those into the college. Specific communication flow-plans are happening in respective areas (ex. undergrad admissions postcard campaigns who haven't done the FAFSA, G. Bausley sending out a stack of award letters to those accepted, so they are not as far as behind as in the past. T. Sweeney has been taking the admit list and C. Jackson has been introducing themselves to the students and inviting them to engage. Darien is using the admit list to reach out to the students wanting to live on campus, but also to those who are unsure to consider living on campus to facilitate success. J. Means attended the Deans Council meeting and shared the recruitment travel matrix for spring, with lists of recruiting events, inviting faculty to go with them (N. Zamaan and Bhuiyan have been). We contact counselors for those students at the schools who have only partially applied in order to set up meetings. M. Bhuiyan said that the tabling approach he has observed is not as effective as visiting classes and clubs showing them what we do, making a connection on content. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski said the Early Enrolment coordination would be a good resource for this. Dr. YUM said that the high schools put some limits on that to keep a playing field level. She said a classroom visit and a recruiting visit are not exactly the same. An on-campus visit could provide the content aspect to it. We could also have college-specific days for specific colleges, to bring students to us. M. Bhuiyan said that he has heard some negative feedback from Nitro High School regarding recruiting. She said we have recruits from those schools, so doesn't feel that the hearsay issue can be spoken to. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski asked if we can do classroom visits. J. Means said lunchroom visits, counselor visits, or homeroom visits (ex. Poco 4 English classes). Not all teachers welcome interruption to class time. If that's the only option they are allowing us, that's what we take. We leave info brochures after we leave. We can also use the admit list to go to Nitro and request transcripts. A. Settles said that since 2015 he's spoken at most, if not all, football banquets. They give him 10 minutes to talk about sport studies and our program, and how to make a living at it. It's been great for recruiting. Also, if there's been any student athlete express interest, he sends a personalize form letter, printed and signed, and gives it to the WVSU coach and it's sent... personal attachment for possible recruit. O. Banks asked about looking at personnel. She said we have 3 full time recruiters, 2 African American and one white. Hiring was based on competence and availability. D. Johnson asked if there was a way for hobbies, club interests, etc. to be collected as part of the admission process. The current software does not allow for that, but in September, new software is coming where that is available. Trina has an activity list that has sports interests and "other." D. Johnson asked if that list could be expanded. Dr. Underdue-Murph said that college-specific days could meet that need. D. Johnson pointed out that many clubs would include inter-college participation. M. Fultz pointed out that that the IT data doesn't make its way

to the list accurately (ex. first-gen. college goer). J. Means said this is self-reported and IT is aware of that particular problem. M. Fultz also said that he wrote a grant to visit high school science clubs to present curriculum materials, then can plug WVSU. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski asked about using our alum teachers for recruiting. They can be invited to campus. The alumni chapters are given information to share with students. They have to submit their contact information to be added to the director. J. Oden asked us to share with them those teachers or alum we know about. N. Zaman asked if the Ed. dept. has a list. P. Carney said the Ed. Dept. is one year away from updating their list. J. Means met with the Deans and they came up with some ideas. There is a recruiting materials bag. The travel matrix was shared with the deans, who then distributed it. Dr. Underdue-Murph said they sent it to the deans rather than to all faculty with the idea to then receive the sign-up list with just 4 emails rather than multiple emails. F. Vaughan said that the admission packet should be to all students, should get 10% off at bookstore, and free lunch. J. Means said that these things are already happening, and she and James send a letter to each early enrollment student and their parents. P. Palubinskas said good teaching and word of mouth are strong recruiting tools.

6. EPC – Ag received a 2.5 million dollar grant (Dr. Toledo, et all) for scholarships for students studying this. All 24 proposals were accepted. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski moved and L. Davidson seconded to accept the report. The motion carried by voice vote.

7. BOG – F. Vaughan said he attended 4 of the consultant visit meetings, observing these priorities: enrollment, financial management, academics, fundraising, our history, vacancies, shared governance (especially committee constituency meeting). Paperwork goes out March 10-April 10. April 27th is campus interviews (preceded by off-campus interviews), and finalized by May 9th... an aggressive timeline but that's what we have. R. Ford asked how the make-up of the search committee was decided? Chuck Jones made this decision. M. Fultz moved and J. Barnes-Pietruszynski seconded to accept the report. The motion carried by voice vote.

8. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski moved and L. Davidson seconded to accept B. Ladner's written ACF report.

9. Academic Appeals, Research and Faculty Development were not represented at the meeting. The Program Review Committee presented their business at the Feb. meeting, with the new document presented and approved for use this year, if desired. There was question as to whether this constituted a formal report.

10. Library – Due to the 7% annual increase of database costs, it keeps consuming more and more of the materials budget. This trend will continue. The number of books they have been buying is lower than minimum. They are proposing a \$100,000 budget to address the database need. They did trade books and softbacks, crossing things of the list, yellow-listing things that were too expensive, then got 9 POs in and then they were only allowed to send 3 of them. There was one roadblock after another (needing to bid, ex.). There are only 3 vendors these days, and after 4 months there is still no resolution. They are shifting new book orders to Title III because there isn't the same bidding requirements. Two good things. No institution can keep affording the databases. There was a consortium to happen a few years down the road, but it is now happening and, thanks to Dr. Byers and Dr. Ladner, we made it on the list. This will cover EBSCO and is a solid list, though not comprehensive. The choice list was made by a vendor that still has not been paid due to purchasing department accounting challenges. N. Zaman asked how to add a book to the list. M.

Fultz asked about the number of meetings (2). She said that was all that was needed. He said that EPC has trouble getting all members to attend. How can we enforce this? The online repository of minutes lists who attends, and the vice-chair sends (J. Barnes-Pietruszynski has sent) emails telling people to do this work. She has had to email some people and tell them if they are still willing or wanting to be off the committee. M. Fultz moved and M. Workman seconded to approve the report. The motion carried by voice vote.

11. Cultural Activities – T. Sweeney said the Black History Month list of activities was very successful. She asks each faculty member to help get students, faculty, and staff to the events. Only River of Hope was successfully attended. Students said that having faculty give out points would help. She suggested using the presentations as curriculum. Dance of Hope with kids from Uganda is coming up on April 22. She encouraged all to submit proposals. They need them early and want to be planning for next year to negotiate on cost, etc. P. Carney asked about inviting outside groups from schools. There is a 1 p.m. showing with middle schools invited. 7 p.m. for our students. J. Magan suggested we need earlier info/promotion. She agreed and said that getting the proposals in early would help. R. Ford threw out the idea of a Gen. Ed class focused on attendance of events. L. Good suggested this is happening well in her Freshman Experience course. J. Barnes-Pietruszynski moved and J. Magan seconded to approve the report. The motion carried by voice vote.

12. Athletics Committee – R. Ford asked if we want to form a standing committee. O. Banks said that there was no committee until 10 years ago. A. Settle said he serves as the faculty rep. to the current president-appointed committee as required by the NCAA. Pres. Jenkins asked A. Settle to reform and chair the committee. He did this, they met 2 times a year, and he gave a written report each year and sent it to the Senate. This year there was no appointed committee, so he determined not to run the committee without an appointment. He has continued serving as FAR. He cited FAR and the Athletics Committee work within a grant for mental health that is serving our students. A. Settle said he wouldn't oppose or think of why we shouldn't, but will it replace the current committee, does the President know and what are his views, and do we want to wait for the new President? He talked to Nate about his thoughts. He asked if it would replace the President's committee? We have to recognize, and would need to replicate, the current role and accomplishments of the current Athletics Committee: 1) to ensure transparency in complying with NCAA regulations; 2) looking after the welfare of the student athlete and make sure they are treated as fair as other students on campus; 3) ensure Title IX compliance; and 4) enhance the experience of the athlete (tutoring, mental health, etc.) What he wants to avoid is where they used to be... where the committee feels they should have a say in coaching contracts, personnel issues, etc. that are the sole responsibilities of the Athletics Director. Academics should be there on hiring committees, but he hopes we don't start getting involved in personnel work. The chain of command is President, Athletic Director, Coaches. As long as we do what needs doing, then he doesn't see where it matters how the committee is set up, only that it happens. O. Banks said it should be more members of the faculty than there are now. It should be the majority. R. Ford asked what we should do now. He cited an email where Pres. Jenkins didn't take up the issue of us volunteering faculty representation on Presidentially appointed committees. It was suggested we table this until Dr. Ruhnke is here. With the new President coming in, should we table it? A. Settle said yes. He wants the new President's opinion, given that he directs the FAR. O. Banks asked why it is called the Faculty Athletic Committee if it doesn't have faculty? A. Settle emphasized that it is a committee that really has to get work done. R. Francis moved and M. Buihyan seconded to table the issue. The motion carried by voice vote.

J. Barnes-Pietruszynski clarified from earlier that the Exec. Committee appoints a senate member to cover the elections. Exec. has usually covered them, but other senators could be used.

R. Francis mentioned that she sensed a theme of faculty retreating a bit with Cultural Activities, President Search, Athletics, etc. R. Ford suggested how the Cultural Activities is an example of our vigilance.

13. Constitution and Bylaws – M. Workman said that only the 1st sentence of Article VIII is changed. The rest is the same. He moved and M. Fultz seconded to accept the language of the make-up of the Cultural Activities Committee on 2nd reading. The motion carried by voice vote.

14. N. Zaman expressed concern about spending of course fees by others not associated with the courses. M. Buihyan moved that those who have used student course fees without authorization from the account managers (dept. chairs and deans) should attend the April faculty senate meeting to explain their policy on such purchases. J. Barnes Pietruszynski seconded. K. Steele suggested and Exec. Committee member attend the Fees meeting to express the concern. M. Fultz suggested a second motion, and M. Buihyan withdrew his motion. M. Fultz moved and D. Johnson seconded that all course fees should be spent for their intended purpose and any spending should be authorized by those department chairs or deans who oversee these accounts. The motion carried by voice vote. R. Ford is also going to invite the Business and Finance to the April Meeting to explain the current practice. N. Zaman pointed out that things have been much better with D. Williams.

15. M. Fultz said that he is supposed to get all proposals for faculty senate awards. We have nominees and committees for each. The deadline is March 15, and the awards will be given in the August meeting.

16. Provost Byers said that on March 26 there is a WV Civic Rights Summit on our campus. 60 students are coming. M. Fultz suggested that admissions be there to recruit.

The meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.