

Fairmont State University Faculty Senate
Minutes
November 9, 2021
3:00-5:00 p.m.

Called to order: 11/9 at 3:02

Members Present: Charles Shields (President), Donna Long (VP, Humanities), Todd Clark (Exec Committee: Member-at-Large, Social Sciences), Bob Niichel (Exec Committee: Webmaster, Computer Science & Math), Jim Davis (Exec Committee: Member-at-Large, Business), Stephen Rice (Exec Committee: Member-at-Large, Nina Slota (Exec Committee: Secretary, Behavioral Science), Tom Cuchta (Computer Science & Math), Timothy Oxley (Academic Affairs), Sharon Mazure (Library), Steven Roof (Academic Leadership Team), Bill Harrison (Faculty rep to ACF), James Vassil (Sci-Tech), Julie Reneau (Education), Tyler Singer (Exercise Science), Janet Floyd (School of Business & Aviation), Gina Fantasia (Faculty Rep to BOG), Rachel Cook (Natural Sciences), Nathan Myers (Humanities), Denise Kirchoff (Nursing), Jennifer Satterfield (Nursing), Joshua Smallridge (Social Sciences), Logan Cottrell (SGA)

Guests: Dianna Phillips (Provost), Richard Harvey, Amanda Metcalf, Paul Reneau, Deb Hemler, Susan Ross, Jan Kiger, Zach Taylor, Michael Ransom, Stephanie Jones, Jim Matthews, Merri Incitti, Joy Hatch, Amanda Metcalf

- 1) Reading & Approval of the minutes from the October 12, 2021 meeting
Motion to approve the minutes: Tom Cuchta/Donna Long. Passed.
- 2) Provost Phillips
 - 1) Handbook—Robert Baker met with her yesterday. Steptoe and Johnson, the outside law firm, is meeting with her tomorrow, and then she is meeting with the President. There is a Committee meeting this Friday. There might be faculty forums during faculty development week. Provost Phillips said that Jacqueline Sikora gave notice.
 - 2) Academic Calendar— Spring break for this year is being planned. Assume that we'll have it, unless there are outside forces. The calendar for next year is still a draft. She'd like Faculty Senate input about next year's calendar. Students have told SGA and the administration that they do like 14 weeks, because of what seems to be a longer break.
 - 3) Nursing—Send students with financial questions to financial aid, because every student is different. This may affect the nursing students moreso, because of PROMISE limits and many of them have previous degrees.
 - 4) Sabbaticals—Promotion and Tenure process—Matt Hokom is chair of the Personnel Committee. Sabbaticals are one of charges. The Provost is a supporter. After P&T is complete for the year, there will be more focus on future sabbaticals. She's collecting info and she'd like thoughts and suggestions about how to reinstate; she's gotten some

from the deans.

3) VP Incitti-Academic Calendar—

There had been an ALT presentation in which there was a question about hours (35 vs. 37) for MWF Tues/Thursday classes. As of today (11/12), we are having spring break this year and next year. A question was asked about fall break next year; the calendar is still a work in progress.

4) Reports of Officers, Boards and Standing Committees

1) BoG Representative, Dr. Gina Fantasia

BOG Oct 21 meeting was an executive discussion. Dec. 2 at 9AM is the next regular meeting. Meeting dates and links on BOG page.

2) ACF Representative, Dr. Bill Harrison—2 things:

a) 1. Pres. Gilbert of Marshall, stepping down. Replacement, a former executive from Intuit.

b) West Liberty president was censured by their BOG for plagiarism.

3) Presidential Perception Survey Committee, Dr. Paul Reneau.

a) The response rate was 58%. For comparison purposes, the scores from the previous two years were also recorded.

b) Paul has the raw data, and 3rd party person has the raw stuff, too. Data has been anonymized. Todd Clark expressed that he has complete confidence in survey.

c) In the past, the Likert survey results go to faculty. The President, BOG, and Executive Committee of Faculty Senate get comments and Likert scales.

Motion: "The President of the Faculty Senate shall distribute the Likert scores and comparative data of the Presidential Perception Survey to the faculty. The comments, the Likert scores, and the comparative data shall go to the Board of Governors and the President of the University. Because it is past practice, the Executive Committee of the Faculty Senate shall also receive the Likert scores, the comments, and the comparative data."

Motion passes.

5) Student Government Report

1) They are starting Christmas with a Falcon program and accepting donations. They'll be wrapping over break. They are aiming for \$20,000. Last year, they raised more than needed, so this year they are including middle school students; they are expecting 200 students. They'll get the list on Friday. Contact: Zach Taylor, Bill Harrison, the Student Government email, or their advisors, Merri Incitti and Joy Hatch.

6) Unfinished Business

Major Items

- (1) Proposed revisions to Faculty Senate constitution and bylaws, as amended (second reading)

Motion to Approve for Second Reading. (Harrison/Oxley). Motion approved.

Discussion (summarized): Article 2, Section 2 of the Constitution.

- How does representation get distributed in a College with some large and some small departments/academic units, or colleges where the total number of faculty isn't evenly divisible by 10?
- What would be the necessary language to allow for at-large college-level elections, if that's what the units wanted?

Motion to table for further discussion. (Clark/Cuchta); tabling means Bill Harrison's motion doesn't need to be withdrawn. Motion to table approved.

- (2) Establishment of Faculty Handbook Committee (second reading--Ad-Hoc Committee Recommendation)

Motion to establish the Faculty Handbook Committee for a second reading. (Long/Cuchta) Motion Passed.

7) New Business

Major Items

- 1) Curriculum Proposal # 21-22-01 Math 5-9
- 2) Curriculum Proposal # 21-22-02 Outdoor Recreation Leadership Minor
- 3) Curriculum Proposal # 21-22-03 Exercise Science
- 4) Curriculum Proposal # 21-22-04 Forensic Science
- 5) Curriculum Proposal # 21-22-06 Mtg 3370
- 6) Curriculum Proposal # 21-22-07 Chem 1101 & 1102

Motion to consider them all as one and accept them for first reading. Cuchta/Niichel. Passed.

Discussion:

- Do we have time for a second reading or do we need a special meeting?
When do these need to be passed?
 - Susan Ross: Estimate of up to 18 more curriculum proposals. Committee had Nov. 9 deadline for this year. Clearer communication, possibly as part of the calendar; goes to shared communication from members of committee to their departments. BOG involvement—depends on type of proposal; new programs, certificates, concentrations—BOG and HLC.
 - Having a second reading of these in January is fine.

Minor Items

- 1) Standardized Form for Year-End Faculty Senate Committee Report—**Motion to table. (Long/Clark). Motion passed.**

XII. Announcements/Information/Discussion

- 1) ADA and Long Covid—

- Nina Slota: I had my first student who probably has Long COVID. I wanted to make sure that everyone was aware that the national conversation among campus disability offices is that the symptoms of Long COVID, fatigue, brain fog, or whatever may be considered by the ADA to be disabilities and disabling. We need to be aware of this during the transition to next semester and next semester's paperwork.
- Gina Fantasia: I have a student experiencing COVID, and I'm not sure what I'll do about the student's final exam. We all need to be aware this could happen.

2) Webex and recording—

- Todd Clark: Guidance would be useful about Webex and recordings, and similar topics. Students may be taking advantage of it and not showing up when they are able to. 1/3 of one of his classes is in quarantine. Going into next semester, guidance would be useful.
- Dr. Phillips: COVID protocols—unless a student is in COVID quarantine through the official COVID protocol system, faculty attendance policies prevail. Faculty should be getting the official emails.
- Donna Long: Adjusting her policy so that streaming only counts if students are quarantined for COVID.
- Can we stream only for students for whom we have gotten the COVID paperwork?
- Todd Clark: My understanding is that we stream and record every class. Is that correct?
- Dr. Phillips: That is my understanding. And that's the protocols that were put in place during the start of the pandemic.
- Todd Clark: I'd like to put on the record that those protocols were developed without any input from faculty, without any input from the COVID-19 faculty committee.
- Live streaming vs. recording. We might want to revisit.
- Bill Harrison: I was teaching a class on race relations; students didn't want to talk, because of the recording and sensitive topic.
- Tom Cuchta: We keep bringing these issues up month-after-month, for over a year, and nothing changes. I don't have faith that anything will change.
- Todd Clark: And there is also the issue of intellectual ownership of those recordings, which has not been addressed by the administration.
- Dr. Phillips: I think this is my 3rd Faculty Senate meeting, and this is the first time our conversation has been this robust. This is one of the reasons we adjusted the COVID protocols to include faculty attendance policies. I think this is important. I hear you. She will talk with President of Faculty Senate, Deans, Academic Leadership Team, and have robust conversations about what next academic year will look like.

3) Academic Appeals/Admissions and Credits—Should they be merged? If we do need both, do we need to revise the charges?

- Dr. Phillips: HEPC has changed their regulations about Prior Learning Assessment; we need to create protocols and processes. Probably Admissions & Credit discussion.
- Issues with student and faculty handbook.
- Let's table for a broader discussion.

XIII. Open Forum—Denice Kirchoff—Covid boosters on campus tomorrow.

Motion to adjourn

Next Meeting: January 11 2022 3-5pm

***If you have items for the agenda please send your request to the Faculty Senate President (Charles.Shields@fairmontstate.edu) by Tuesday morning January 4, 2022 for consideration by the Executive Committee.**