**Faculty Senate Executive Committee;**

**August 14, 2009, 108 Fleming Hall; 11:30am – 1:00pm**

**Meeting Minutes;**

Attendees: Gerry Beller, Rob Harris, Michael Lewis, Aaron Settle, Deb Wells, Ken Barber

Invited: Dr. R. Charles Byers.

1. Call to Order: 11:35 am
2. Reading of previous minutes: done.
3. Approval of Agenda- approved
4. Old Business:
	1. **Executive Committee Members and other WVSU administrators and staff meeting with Bayer on June 30th, 2009.** At this meeting were: Drs. Byers, Beller, Guetzloff, Whyte, John Fuller, Millie Booker and representatives of other University groups, community groups, and representatives from Bayer CropScience. Dr. Beller described his impressions of this meeting, which included an apparent determination by Bayer to continue their large-scale chemical storage activities at the Institute Plant. Bayer feels very confident that the manufacturing process it uses and the plant structure and equipment is safe enough and that the economic plan they are following requires the current operating practices be maintained. Bayer also feels that its emergency communication system with the University and the public has improved and is more than adequate for public safety. The Executive Committee discussed a need to continue working on the campus safety issues that arise from Bayer’s operations in Institute. The possibility of posting all Senate, Executive Committee and Faculty actions and discussions on this topic on the WVSU Faculty Senate Website was discussed and agreed upon. Further intended actions in this area include another General Faculty Resolution on Bayer vote and release to Senator Rockefeller and other representatives. The need to generate more information and advice from Bayer regarding Shelter in Place protocols and equipment is still apparent, and should include an invitation to Bayer safety personnel for a working tour of the WVSU campus and a review and analysis of the current WVSU Shelter in Place plan.
	2. **Merit Pay Proposal (Dr. Byers):** Dr. Byers asked that a group of 3 deans (Drs. Wohl, Harper, and Mrs. Shaffer) meet with 3 Faculty Senators to discuss the codification of a Merit Pay plan, though it was noted that merit pay money was unlikely to be available this year. Mike Lewis indicated that he is still willing to continue working on the Merit Pay plan. Dr. Byers added that the Merit Pay plan needs considerable work before it can be called completed and serve its purpose for faculty needs.
	3. Dr. Byers discussed the current state of an **Academic Intellectual Property Rights** document for WVSU. The document originated in the Research and development Corporation and has ultimately been applied to the entire University. After its recent review by legal counsel, it is time that the current document gets reviewed by the Faculty Senate and general faculty, as part of moving it towards completion and closure. Dr. Byers suggested that ultimately the document be posted on the Faculty website during this process.
	4. **Online Student Evaluations of WVSU Faculty** (Report to Senate in September): Dr. Settle informed the committee that Dr. Naga has agreed to continue working on this issue, and will provide a report to the Faculty Senate in September.
5. New Business
	1. **The designation status of The Gus R. Douglass Institute Faculty within the WVSU faculty and University- Dr. Byers:** A detailed discussion included the history of the issue, the expressed concerns and support, and proposed approaches such as possible “dual faculty status”, release time, and minimum number of teaching hours per semester. Dr. Byers told the committee he was preparing a written draft policy and would bring it to the nest Executive Committee meeting for review.
	2. Discussion/formation of Faculty Senate Executive and Regular Senate Meeting Dates for Fall 2009 Semester- these were established by Dr. Settle and the Executive Committee.
	3. **Agenda for General Faculty Meeting- Dr. Settle:** items include the Bayer meeting, SHIP, early retirement update from Jim Spence, and a motion regarding the Environmental Safety and Parking subcommittee’s structure and focus.
	4. **UPDATE Senate Standing Committee Sheet** BEFORE opening meeting: Dr. Rob Harris was agreed to complete this.
	5. **Athletic/Student participation** absence from class issues- **Dr. Guetzloff:** upcoming athletic seasons will require travel time and missed classes, which athletes and faculty should work together to make arrangements for this.
	6. **Additional Faculty Senate Rep to the University Council**- tabled.

1. Adjournment: 1:30 pm.