

West Virginia University at Parkersburg

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

October 17, 2017

Senators present:

Andrew Walker (Chair), Cindy Watkins (Secretary), Holly Dexter, Kathy Frum, Cheryl Mader, Al Newhart, Joel Farkas, Missy Spivy, Michelle Nabers (Staff Council), and Gary Thompson (ACF Representative). Guests: President Lamkin and Vice-President Chad Crumbaker.

The meeting was called to order at 11:03am.

Update from Dr. Lamkin

Charleston last week:

- Kathy D'Antoni plans for WV to have high schools award associate degrees. Community college would be transfer schools. Dr. Lamkin and the Chancellor of the CTCS are not in favor of this plan.
- Free tuition for Promise Scholars at the community college.
- No indication of a cut for state appropriations for coming year.

Dr. Lamkin spoke of his decision to terminate his contract early. He feels the college is "on a good course" and the changes being made are in the right direction. He expressed his feelings of sadness of leaving this position but feels he has been called to Westminster College where he had previously served as President for a seven year term. He feels the best solution would be to bring in Dr. Jane Milley to serve as Interim President. He has contacted her to attend the November Board meeting and she would assume the Interim President position through May 31, 2018. She would be hired through the registry and will not be eligible for the permanent position. A search committee will be formed in an effort to fill the position.

Chris Cunningham was congratulated as the Board of Governors Representative by Dr. Lamkin.

Update from Chad Crumbaker

Stresses that academically, the college will continue on the course with no changes anticipated. We are beginning the process of advising and registration. There is a mandatory meeting on Friday to update all Uniform Course Syllabi. Additionally, Town Halls are progressing to gather data for the HLC visit.

The faculty evaluation policy was discussed. Because the Faculty Senate does not have the new Evaluation Policy completed, faculty will need to complete their annual evaluation under the current policy. Chad was questioned if the due date could be extended for a couple of weeks to allow faculty more time to complete the process, however, it was uncertain if this could be approved due to the existing policy. Senators are encouraged to attend a working meeting on October 31 to continue the discussion of evaluation policy changes.

Advisory Council of Faculty Update:

Gary Thompson reported ACF met last week in Beckley. The telephone connection was poor and Gary was not able to hear everything that occurred. Much discussion was held about the lack

of funding at colleges. Minutes from the ACF meeting will be out this week and Gary will be able to provide more information. It is important for WVUP to be represented in person at future ACF meetings.

Staff Council Update:

Michelle Nabers provided an update from Staff Council. Biweekly pay has been implemented, and information can be access through MyAccess, which was emailed to all employees. An anonymous survey to gain interest in possible financial counseling will be sent to all faculty and staff.

Staff Council has two upcoming events: The Great American Sampler will be held in November. More information will follow via email. The Holiday Luncheon will be December 20, 2017. Preregistration required. More information will follow via email.

Staff Council is currently working on updating the review process for staff members. The FAFSA is now available for students to start completing for the next aid year. Employee tuition waivers for Spring semester are due December 1, 2017.

Old Business:

A motion was made for the minutes from the October 3, 2017, meeting to be approved by Kathy Frum. The motion was seconded by Holly Dexter. Motion carried.

The Faculty Medical Absence Policy verbiage was changed. Gary Thompson moved to accept the changes. Missy Spivy seconded. Motion carried.

The Maternity Leave Policy title was changed to the Parental Leave Policy. No substantive changes were made to the policy. A few questions were raised by Senators, but it was decided the issues be handled by the review of the policy by Human Resources. Gary Thompson moved to accept the title and verbiage changes to the policy. Joel Farkas seconded. Motion carried. Both policies will go to Debbie Richards to be placed on the November Board agenda.

A total of 67 out of 75 responses were received in the election for BOG Representative. Chris Cunningham was chosen to fill the role of Faculty Representative through June 30, 2018. An election for the next term will occur in the spring semester.

New Business:

Joel Farkas had a suggestion for an anonymous way for faculty to voice concern to Faculty Senate. Andrew will explore this with marketing to add to the Faculty Senate website.

Meeting adjourned at 12:11pm.

Respectively submitted: Cynthia A. Watkins