

Faculty Senate  
Special Session to Discuss Presidential Succession  
March 7, 2017

Attendance: Robin Payne (Soc. Sci.), Donna Long (L&L), Matt Hokom (L&L), Dan Eichenbaum (SoFA), Aimée Richards (SoFA), Amy Godfrey (Business), Bob Mild (Academic Affairs), Gina Fantasia (Academic Affairs), Amanda Metcalf (SoE/HHP), Deb Hemler (BCG), Daphne Ryan (SGA), Anthony Yost (Tech.), Tony Gilberti (Tech.), Bill Harrison (Soc. Sci.), Veronica Gallo (Nursing), G.H. Budd Sapp (BOG), Fran Young (Nursing), Chris Kast (Beh. Sci.), Deb Hoag (Nursing), Harry Baxter (ACF), Joseph Kremer (Senate President)

Guests: Anne Patterson, Leia Bobo, Jeff Greenham, Spencer Tyce, John O'Connor, Francene Kirk, Brian Wright, Susan Cato-Chapman, Galen Hansen

- I. Senate President Joseph Kremer called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m.
- II. Kremer announced that the special meeting of the Faculty Senate to discuss presidential succession would be closed in order to protect confidentiality and to ensure that an open discussion could be had. As such, administrative guests were not present and a reporter from the *Times West Virginia* was asked to leave.
- III. Dr. Budd Sapp, faculty representative to the BOG, provided a report by the Presidential Search Ad Hoc Committee. Taking into account data accumulated from a survey circulated by the committee, the committee had determined to endorse the candidacy of Dr. Christopher Cirmo. Though some committee members had reservations, the committee was in general agreement that Cirmo was qualified for the position and was the preferred candidate of the three who came to campus.
- IV. Following the report from the ad hoc committee, the faculty senate and guests discussed the credentials of the three visiting candidates — Dr. Anthony Brizendine, Dr. Michelle R. Howard-Vital, and Dr. Christopher P. Cirmo. In their discussion, faculty senators and guests took into account the report of the ad hoc committee, the data collected from the ad hoc committee's survey, their personal perceptions of the candidates, and the concerns of their respective constituency groups. In addition to discussing the candidates, the faculty senate discussed the prospect of endorsing a "failed search" and the potential ramifications of that outcome for the university and for faculty.
- V. Upon completion of discussion, the Faculty Senate voted to endorse the candidacy of Dr. Christopher Cirmo. Sapp agreed to share the endorsement with the BOG and to take the endorsement into account when casting his vote.
- VI. Senate President Kremer adjourned the meeting at 4:18 p.m.