**WVSU Faculty Senate Meeting
Friday, September 11, 2009**

**1 :30pm 305 Ferrell Hall**

**Members Present:** Kenneth Barber, Gerry Beller, Carla Blankenbuehler, Sean Collins, Richard Ford (invited
report), Tom Guetzloff, Rob Harris, Tom Kiddie, Michael Lewis, Abainesh Mitiku (invited guest), Jeff
Pietruszynski, Steven Richards, Aaron Settle, Carolyn Sturgeon, Xiaohong Zhang.

**Ex-Officio:** Drs. Charles Byers.

**Parliamentarian:** Jack Magan.

**Absent:** Dr. Hazo Carter (attending HEPC meeting)

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:35 pm.
2. The Faculty Senate Minutes from March s". 2009, April 3rd, 2009, May i'', 2009, meetings, and the May
is", 2009 election results were reviewed and approved by vote.
3. Approval of the agenda- by vote.
4. **Facultv Scholarship Committee Report. Dr. Richard Ford.** Dr. Ford presented the committee report
to the senate and noted some recent progress made. The motion to accept the Faculty Scholarship
report passed by vote.
5. **Educational Policies May 2009 Meeting Report. Dr. Paula McCoy.** Dr. McCoy could not attend, but
the May s". 2009 EPC Meeting Report was provided. The EPC's only action was a review of a request
to approve a new degree program, which would be a Bachelor of Science in International Studies. The
EPC recommended approval with conditions or revisions- writing that the proposal refers to minors in
the curriculum but there was no data submitted regarding the minors. Comments generated included
Mr. Michael Lewis, who supported the expansion of degree programs, but was distressed by limited
resources allocated for the process of program expansions. He suggested that WVSU encourage the
state legislature to focus on the allocation of such resources, to which Dr. Byers later responded in
agreement. Dr. Abainesh Mitiku asked about the placement of the International Studies Program in
either the Political Science or Business Administration Departments. Any other placement would be
objectionable for her. Dr. Byers responded that the International Studies Program would be an
Interdisciplinary Studies program, and a meeting of the Department Deans and Chairs has been
planned to discuss the details of program structure and placement. Dr. Byers further noted that he
wants to expand academic programs in ways that meet with the Faculty Senate's approval, before his
office makes its final decision on any new programs. **A motion to accept the May 8,2009 EPC report
was made and passed by vote, with a friendly request made of inviting all interested parties to the
next senate meeting (October 2009) to discuss the specific details of the proposed BS of
International Studies Program with the Faculty Senate and any other interested parties.**
6. OTHER REPORTS

 I. **President Carter**- not present.

 II. **Vice President for the Office of Academic Affairs; Dr. R. Charles Byers.** Dr. Byers presented the

Senate with his report and provide a summary of its contents: Academic Affairs is seeking
comment and support for the "wvsu Intellectual Property Rights Policy"; the deterimination
of faculty status resides with each institution, and Academic Affairs has proposed that each
department can recommend applicants as new members, at the Part-Time and Adjunct

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faculty level, to the college dean for approval there, and then at the VP for AA office, and
finally from the President's office. Dr. Byers suggested that the department faculty could
playa role in this initial recommendation (rather than solely a Chair's decision); Dr. Byers
asked that 3 senators or faculty be appointed to meet with Drs. Harper and Wohl, and Mrs.
Shafer to discuss the continuation of the Merit Pay Policy; Dr. Byers also discussed some of
the potential resources from Title III and CCRA sources. **The FS accepted Dr. Byers' VPAA
report.**

 III. **The Board Of Governors Report, Dr. Tom Guetzloff.** Dr. Guetzloff discussed the BOG meeting

from August 22, 2009, noting that likely budget cuts for WVSU would be implemented by the
state legislature in the upcoming budget, and likely for the next couple of years, which could
cumulatively add up to more that double digit cuts in 3 years. Dr. Guetzloff also informed
the senate of Dr. Carter's new 5 year contract as WVSU President. In his report to the BOG,
Dr. Carter listed 5 objectives for WVSU, including the Capital Campaign's focus on generating
funding for needed campus wide improvements; Dr. Guetzloff's **BOG report was accepted
by vote.**

 IV. **Student Affairs.** Dr. Byers informed the Senate of the a series of dates when former and
currently un-enrolled WVSU ex-students will be invited back to the Student Union in an
effort to encourage their re-enrollment (Oct. zz", 6-8 pm; Oct. zs". 9-12 am; Oct. za". 9-12
am).

 V. **The ACF Meeting Report for July 2009. Dr. Sean Collins.** Dr. Collins provided an update on the
ACF Faculty Retreat minutes from July 17 and is". 2009. The possibility of a state-wide
freeze on salaries of WV faculty appears likely. The ACF sent a letter to Chancellors Noland
and Skidmore requesting that WV faculty salaries be brought up to national averages. Dr.
Collins also noted concerns over pending premium increases with coverage decreases from
PEIA. Suggestions that AFT become involved were made; it was also noted that faculty have
been requesting a policy that would include tuition waivers for faculty and family members
at state institutions, and it appears that some institutions do have this policy. It was clarified
that all WV faculty and instructors are employees of the state of West Virginia, and therefore
ineligible to serve in the WV state legislature. **The Senate accepted Dr. Collins' July 2009
ACF Meeting report by vote.**

Old Business

1. **The Bayer-Safety Issues and the WVSU Shelter-In-Place policy; Dr. Settle**. The FS agreed to present to
WV Senator Jay Rockefeller, a letter formally detailing the WVSU FS's current position and concerns
regarding the proposed changes in the Bayer CropScience Operating Procedures involved in MIC storage
and processing, at the Bayer CropScience Plant in Institute, WV. It was decided that this letter would be
drafted by Drs. Tom Guetzloff, Gerry Beller, and Caroline Sturgeon.
2. **Developments in the proposed creation of a new Safety Committee.** The chair of the Constitution, By-
Laws and Handbook, Dr. James Spencer, has been invited to speak to the senate on this issue; Dr. Byers
noted that current members of the President's Environmental Safety, Security and Parking Committee
would be eligible and useful persons for the proposed new committee; there were questions and
concerns raised about committee activity overlap here. Dr. Guetzloff offered to report to the senate at
the next meeting as a member of the ES, Sand P committee and it was suggested that committee liasons
report to the FS on committee activities.

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New Business

1. **The Fall 2009 Faculty Senate Vision for the new semester. Chair Dr. Aaron Settle.** Dr. Settle discussed a
list of concerns that the FS has discussed and he feels should be addressed during the semester. Firstly
would be an inclement weather policy that addresses missed classroom time due to University
cancellations and delays. Second, though most important, the gathering of all WVSU stakeholders: alumni,
faculty, staff, friends, local community members to represent WVSU to the state legislature, for the
purpose of enhancing WVSU's legislative priority, status and resource allocation; a more efficient system
for evaluation student transfer credits and advisement towards degree completion. Also, the potential for
implementing the "plus/minus" grading scheme at WVSU.
2. The new **WVSU Intellectual Property Right Policy** document from Dr. Byers' office will be posted on the
WVSU website for review and comment. Dr. Byers encouraged faculty to ask him specific questions about
this document at the next Senate meeting.
3. **The Merit Pay Policy Panel:** Dr. Settle: Selection of the 3 faculty/senators to meet with the 3
representatives selected by Dr. Byers to discuss the Merit Pay Policy: Michael Lewis was asked and
agreed, Dr. Steven Richards also agreed. Dr. Settle suggested that he would contact Dr. Barbara Ladner
and asked that she serve as well.
4. Athletic/Student participation absence from class. Moved to next meeting.
5. **The Phased or Early Retirement Plan (Dr. Jim Spencer).** Also moved.

**Adjournment:**There being no further Senate business, the meeting was called to close at 3:55 pm.

Kenneth Barber

Senate Secretary.

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