

**Fairmont State Faculty Senate  
Minutes  
5 December 2023**

Members: **Bob Niichel** (Executive Committee: President, Computer Science & Math), **Bill Harrison** (Exec Committee: Vice President, Social Sciences), **Barbara MacLennan** (Exec Committee: Member at Large, Behavioral Sciences), **Raymond Alvarez** (Exec Committee: Member at Large, CoBA), **Denice Kirchoff** (Exec Committee: Member at Large, BSN), **Rick Harvey** (Academic Affairs), **Donna Long** (Exec Committee: Secretary, Humanities), **Todd Clark** (ACF Rep, Social Sciences), **Tim Oxley** for **Chris Kast** (Academic Affairs), **Kelley Flaherty** (Natural Sciences), **Malisa Eades** (ASN), **Stephanie Jones** (CSM), **Tabitha Lafferre** (ET), **Ashley Dover** (Library), **Jason Frazer** (CoBA), **Nathan Myers** (Humanities), **Julie Reneau** (CoEHHP), **Paul Reneau** for **Tyler Singer** (CoEHHP), **J.L. Tomlin** (Social Sciences), **Gina Fantasia** (BOG Representative)

Guests: **Dianna Phillips, Josh Smallridge, Rachel Cook**

1.-4. Meeting called to order 3:00 p.m.; 14 November 2023 minutes approved; Dr. Davis not present.

5. Major Business, Old

5.a.-c. Long moved and MacLennan seconded to pass HCMG, BSET, and CHEP Curriculum Proposals 23-24-01, 02, and 03 with their attachments for second reading. Motion passed.

6. Major Business, New

6.a-b. **Harrison moved and Paul Reneau seconded to pass PSYC and CJ Curriculum Proposals 23-24-04 and 23-24-05 as a group for first reading. Motion passed.**

6. Minor Business

6.a. Harvey moved and Harrison seconded a motion to accept the nomination by the Senate Executive Committee of Lisa Eades to replace Tyler Singer as Webmaster on the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, to close nominations, and to elect Eades by acclamation. Motion passed.

6.b. **Fantasia moved and MacLennan seconded a motion to postpone the constitution of the Committee on Committees until the January 30, 2024 Senate meeting. Motion passed.**

7. Provost Phillips reported on resource council for Middle College; 14 December professional development; commencement (Robin Payne, Boram Awardee, will carry in the mace); the purchase of Sqwire, a financial literacy platform developed by Danijel Velicki, a Fairmont State alum, as a benefit for faculty, staff, and students; and the Police Academy graduation of the second cohort with a 100% pass rate.

8.a. ACF Rep Clark reported on plans for the upcoming legislative session. The ACF chair will present to HEPC on 15 December. ACF will make its own spreadsheet of legislative action. Legislation opposing tenure may come up again (given precedents in FL and TX). Fantasia noted that prior bills that did not move could be fast-tracked (waive time to vote).

MacLennan asked if Bluefield State president's action to dissolve their faculty senate is a trend; Clark says it is not. Fantasia reported the HLC site visit committee found 7 deficiencies—violations of Criteria 2: ethics and transparency.

Alvarez suggested bringing legislators to campus. Fantasia would like to see a return to legislative day at Fairmont State. Clark notes that not many campuses are hosting legislators. Fantasia suggested inviting “key” legislators—committee heads—and not just our local legislators. **Phillips suggested (or said we had?) an end-of-session luncheon on campus.**

MacLennan suggested working with the League of Women Voters on lobbying rules.

Fantasia moved and Tomlin seconded a motion to charge the Legislative Action Committee to collaborate with the Office of the President to work toward scheduling a legislative breakfast or lunch or forum for early in January 2024.

8.b. BOG rep Fantasia noted 7 December meeting; agenda includes audit report and financials. Prior meeting focused on bylaws' update (mostly vacating policies between Fairmont State and Pierpont). Committee meetings are on-going.

8.c. SGA not present. New representatives are being elected.

8.d. Paul Reneau presented the Presidential Perception Survey Committee report and recommendations. Discussion regarding the survey instrument covered concerns about cost, security, and administration (in-house Qualtrix (sp?) is no cost, while off-campus/Survey Monkey has costs associated). The BOG paid for the survey previously. Reneau tested the Qualtrix product and is comfortable with its security (could not send to another email, could not submit twice, could not identify respondents; can start and stop. He could see the time the survey was submitted and the responses but nothing else). Heath Howard is the Qualtrix administrator; as such he can access the report but can't identify respondents.

Phillips asked what the parameters are for what the administration can or can't do (e.g., delete information or change it). Reneau does not know. He said the original data file gets sent to the President and the Senate President. Fantasia notes that while we trust Howard and Reneau, we also know that previously data was not provided.

Reneau offered to set up a sample survey. Staff may also participate but it would be a separate survey.

Question: can Howard "embargo" survey results?

**Motion 1: MacLennan moved and Alvarez seconded a motion to adopt the Committee's recommendation that: only tenured faculty and librarians with at least five years' experience be able to serve on the Committee; the survey be given annually each spring; the BOG, the President and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee receive both the survey quantitative results and the comments; and the Faculty Senate and Faculty receive the survey quantitative results.**

Reneau said the survey will be the same for any president (interim, first year, continuing).

**Motion 2: MacLennan moved and Julie Reneau seconded a motion to use the same survey instrument for all serving presidents.**

**Motion 3: Harrison moved and Tomlin seconded a motion to adopt the Presidential Perception Survey Committee's recommendation to use Qualtrix, with the proviso that integrity of access can be guaranteed; the PPSC to provide confirmation, at the January 2024 Senate meeting, that the integrity of and access to data is guaranteed.**

Open Forum: Niichel notes that the Senate meeting dates in the spring are not all second Tuesdays. A January meeting is necessary as there are many curriculum proposals coming.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Long  
Senate Secretary