

# **FACULTY SENATE MEETING**

**October 3rd, 2008**

**Ferrell Hall 305**

**1:30 – 4:00**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:35.  
Minutes from the September 5<sup>th</sup> meeting were approved.  
The agenda was approved as amended.

## **Election of Secretary.**

The Chair asked for nominations for the secretary position. Several possible inducements, including release time and overload pay were discussed. A change in the rules was also considered. There were no nominations. R. Harris, who is not a senator, again volunteered to take notes for the meeting.

MOTION: [M. Lewis, J. Richards] The faculty member selected to serve as secretary will be responsible for seeing that all work associated with position is done, but that resources be sought for stenographic help. Motion passed.

## **Senate Budget.**

The chair informed the Senate that the entire budget was spent on refreshments for the previous meeting. The refreshments that we purchased included four service charges that collectively were much greater than anticipated. The executive committee will consider other options.

## **Faculty Scholarship Committee.**

Rich Ford, chair of the committee reported. The committee has been discussing several issues including how to maximize the faculty's control of the donated funds and the matter of contributions from CTC faculty. The CTC has decided to continue contributing to the fund and their students will be eligible for scholarship money when the level of total contribution from the CTC reaches that of the university's four colleges. There were three concerns expressed by senators: 1. How many faculty are regular donors?; 2) Are the fees charged by the Foundation to manage the money reasonable?; 3) How are the funds invested?.

Ford indicated that the goal of the committee is to get the money in the hands of students as soon as possible. The committee is also concerned with doing whatever is necessary to maintain the goodwill of the faculty.

Publication of donor names in university publications was also discussed.

MOTION: [G. Beller, C. Smith] To accept the scholarship committee's report. Motion passed.

## **Educational Policies Committee.**

There were no proposals at the September 26<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**President Carter.** No report

**Vice President Byers.**

Dr. Byers report has been posted. Briefly, he reported that a book has been developed that explains how and why expenditures are made. Since the library has suffered disproportionately from the change in Title III, CCRA money will be directed there. Deans will be attending a fund raising workshop to help them with this new responsibility. A new task group on undergraduate education will probably be created. Also, the need for a deadline for admission to the university was addressed. Dr. Byers reaffirmed his commitment to keep faculty informed.

**BOG Report- C. Smith.**

There has been no BOG meeting since the report at the last senate meeting. The previous report has been posted on the web.

**ACF Report- J. Richards.**

ACF is asking for endorsement of its legislative agenda by all faculty senates from each institution in the state (4 yr and CTC).

MOTION: [C. Smith, J. Pietruszynski] The Faculty Senate endorses the 2009 Legislative agenda set by ACF. Motion passed.

**Comments from the chair.**

The chair announced that the Merit pay proposal has been approved by Dr. Carter and it will be adopted. There was a question as to whether it is too late to implement the new policy for the current academic year. The chair will meet with the president to discuss this.

Regarding Phased Retirement, Dr. Whyte indicated at the September meeting that she would write a letter to Dr. Carter asking how to proceed.

MOTION: [C. Sturgeon] The faculty Senate directs the chair and M. Lewis to meet with Dr. Byers to discuss implementation of the new merit pay plan. Motion passed.

Dr. Byers indicated that Dr. Carter approved the plan but has a couple of concerns and that there is still time for the merit plan to implemented.

**TABLED ITEMS****Accountability of Title III Spending.**

Responsibility over Title III funding was moved for Planning & Advancement to Academic Affairs. J. Magan said that because continued pressure on state funding, many salaries have been shifted to Title III .

MOTION: [J. Richard, C. Smith] The Senate requests a detailed itemized budget and the guidelines for Title III spending. Motion passed.

### **Current Financial State of WVSU.**

Details of the June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2008 budget report were discussed. Dr. Byers provided explanation for several items of concern. It was noted that 40% of staff are now not funded by the university's operating budget.

### **Evaluation of transcripts by chairs.**

Several department chairs have expressed concern regarding this issue. This is not only a time consuming task, but do chairs have the expertise to do it? There is a big question regarding lack of uniformity if different people do transcript evaluation.

MOTION: [J. Richard, G.Beller] Recommend that the evaluation of transcripts by department chairs be discontinued and the task be returned to the Registrar. Motion passed.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### **The Condition of Classrooms.**

Ideas regarding improvements in classrooms were discussed including corporate sponsorship to upgrade classrooms. J. Anaporte said that contrary to the report from Dr. Byers, she was told that the university could not afford a Writing Center.

The Senate needs to convey its continued desire to see efforts regarding classrooms go beyond maintenance and include technological updates.

### **Assessment Coordinator.**

The vacant assessment coordinator position was discussed. Dr. Byers has previously announced that the position will be advertised, but the funding for the position will not be available until after October 1<sup>st</sup>.

It was reported that, due to incomplete or non-existent program review reports, there are four programs on campus that have a "probationary" status. Lack of assessment may have contributed to this.

### **Assessment of WVSU's Shelter in Place /WARN system.**

J. Anaporte reported that faculty are concerned about not having appropriate shelter-in-place materials and training. There was much discussion about proper notification, the level in a building in which a designated shelter-in-place area should be located, and when it would be appropriate to evacuate.

The chair said that a big problem with the WARN system is that most subscribers have email rather than a mobile phone for notification.

Senators wondered why the recently scheduled test was cancelled.

Reports to faculty from students about what happened the night of the Bayer incident seem to be consistently different than other reports given to the Senate.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Academic Forgiveness.**

Registrar D. Hunter requested that the executive committee address a recent question concerning the University's Discretionary Academic Forgiveness Policy. There is a question with regard to condition number four of the policy; the question is essentially whether a class from which a student withdraws is considered to be work attempted (in which case the student would not meet the condition for graduation). The item was discussed and no motion was put forth.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:58.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Senate/FS100308/RTH