

West Virginia University at Parkersburg
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2021

SENATORS PRESENT: Aaron Crites (Chair), Matthew Graves (Secretary), Joel Farkas (ACF Representative), Rose Beebe (BOG Representative), Kathy Wince (Staff Council Liaison), Gary Thompson, Holly Dexter, Andrew Rochus, Jamie Casenelli, Rebecca Tucker, Kristy Calvert (Proxy for Missy Spivey), Bobbi Marshall, Holly Dexter, Lauri Reidmiller, Holly Martin, Andrew Rocus, Quorum Present

Chair called meeting to order at 2:37 p.m.

Old Business:

COVID policies are being continuously looked into and updated as necessary.

Gen-ed Assessments are going well. One concern is with the number of upper-level courses required for Baccalaureate degrees. Why are we mandating things that are not part of HEPC?

BOG Update

Met in August and reviewed new hiring policy. Unsure of when will be officially presented, but policy seems to be more effective. Next BOG meeting is in the following week or two.

ACF Update

Several CTCs are looking at re-instating tenure. CTC has new chancellor and ACF is going to address with new chancellor.

New Business:

Concerns with early college and the impact on the institution, specifically, economically, enrollment, and assessment. Early college is not under the control of the provost. Michelle Nabors and Torie Jackson are the two mid-level administrators who report to the president. Additionally, early college is deeply discounted and there is a concern that the financials do not make sense to continue early college. Finally, it is eliminating the need to take the courses on campus as they are offered in the high schools. The president has some concerns as well. We can't just eliminate early college as it is mandated by the State of West Virginia. If we fail to offer early college, other colleges can come in and offer it in place of use.

In the Community College realm, early college makes up approximately 50% of enrollment. At WVUP we are at approximately 17%, but has been as high as 30%. Approximately 1/5 of students that are participating in early college attend WVUP. We do make some money from early college, but it is significantly less than a full-time student at the college.

The concerns are that WVUP controls the process, the content, and the faculty delivering the courses for early college.

Discussion ensued to address concerns. One concern is quality control when high school teachers teach the course rather than college faculty. One issue is the State of West Virginia wants the high school students to access college classes at the high school instead of coming to the college. An alternative is to limit the seating and let the full-time enrolled students have first choice and then allow the early college fill the extra seats. Another possible resolution would be the live-online format of courses. Discussion ensued.

Unpaid Faculty Summer work—What are our responsibilities outside of our contract? What does it mean “other duties” as defined in our contract? Discussion ensued and will be addressed with president.

Non-lecture course and how it is counted toward total teaching load.

Vaccine Mandate—Seems that most divisions are against mandating vaccines. Ultimate discussion is that Senate is not taking a position and will wait to see if mandated by the state or federal government.

Faculty input on interim president in event president vacates position in advance of end of contract.

When is a call for a full-faculty vote appropriate? Do we have a policy for this or do we need to create a policy for this procedure? It is believed that reps of each division would convey the position of each division and that would represent the full faculty.

Other News/Announcements:

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.