

**WEST VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY
GENERAL FACULTY MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2007
10:25 AM 122 WALLACE HALL
MINUTES**

I. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 10:25 by faculty senate chair, Jerry Levine.

II. Reading of the minutes

It was moved and seconded that the minutes from general faculty meetings of August 14 and 15, 2006 be approved as written. The motion carried.

III. Review and approval of the agenda

It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved as amended. The motion carried.

IV. Reports

Update on Senate actions:

Chairs of all continuing committees will be elected each spring to provide for continuity and promptness of action in the fall semester.

The faculty senate has requested that the administration set a time during the initial week of school each August to be specified for committee meetings. This will allow the committees to get together, set an agenda, and establish a regular meeting time.

The idea of establishing a university-wide committee to study the advantages and disadvantages of remerging the CTC and the University was initially brought to the faculty senate by Jerry Levine in November, 2006. J. Levine reviewed the process to date concluding with the fact that Dr. Carter stated in his opening remarks this morning that he would appoint this committee in January 2007.

Ad hoc committee on merit pay

M. Lewis stated that distribution of merit dollars between departments was fairly even. There were no major statistical differences. Discussion followed regarding merit pay and salaries in general.

Phased Retirement Plans

J. Spencer, chair of a committee studying phased retirement plans, reviewed the basics of such a plan. There are many details to be investigated and clarified. He hopes to have one in place by the time he retires.

V. Old Business

Faculty access to the University website

There was much discussion regarding the importance of the University's website. An ad hoc committee was established from volunteers to study issues relative to the website and to make recommendations to the general faculty. M. Lewis, P. McCoy, S. Naga, J. Barnes- Pietruszynski, T. Ruhnke, and J. Doss will serve on this committee.

Update on Faculty Scholarship

Charles Ledbetter reported that the scholarship fund which was established eight years ago by the faculty is currently at \$23,000. He hopes to reach the \$25,000 mark for endowment by the end of this academic year.

INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD

J. Spencer, chair of the WVSU IRB, reminded the faculty that all research which involves human or animal subjects must be reviewed by the IRB. Protocols can be found in the faculty handbook.

VI. New Business**Yearly cost of living increment proposal**

Dr. Carter addressed this during his remarks earlier in the morning. M. Lewis proposed and T. Ruhnke seconded that the following proposal be sent to the administration: "Effective July 1, 2007 and every year thereafter, faculty will be provided with an annual cost of living adjustment (COLA) equal to the CPI for all urban consumers as calculated by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The COLA will be in addition to, and not in lieu of, a salary increase provided by the Legislature and/or Board of Governors." The motion carried unanimously.

Status and plan for search for VPAA

J. Levine, vice chair of the search committee, reviewed the timeline. The closing date for applications is January 15, 2007. Thus far, eighteen applications have been received by the committee. The committee will interview six candidates between March 12 and 30, 2007 and will then send an unranked recommendation of three candidates to President Carter by April 5, 2007.

VII. Adjournment

It was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Marrash-Minnerly
Secretary
Faculty Senate