

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes for Tuesday, February 12, 2019 meeting

Members in Attendance:

John O'Connor (President), Mark Flood (Vice President), Amy Godfrey (Secretary), Jacki Sherman (Webmaster), Tom Cuchta (Ex. Committee Member at Large), Matt Hokom (Ex. Committee Member at Large), Robin Payne (Ex. Committee Member at Large), Tim Oxley (Academic Affairs), Steve Roof (Academic Affairs), Harry Baxter (ACF), Michael Ransom (Behavioral Sciences), Budd Sapp (BOG), Joe Kremer (Business), Jason Noland (Education), Dan Eichenbaum (Fine Arts), Joni Gray (Fine Arts), Paul Reneau (Health & Human Performance), Donna Long (Language & Lit), Theresa Jones (Nursing), Elizabeth Chaney (Student Government), Lauren Manchin (Student Government), Denice Kirchoff (Nursing), Todd Clark (Social Sciences), James Weekley (Natural Sciences), Tom McLaughlin (SciTech)

Guests:

Carol Tannous (HHP), Kim Derico (Nursing/Curriculum Committee), Amanda Metcalf (HHP), Richard Harvey (Provost), Sharon Smith (SOEHHP), Deb Hemler, Tim McNeely (VPSA), Jim Davis (Business), Abby Chapman (SciTech for Mark Wolf), Stacey Jones (IE and SO)

Meeting to order at 3:00pm in 303 ED.

- I. January 15, 2019 minutes read and approved Announcements

Opening Announcements

- I. President Mirta Martin

- Commended and gave gratitude to Dr. Harry Baxter for all his work in Charleston
- Request: focus activities of the Senate on what is happening in Charleston – what is occurring in Charleston will have an impact on higher education in this state for years to come
- Three bills that are critical to higher education
 - i. SB 1: Community College Bill
 - a) If passes as written it could decrease enrollment by 40%
 - ii. HB 2519 - Campus Carry Bill
 - a) FSU Chief of Police along with students from FSU testified on February 11th against this bill
 - b) Implementation of this bill on our campus is estimated to cost \$3.7 million
 - iii. Governance Bill – introduced today by the Speaker of the House
 - a) Replace HEPC with Office of Professional Education with a director who would report to the chancellor of community colleges
- Recalibration Model - \$10 million is not currently listed in the budget but asking for it to be added
- Note: Fairmont State University employees may not lobby as state employees over any issue; employees can educate and speak as private citizens using personal email or personal letterhead

- i. Question: Can the institution draft a resolution?
 - a) Would not be allowed since we cannot lobby
 - Comment: The Wall Street Journal had an article dealing with free community college including Tennessee (extends to public and private institutions)- those who started a degree in community college are less likely to finish bachelor degree than those who don't start in community college
- II. Provost Harvey
 - No report unless there are questions
 - Question: From the material from the January 30th Deans Meeting: Textbook Affordability Committee – will there be faculty representatives?
 - i. We need faculty reps
 - ii. And a person from the library
 - a) Jacki Sherman – volunteer
 - In the Deans Meeting material there is a point on talking points, IT, and institutional image – That is what the desktop looks like when any computer on campus is turned on
 - Question: Faculty Handbook Committee progress?
 - i. None yet
 - Question: Where is the funding for SOAR scholarships coming from?
 - i. My understanding is that the funding is coming from the William White Scholarship fund
- III. VP for Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Operations Stacey Jones
 - Assessment reports are due Friday
 - Minors: not due at this time but will be in same manner as degree programs
 - Remember we are working on degree programs not unit
 - Blackboard vs Taskstream: due to the vote at the carnival the template from the carnival is not in Taskstream (as close as possible)
 - i. Question: Can we copy and paste? Why was my Mission Statement already populated?
 - a) I will need to review. Please be patient with this transition.
- IV. VP for Student Affairs, Operations, and Athletics Tim McNeely
 - Sent out email on February 7th with temporary schedule for Student Health thru tomorrow. Another email is coming out today or tomorrow with the schedule for the rest of February. We will be staying open longer. This is a short term fix with a partnership with MVA occurring in the fall.
- V. BOG representative, Dr. Sapp
 - Committee meetings occurring now
 - Next BOG meeting is Thursday, February 21st – Faculty Senate is invited
 - i. Meeting starts at 9am in the Board Room of the Falcon Center
 - ii. If it goes into executive session it will be over by noon so the BOG can meet with everyone
 - iii. Major gift ceremony at 1:30
- VI. ACF representative, Dr. Baxter
 - Agree with President Martin in terms of the legislature

- Another issue is the 5% raise since higher education is not funded to cover the raise for everyone
- Comment: School of Education came up with a list of talking points
- Question: what is the sticker price for the community college bill?
 - i. \$70 million
- Question: In Charleston, who were in the meetings with you?
 - a) SCF – 14 individuals, which is an increase from previous years

VII. Student Government, Elisabeth Chaney and Lauren Manchin

- Senior Campaign started today
 - i. Bricks around the bell: \$50/brick for faculty

VIII. Executive Committee

- President John O'Connor read the following into the meeting minutes:

FAIRMONT STATE UNIVERSITY

FACULTY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

CONCERNS ABOUT THE CURRENT ADMINISTRATION'S ACTIONS RELATED TO TEACHING ASSIGNMENTS, HIRING, AND PROMOTION

Since President Mirta Martin took office on January 1, 2018, several decisions related to faculty and staff positions have created concerns among the Fairmont State faculty. Some of these concerns have been articulated in several anonymous letters presented to the Senate President, who shared them with the Senate Executive Committee, President Martin, and the Board of Governors via Budd Sapp, some have been discussed during our Executive Committee meetings, some I have heard directly from faculty members, and some are mine. If I attribute them solely to the anonymous missives or to faculty, who have not given me permission to name them, I think they can simply be brushed off as the resentments of disgruntled faculty members who do not want change. At the end of the fall term, the Senate Executive Committee asked President Martin to read the anonymous letters and respond to us as she saw fit. She has not responded. Hence, we decided to read these concerns into the record, and we invite President Martin to address them.

The faculty has been told repeatedly that due to budgetary constraints, a faculty hiring freeze has been implemented, along with a reorganization of the college/school executive administrative positions. We have also been told that the impetus for the Academic Restructuring initiative is in part a perceived need to maximize budget efficiencies. The faculty has not been provided with hard data to support these claims.

While faculty positions have been frozen, since President Martin's arrival there have been postings for the following administrative positions: Director of Educational Pathway for International Centers and Students (EPICS), General Counsel, Junior Visual Media Designer, Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness and Strategic Operations, Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness, Executive Director of Academic Programs and Support Services, and Director of Alumni Relations. Additionally, a restructuring of the university Communications and Marketing area resulted in the replacement of several

long-time employees and the creation of three new positions, Vice President of University Relations, Recruitment and Marketing, Editor, and Digital Content Specialist, all of which were filled with former employees of Fort Hayes State University, President Martin's previous institution.

The President has also subverted the promotion and tenure process published in the Faculty Handbook. In one department, two full time faculty lines (temporary Assistant Professor and tenured Associate Professor) and one FEAP have been replaced by a temporary Assistant Professor one faculty member who was hired as a tenured Associate Professor. The latter's previous employer was Fort Hayes State University. In another department, an Instructor without a terminal degree and a tenure

- Dr. Amy Godfrey - The executive committee did not vote on this letter. I do not support this letter that I have not read until just now.
 - i. Jackie Sherman agrees with Dr. Godfrey
- Question: Statement is read now what?
 - i. Just to be included in the minutes
- Comment: Weren't there 24 faculty new hires in August.

Old Business

- I. Motion: Consider Curriculum Proposal #18-19-2 and #18-19-4 as a pair
 - a. Approved
 - b. Second reading – approved

New Business

- I. Delete Curriculum Proposal #18-19-06 REV #1 Leadership Certificate – does not meet HEPC policy of minimum 12 hours and current proposal has 10 hours
- II. Motion: deal with Curriculum Proposals #18-19-03 REV #1, #18-19-05 REV #1, and #18-19-07 REV #1 as a group
 - a. Comment: on #18-19-03 page 8 there is no list of general studies list of options and INTR courses are not offered often
 - i. Is it the same for #18-19-05? Yes
 - b. Approved
- III. Ad Hoc Core Curriculum – see email Jim Matthews
 - a. Standing committee: freshman seminar component
 - i. Question: should we take this from General Studies instead of Faculty Senate to take some off plate of General Studies Committee
 - b. Question: do we need a standing committee?
 - i. Yes
 - c. Comment: SOAR will need a home first – currently in SOE HHP
 - d. Question: Will there be a catch all section if each program will have own for non-declared?
 - i. We will have meta majors
 - e. Question: Would a standing committee require a change in the constitution?

- i. By law amendment
 - f. Comment: Should not be rushed; only ran for one semester so far
 - i. Comment: Ad Hoc but don't know if that is best place
 - g. Motion: Table till we have more information on how this works.
 - i. Question: who gets the information? The individual who brought to the Senate.
 - ii. Question: redoing core curriculum to make it less discipline specific but if we make SOAR discipline specific isn't it counterintuitive
 - 1. Student success best known how from discipline
 - 2. No non-declared so need some component that is the same
 - 3. Funding home
 - iii. Question: Senate would be best place to organize and work with administration
- IV. Stephanie Cook – everytime.org
 - a. Any concerns about HB 2519 reach out to her

Open Forum

- I. Donna Long – Today received an email from a student who came the second day of class was removed due to financial reasons, claims that FASFA just came in, and wants to catch up
 - a. Provost and Deans working on this issue for future instances; 2 weeks to pay; professor's discretion
- II. 4 week grades – due to weather can we push that deadline back? How can we stay off the naughty list?
 - a. No naughty list for 4 week grades

adjourned at 4:52pm