

West Virginia University at Parkersburg
Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes
March 7, 2018

SENATORS PRESENT: Andrew Walker (Chair), Kathy Frum (Vice Chair), Missy Spivy (Secretary), Aaron Crites, Rebecca Duckworth, Joel Farkas, Rebecca Hoff, Cheryl Mader, Gary Thompson (ACF Representative)

The meeting was called to order at 12:20 pm.

UPDATES:

Board of Governors Update- Chris Cunningham

No BOG update.

Advisory Council of Faculty Report- Gary Thompson

Gary Thompson updated the senate concerning the bill that was passed that would give a 5% raise to public school teachers, service personnel, and state police officers. An agreement was made that a 5% raise to all other state workers would be put in the state budget. This raise is not guaranteed at this point.

Staff Council Update- Michelle Nabers

No Staff Council update.

Old Business

Minutes

The February 7 and February 21 minutes were approved.

Faculty Absence Policy Update- Andrew Walker talked with Vice President Harris concerning the policy and she suggested talking with HR again. The policy has been in the HR office since October. Andrew met with the HR director and he said that he needs more time to review the proposal. It was suggested that HR be given a deadline of March 21 so that the senate can make any necessary changes at the March 21 senate meeting. It is important that the policy be put on the BOG agenda by April 4 for the April 11 BOG meeting. Dr. Lamkin, Dr. Milley and VP Harris all have voiced their support of the policy.

Withdraw/Audit Policy Update- The withdraw/audit policy was discussed. Andrew Walker talked to financial aid to see if there would be financial aid ramifications that the senate had not thought of. Financial aid said that students would have to withdraw from the course and then sign up to audit. Financial aid will not pay for non-graded courses. The only negative effect would be the withdrawal counting towards the completion rate. VP Harris shared with Andrew that if the student is enrolled in other courses, he/she would be considered a current student and it would not negatively affect insurance. The consensus was that the policy would not be allowed until mid-term or later. The history of the policy was discussed. It would be up to the instructor

to decide if they would allow the student to drop and then audit. Andrew will discuss the policy with VP Crumbaker.

Program Coordinator Release Time Discussion-There was not time to discuss this issue.

Faculty Evaluation Policy- Andrew will email the evaluation that the Humanities Division piloted to the senate to review. Representatives from Humanities shared that they liked the policy. It was easy to use and it expedited the process. If the pilot evaluation is approved, the senate will need to create a policy that will describe procedures for conducting the evaluation.

New Item

Faculty Emeritus Status Approval- William Brown is being considered for Faculty Emeritus Status. Andrew is going to find out more information about him before the senate confirms his status. No one on the senate knew him.

Senate Concerns- Joel Farkas suggested that the senate look at the current policy for representation in the senate. He questioned whether representation should be proportional to the size of the division. He mentioned if the policy is going to change, it needs to be done before the election in April.

Announcements

Aaron Crites invited everyone to the Cold Stares concert on March 24. Doors open at 5:00. Food will be available.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:10 pm. The next meeting will take place on March 21 at 12:20 pm in the President's Board Room.