

Faculty Senate Meeting

January 5, 2026
Theater, 2:00 PM

Assembly:

Faculty gathered in the theater at 2pm prior to the senate meeting at 3. Holly Martin gave a brief introduction and named the senators representing each division.

Updates:

ACF Representative- Joel Farkas

Joel Farkas is the current chair of the ACF, and he stated this the ACF's top priority is restoring relationships with the legislature. The ACF members have been asked to reach out to their local senators and delegates, and many have received friendly replies. This goal seems to be going well.

The legislative session starts in February, and there is a good deal of uncertainty how the session will go. Our legislative advisors tell us that the governor's agenda and budget will be the best indication.

There is hope that something will happen with PEIA funding, but it's not clear how or what.

Chancellor Tucker wants a unified financial aid application. The current system requires students to apply for aid from up to 18 different sources.

The common course numbering project seems to be moving forward. The stated paid an outside consultant who outlined a plan for 26 high-enrollment, mostly 100-level classes, which are highly similar across all institutions.

Joel communicated the Study West Virginia and Global West Virginia initiatives which are a priority of ACF and HEPC. These may really help enrollment across the state, as 2025 saw huge declines in international enrollment.

BOG Representative - Andrew Walker

Andrew also communicated the chancellor's call for financial aid reform.

Faculty have concerns about the loss of voting power on the Boards of Governors. It was noted that the rep still attends meetings, and their comments will be noted in the minutes.

There are some minor policy revisions and updates out for comment.

Salary scale

Joel presented the pay scale proposal which faculty senate has been discussing. His stated goals were to eliminate disparities that exist between faculty of similar rank and experience, and create a stepped scale based on years of service. There was some discussion afterward.

Call to Order: – Holly Martin, 3:00 PM

Roll Call:

Attending: Lee Brown, Heather Carter, Jami Casenelli, Joel Farkas (Secretary), Craig Giffin, Greg Hill, Marybeth Hunt, Holly Martin (Chair), Lauri Reidmiller (Vice Chair), Doug Rhodes, Andrew Walker (BOG)

Zoom: None

Absent: Elizabeth Knick (Staff rep)

Visitors: None

Approval of minutes from September 2025 Senate Meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as distributed. However, it was requested that a synopsis of the pay scale proposal would be added.

Old Business

All senators and the BOG rep are up for election in April.

Andrew will send out a new proposal regarding professional development. He requested feedback by January 20, ahead of the next BOG meeting on January 23.

New Business:

There was a brief discussion of the new ADA compliance rules. These go into effect later this year for larger schools, and into effect for all the remaining schools in May 2027.

There was a brief discussion of student course evaluations. There was uncertainty in the timing when students were able to access these.

Upcoming Meetings

Faculty senate decided to meet the 2nd Wednesday each month, 3pm. Location TBD.

Adjournment – Holly Martin, 3:55 PM

Submitted: Joel Farkas, Secretary