



FAIRMONT STATE  
UNIVERSITY™

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Department of Social Sciences

Legislative Advocacy Committee Report

Prepared by Dr. William Harrison Chair

We met in both the Fall and Spring Semesters. The committee is composed of the following members

- Chair: William Harrison Social Sciences
- Teresa Hefferin Engineering Technology
- Galen Hansen Natural Sciences
- Kim Derico Nursing
- Advisory Council of Faculty (Ex-Officio)
- Assistant to the President (Ex-Officio)
- Faculty BOG Representative (Ex-Officio)
- Travis Wamsley Nursing
- Diana Noone Social Sciences
- Sam Spears Performing Arts
- Barbara MacLennan Behavioral Science

LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE. The Legislative Advocacy Committee shall: a. Inform faculty concerning higher education legislation as it is proposed and as it proceeds through the legislative process; b. Disseminate membership lists of legislative committees and addresses of pertinent legislators; c. Work in cooperation with similar committees on the other state college and university

campuses; and d. Survey and collate information and opinions of faculty and forward them to the Advisory Council of Faculty for inclusion in proposed legislative packages. The Legislative Advocacy Committee shall consist of interested faculty from the Academic Units. The representatives to the Board of Governors and Advisory Council of Faculty, and the Assistant to the President shall serve as ex-officio members.

In the meeting in the Fall Semester and the meeting in the Spring Semester we discussed issues of importance to the Faculty of Fairmont State University. We also planned a trip to Charleston to talk to legislators in the Spring Semester.

Dr. William Harrison and Dr. Galen Hansen traveled to the Capitol on February 15, 2022 and met with several legislators. These legislators included

Senator Blair (President of the Senate)

Senator Romano

Senator Beach

Senator Caputo

Delegate Mallow

Delegate Skaff

The first several meetings with legislators went fine. Our last meeting with Senator Blair raised some tension. I asked him about the merger but he was not pleased with the question. He felt we should already know about that, and I respect that. Galen Hansen proceeded to bring up lawsuits he is involved in and the conversation became more unsettled. He argued with the Senator about (if I remember correctly) closed meetings, transparency, and what constituted a government agency. The meeting did end with handshakes and we returned to Fairmont. I have sent an email to senator Blair apologizing for how the meeting went.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W. Harrison', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Dr. William Harrison

Associate Professor of Political Science

Fairmont State University

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