

West Virginia University at Parkersburg Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes of October 21, 2022

Room 1321

8:00 am

Senators Present:

Holly Martin (Chair)

Jami Casenelli

Melanie Matheny

Felicia Kademian-Saini

Bobbi Marshall (Vice Chair)

Doug Rhodes

Gary Thompson

Amy Strong

Holly Dexter

Kyle Lancaster

Rebecca Tucker (JCC Rep)

Joel Farkas (ACF Rep)

Rose Beebe (BOG Rep)

Senators Absent:

Lauri Reidmiller (Secretary)

Pat Harris (Staff Council Rep)

Visitors:

Dr. Torie Jackson

Dr. David Lancaster

1. **Call to Order** – Holly Martin called the meeting to order.
2. **Attendance** - Attendance taken as senators arrived.
3. **Approval of minutes**
 - Faculty Senate meeting – Friday, September 16, 2022
 - Joel motioned to approved, Rose seconded – motion passed
4. **Updates from President Jackson** – Dr. Jackson (Interim President) and Dr. Lancaster (Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs-VPAA) attended today's meeting to answer questions and provide updates to faculty senators.
 - Discussed relationship with WVU. As part of the presidential search, goal to identify a new president by May 2023. Whether we are looking for college president or campus president is a question to guide the presidential search. At this time, there is no merger of any kind pending with WVU but may be looking for a closer relationship with WVU. A collaboration may potentially be able to offer masters programs at WVUP. Question posed if WVUP faculty could teach on the master's level – this will be explored. WVU wanted to discuss systems that are in place. We work with them on business and HR work. System needs updated – do we want to renew our memorandum of understanding (MOU) to maintain this relationship with WVU for payroll and finance processes? WVUP pays WVU \$250K to use the WVU

name and business functions. Due to increased cost, decision was made to continue relationship with WVU for these systems. WVUP is considering some options to be more independent with a goal of updating systems by 24-25. WVU is considering moving away from Banner in 27-28.

- Discussed the Jackson County Center (JCC). Dr. Jackson and Dr. Lancaster will be visiting the JCC campus to talk to staff and faculty next week. They are looking at a possible plan on how to best use the facility. Academics are going to continue at the JCC center but are exploring how to best use the facility. They are looking at ways to collaborate with the Tech Center and other businesses in the area to expand usage and look at other needed resources for the community. Also will work with Workforce to explore options. Looking for better ways to grow the facility.
- Discussed current tenure process. This is a process guided by faculty senate. Faculty senate can bring forward a process. Will provide current policy for review – Dr. Jackson will get that information from HR and forward to faculty senate.
- Discussed lab contact hours – bring plan from faculty senate. (This was discussed because many lab contact hours are calculated at 0.75 contact hours per hour in the classroom. Some lab contact hours are counted at 1.0 contact hour per 1.0 hour in the classroom while some are rated at the 0.75 contact hour rate. Lecture contact hours are based on the credit hour for the course.)
- Thanked faculty senate for input on pros and cons list regarding merger with WVU.
- Addressed communication – trying hard to communicate and provide updates as available. Cannot change the past but are working toward more open communication. Current leadership is making efforts to be more open with communication.
- Dr. Jackson reiterated that she is available for questions.
- Gary Thompson brought up the restructure that occurred over the summer and how it impacted some individuals. Expressed the desire for two-way communication. Dr. Jackson reiterated that she is working to make that standard practice and will share information with new president if it is not her.
- Dr. Lancaster spoke to relationship with WVU. Currently working on articulation agreements with WVU. Discussion being held with Taylor Richmond at WVU. This would offer the option of our students to move into programs that enhance our current academic offerings not compete with them. Gary Thompson described potential benefit to the computer programs. Joel Farkas reiterated the desire to provide graduate level courses on campus. Gary Thompson asked about the pros and cons list - expressed desire to have a mutually beneficial relationship. Dr. Jackson interjected that a relationship needs to be established with key players at WVU in order for this to be beneficial.
- Gary Thompson asked about the possibility of adding dormitories. Dr. Jackson said this was not off the table – it is still being explored.

- Dr. Jackson shared that she is working with multiple groups to establish pipelines to skilled jobs as well as degree programs – going into high schools, tech centers, businesses, etc.
- Dr. Jackson shared that the Coplin Clinic will be opening - November 15 will be a ribbon cutting ceremony and reception.
- Dr. Lancaster shared discussion regarding offering a JCC science section in the summer – if there are 10 students it can run.
- Dr. Lancaster shared desire to keep communication open and is available to meet with anyone – open door policy.
- Very excited about the current assessment process. Dr. Lancaster feels that it is designed to be a collaborative process. He stated that decisions are being made that will support the college and the students. Everyone has a voice but bottom line is that we must consider what is best for the college.
- No further questions or comments were posed so Dr. Jackson and Dr. Lancaster left the meeting.

5. Updates

- Chair – Holly Martin - Due to time constraints, Holly Martin moved to the New Business items on the agenda.

6. New Items

- Tenure – suggestion regarding tenure policy – Community and Technical College (CTC) states only 20% of faculty should be tenured. Dr. Farkas mentioned the state code states that tenure can't be awarded based on seniority. This will be discussed with the ACF at their next meeting and then taken to the Vice Chancellor. Question was posed if we go over the 20% is there a penalty? Could they fine us? Question to be asked to Dr. Jackson. Discussed the offering of tenure as a hiring incentive – suggestion was made to establish a sub-committee to explore the tenure policy to meet and review after the ACF retreat in November. Suggestion was made that the position in tenurable rather than the person. Subcommittee appointed (Joel Farkas, Chair, Bobbi Marshall, Felicia Kademian-Sani, Kyle Lancaster, Doug Rhodes, Melanie Matheny)
- Faculty pay and responsibilities - Discussed responsibility increase with many positions, hiring adjuncts, assessment, writing program reviews, budgeting, departments with 1 faculty member, increased duties with no increase in pay. Some program coordinators get release time while some program coordinators in small or 1 faculty member departments do not get a release. Would like clarity how that decision is being made. Need to differentiate what is part of job and what is above and beyond – is there a number of students required. May need to define roles of faculty and what is above and beyond – having to mentor

adjuncts – advising roles increased. Discussed creating survey to see what faculty are doing. Dr. Beebe suggested that we review the faculty qualifications policy as well as coordinator qualifications policy – (Subcommittee to review faculty pay and responsibilities - Felicia Kademian-Sani, Chair, Holly Martin, Doug Rhodes). Discussed lab contact hours – inequity across campus regarding lab contact hours – suggestion was that all programs get an equal 1:1 lab contact hour to one hour in the classroom. Gary Thompson/Rose Beebe motioned that Faculty Senate recommend to amend the Answer Book 4-11 Faculty Load to reflect one contact hour to one lab classroom hour. Discussion occurred about how “labs” are different based on program – some are more preparation heavy than others. Challenge is with Education and Nursing Departments – general consensus is that English, Math and Science labs should be equal, Holly Dexter seconded – Joel moved to vote – vote was approved.

- Suggestions of internal candidates for permanent VPAA position. Names submitted from faculty senate to President Jackson – Dr. Lancaster and Dr. Gump – no additional names were submitted. (President Jackson asked that internal candidate names for a permanent VPAA be submitted by the faculty senate. This was preempted following a meeting with WVUP’s HLC liaison who expressed concern that two senior leadership positions at the college were interim positions, the College President and VPAA positions. Dr. Jackson suggested that the VPAA position could be filled permanently with approval from the Board of Governors.)
- Enforcement of reserved faculty parking spaces – Faculty parking was discussed and faculty passes are being redistributed. Students are parking in the reserved spots.

7. **Next Meeting**

Friday, November 18, 2022

8. **Adjournment**

Submitted: Roberta Marshall (Vice Chair) and Holly Martin (Chair)