

Faculty Senate Minutes

8/22/17

Attendance

Amy Godfrey, Donna Long, Dan Eichenbaum, Robin Payne, Aimee Richards, Steven Roof, Jacki Sherman, Mark Wolf, Tom Cuchta, Siegfried Bleher, Dominique Cuccara, Julie Furrow, Tim Oxley, Al Skudzinskis, Chris Lavorata, Misty Poe, Jack Kirby, Richard Harvey, Budd Sapp, Amanda Metcalf, Harry Baxter, Thomas McLaughlin, Joe Kremer, Mike Ransom, Robynn Shannon, William Harrison

Senate President Joe Kremer gavelled the meeting to order at 3:00PM

Agenda Item I Reading and Approval of Minutes

The minutes of May 9, 2017 were approved without revisions

Agenda Item II, Introduction of New Senators and General Introductions

New Senators were introduced and continuing members were re-introduced

Agenda Item III, Announcements/Information/Discussions

- i. Dr. Lavorata spoke for Interim President Jones and stated that he would like to attend the meeting but had pre-planned business elsewhere. Dr. Jones is committed to the academic success of Fairmont students and views our athletes as student athletes. He has an interest in state reductions and would like to focus on students as “our story,” to meet new people, get the facts about our campus, and recruit new students with a partial focus on foreign and out of state students.
- ii. Dan Eichenbaum distributed a committee sheet
- iii. Dr. Oxley discussed the HLC 3 follow-up reports to be submitted, wants a strategic plan completed, and has been granted a 3 month extension for his Monday HLC report to be submitted.
- iv. Robynn Shannon presentation
 - New Faculty Orientation had 19 participants
 - Faculty Development Week workshop on Cheating and Plagiarism was well attended.
 - Fairmont is ahead of public regional institutions when it comes to 6 year graduation rates but slightly behind HEPC Comparison Group
 - 6 year graduation rate is 31% while 4 year graduation rate is 14%
 - Enrollment is down for both graduate and undergraduate students
 - Pell Grant eligibility is 50%
 - 90% of Fairmont State students do expect to graduate from Fairmont State University
 - No HLC review this year and our assessment focus will not be on majors this year
- v. Dr. Sapp’s BOG Report
 - Updated Organizational chart from President Jones
 - Lifetime Achievement Award for former President Rose, Friday, September 29 with an award brunch on September 30.

- Next BOG meeting on October 19 at the Caperton Center with potential appointments and reappointments to the BOG
- vi. Harry Baxter's ACF Report
- There will be a Great Teachers Seminar on June 20-22 at North Bend Park
- Alderson Broaddus University defaulted and has been placed on probation. They might lose accreditation as a result.
- Civility Commission to train new or any faculty in campus HR and fairness as well as civility
- vii. Student Government report
Student Government has had one meeting which discussed the senior campaign and talked to new freshman

Agenda Item IV, Unfinished Business

- i. Faculty Welfare is concerned about lack of definition for "plagiarism" and "academic dishonesty." They have proposed definitions that could be included in syllabi and included in faculty and student handbooks
- ii. There is debate over differing jurisdictions for dealing with "plagiarism" and "academic dishonesty"
- iii. Discussion ensued on whether to implement a tracking mechanism for following students who have plagiarized or committed academic dishonesty.
- iv. Faculty Senate voted unanimously to send Faculty Welfare's proposal to Academic Affairs Committee for review.

Agenda Item V, New Business

Major Business

- i. Joe Kremer discussed the possible need for an amendment to the by-laws to allow Sci-Tech to split into four units rather than three, which will change their Senate representation
- ii. Joe Kremer suggested the need for an ad-hoc committee to review the Faculty Harassment Complaint Procedure. The proposal to form such a committee passed unanimously
- iii. Joe Kremer also proposed an ad-hoc committee to deal with representation on the Committee on Committees which also passed unanimously

Minor Business

- i. Discussion of the 10% of course fee charged to students during drop/add week raised concerns, expressed by several members, over harm this could do to financially strapped students. Dr. Oxley pointed out that this policy was likely to end by the spring, 2018 Semester.
- ii. Concerns were also expressed over the nonrefundable course and other fees that students must pay even if they withdraw from the institution. No avenue for reducing this extraordinary burden on students was forthcoming.
- iii. Concern was expressed over the lack of trays in the cafeteria, including how this might impact students with disabilities. CFO Al Skudzinskas said the decision was based on food waste and that other institutions (like WVU) had stopped using trays years ago. He assured

- Faculty Senate that students who needed assistance would be assisted when getting their food.
- iv. Dr. Tadashi Kato's report on the history of the Instructor Exchange program was accepted by unanimous vote
 - v. The Issue of parking passes was raised along with concern over an off-site form that must be filled out and that requests personal information.

President of the Faculty Senate gaveled the meeting to an end at 5:00 PM.