

WVSU Faculty Senate Meeting
Friday, December 11th 2009
1:30pm 305 Ferrell Hall

Members Present: Gerry Beller, Kenneth Barber, Tom Guetzloff, Rob Harris, Michael Lewis, Raphael Mutepa, T.J. Park, Jeff Pietruszynski, William Porterfield, Aaron Settle, Frank Vaughan, Deb Wells.

Ex-Officio: Dr. Hazo Carter and Dr. Charles Byers.

Parliamentarian: Jack Magan.

Invited Guest- Sean Loyd (Assistant Athletic Director)

1. The Senate Meeting was called to order at 1:33 pm.
2. **Approval of the minutes:** The motion to accept the Faculty Senate meeting minutes from 12/17/09 passed by vote.
3. **Approval of the agenda:** The agenda had an item added to New Business, which was requested and addressed by Dr. Tom Guetzloff, and concerned the fact that WVSU Public Safety officers lack access to some of the rooms in on campus buildings.
4. **Comments from the Chair (BOG Opportunity for the Senate):** Dr. Settle reminded the senate that the WVSU faculty would once again have an opportunity to present issues of importance to the BOG, and we need to prepare for such a presentation later this Spring semester, likely during the April 2010 BOG meeting.

I. Reports:

A. Educational Policies Committee Report: no report to present.

B. OTHER REPORTS

- I. **President Carter:** Dr. Carter provided some details regarding likely budget cuts at WVSU for next 3 years: a 3.2% cut for the current fiscal year, followed by a 5% cut each of the next 2 years, and a 5+% cut for the 2011-12 fiscal year. This translates to a 2008-09 total budget of \$10.7 million from the State legislature, to \$8.7 million from the State for 2011-12. Federal Stimulus funds are expected to offset these cuts from the State's General Fund; however, the 2011-2012 WVSU budget is expected to receive no Federal Stimulus offset monies. Dr. Carter also indicated that a student tuition increase to cover these deficits has been previously rejected by the Governor, and this will be reviewed by the HEPC. Regarding the efforts to provide physical improvements on the WVSU campus, Dr. Carter provided an overview of the potential role that the WV Rehabilitation Center buildings and facilities might play in serving WVSU's needs for physical improvements, as part of the Campus Master Plan. Rehabilitation Center buildings such as the auditorium, gymnasium, pool, chapel, classrooms, offices and other buildings might become available for WVSU's use. Other state entities vying for such building space include the Department of Corrections and Juvenile Services. Dr. Carter also announced that his selection for the position of VP of

Planning and Development has been sent to the state capital, and is awaiting their approval before the person is offered the position. The Black History Month celebration on campus will include a kickoff event at the Convocation on Feb 18th, 2010; On Feb 21, the State legislature will host "Higher Education Day" at the Capital Building, which will allow WVSU to interact with the legislators during the event. During discussion, the need to completely separate WVSU orientation and registration from that of the KVCTC was discussed again, as this could be a time when uncertain students enter KVCTC, instead of WVSU, as they may actually have intended.

- II. **Office of the VP for Academic Affairs Report (Dr. Byers):** Dr. Byers congratulated Dr. Settle on receiving HEPC approval for the Health and Human Performance academic degree program. Also of note- approval of a Master's degree of Business Entrepreneurship by the HEPC; as well as New Program approval for the BS degree in International Studies and an MS degree in Law Enforcement and Administration. These HEPC approvals represent large amounts of work and effort by their respective departments and faculty. Dr. Byers also noted that the Institutional Compact for HEPC continues its progress towards acceptance; the ESPS Committee had not yet been able to take up the recent FS Motion to update the on campus Parking Policy, but this will be addressed as soon as possible. In regards to a proposed move of the WVSU Admissions Office into Academic Affairs, the faculty's specific concerns and reasoning for making this change should be iterated to Dr. Byers in some form, in order to facilitate this change. Considerable discussion arose over this issue again, as many faculty members expressed a need to improve the functioning and efficiency of WVSU Admissions. The sentiment of modernizing and professionalizing the WVSU Admissions Office were expressed again and again, punctuated by the telling of specific instances where students and/or their parents frequently brought these deficits to the attention of various faculty members. Dr. Byers asked about the status of the Early Retirement Plan document, which the General Faculty voted to approve recently. He will make an effort to review this document and would perhaps set up a meeting in the future with Dr. Jim Spencer, who has done the work of reviewing this potential plan for the WVSU faculty. Also of note- the EDNET/ETC facilities are still an older analog system, which needs to be updated and largely replaced with a digital system and equipment. Issues of whether this an Academic Affairs or Gus R. Douglas Institution operation are still to be resolved, but Dr. Byers appears to have secured \$350,000 for this overdue conversion.
- III. **BOG Report (Dr. Tom Guetzloff):** Since no BOG meeting has occurred since last FS meeting, there would be no BOG report for Dr. Guetzloff to provide. However, he reminded the Senate that at the April 23, 2010 BOG meeting there would an opportunity for the WVSU faculty to present the BOG with a set of faculty concerns. This will be taken up at the Executive Committee meeting and upcoming FS meetings.

III. Old Business

1. **Intellectual Property Rights Agreement Update:** The document was voted on and approved by the General Faculty vote, and Dr. Byers has forwarded the document to Dr. Carter's office for his review.
2. **Early Retirement Plan UPDATE:** The document was voted on and approved by the General Faculty vote, and Dr. Byers has forwarded the document to Dr. Carter's office for his review.

IV. New Business

1. **Proper procedure to remove CTC faculty placement from the Faculty Senate Standing Committees:** Dr. Spencer has reviewed this issue and provided a recommended course of actions in the form of an edited version of the relevant areas of the WVSU Faculty Handbook. This document will be posted on the Faculty Senate website for faculty review and comment, with a discussion and decision planned for the next Faculty Senate meeting. Related to this is concern of whether faculty from the Gus R. Douglass Institute should serve on any WVSU Senate Standing Committees and vice versa. Dr. Settle will begin discussing this with the current chairs of all the Standing Senate Committees to get their perspective.
2. **Athletic/Student participation absence from class** (Dr. Tom Guetzloff and Mr. Sean Loyd, the WVSU Assistant Athletic Director (Invited Guest): Considerable discussion included concerns of fairness to both student athletes and faculty regarding absences for athletic events. Mr. Loyd is not in favor of a separate attendance policy for student athletes, and suggested that the current system, if handled correctly by coaches and players, allows the faculty members involved the opportunity to have a timely notification of an upcoming missed class, and thereby be able to respond to a student-athlete's planned absence as they see fit, in regards to making up the missed class time. The discussion that followed appeared to largely support Mr. Loyd's suggestion that proper adherence to procedure already in place effectively reduces conflict here. Dr. Settle and Mr. Loyd will meet to confirm the use of the Athletic Department's general written form used by coaches currently, and that all coaches and student athletes will continue to use this simple form to inform all the affected faculty of any upcoming athletic event, allowing the faculty and student-athlete to handle the situation of meeting their obligations for their missed class time.
3. **Policy to follow after the death of an active Faculty Member regarding any of their personal property located on campus:** (Dr. Tom Guetzloff): this item will be revisited later for FS discussion.
4. **Policy regarding a minimum GPA for students earning a minor at WVSU.** How many times can a student take a course purely for the intention of raising a low GPA high enough to meet any degree and graduation requirements? This appears to happen sporadically, but causes concern among our departments when it does. Examples of

upperclassmen/seniors retaking lower division courses that they have already taken, or taking a 100 level course(s) for an "easy grade", either here at WVSU, or at another institution, and then transferring that course grade and credits to their WVSU transcript, are at the core of this issue. After FS discussion, Dr. Byers agreed to look closer at this issue in order to reach a resolution.

5. **Keys and access to restricted rooms.** Dr. Guetzloff and Major William Porterfield, Department of Public Safety. Access to some doors on campus have not been made available to Public Safety Officers- some doors that require swipe cards cannot be opened by Public Safety, as these swipe cards are often not made available to the officers, as are some keys to certain offices and other campus rooms. Discussion indicated that this is not an acceptable situation and should be rectified to the degree possible, as Public Safety Officers should not be denied access during emergency situations. Dr. Settle will discuss this with Dr. Carter and Cassandra Whyte.

Adjournment- There being no further business for the Faculty Senate to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Kenneth Barber
Senate Secretary