

**West Virginia State University Faculty Senate Meeting**  
**Friday, March 4, 2011**  
**Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Tim Ruhnke at 1:36p.m. During this time, it was announced to the group that Dr. Pietruszynski was out of the office so Dr. Ruhnke ask that the minutes from the previous be moved to the next meeting in April.

Dr. Ruhnke distributed the ACS Report that was provided by Dr. Sean Collins.

**Educational Policies Report:**

Michael Anderson distributed the report and mentioned that some of the prerequisites had changed. In the communications department, the 100, 200, and 400 level changes will be incorporated to the Social Work Department. GPA levels for incoming students will be revised. There will also be 3 new special topic classes added as well. Lastly, changes are being proposed for place holders to be implemented for future courses. It was properly moved, seconded, and voted unanimously, to accept the Educational Polices Report.

**President Carter's Report:**

Provided an overview of past discussions related to the **WV Rehabilitation Center**. In 2006, the Campus Master Plan was approved by the WVSU Board of Governors and approved by the Higher Education Policy Commission. Past discussions have been surrounded by leasing and rental properties. Currently the campus of WVSU rests on 100 acres of land and if the rehab. Center would become and extension of the campus, it would add 37 additional acres to the grounds. At this point, some building that are dilapidated and there are also electrical problems that have occurred. President Carter referred to the minutes in a past B.O.G. meeting if the property is offered as a gift to WVSU; the motions in those minutes would be carried, although two other agencies offer for the gift is being negotiated. There are at least 3-4 buildings that are in good shape but they still need to be examined further. If this property is offered to the University, it will be transferred with a possible 5 million dollars in support funds. The executive board will continue to review the possibilities.

**Fleming Hall** is on schedule for upcoming renovation to begin, starting in the fall of 2011. The planning committee has been meeting consistently and the university has received approximately \$15 million dollars for the work to be conducted. It was also mentioned, that the University will not incur any debt from the Fleming hall project.

The upcoming **scholarship program** was also discussed during the report. Mr. Casto has drafted a proposal document. There will be a 10 step process as to how the application process would be extended to the student. There will also be a 14 days turn around process and if the student does not respond within that designated time frame, then the offer becomes null and void.

Dr. Carter also disclosed, that he received a letter from the Higher Education Policy Commission (North Central); and WVSU has been approved to implement the 4<sup>th</sup> Master Degree Program; in which students will be able to obtain an **M.S. in Law Enforcement Administration**.

Dr. Carter encouraged everyone to attend **WVSU's 120<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party** at the Embassy Suites, downtown Charleston.

There were also questions raised regarding the **WV Rehabilitation Center** negotiations. These questions pertained to soil analysis and who would incur the costs for those trials. Why is it significant to want the additional properties? Those opportunities for additional spaces were discussed among the group. It was also mentioned that historical significance had not been placed on putting funds into the structure and the discussion also took place as to if the building is structurally sound or not. The final question was raised about the cemetery that lies on the property and that too, needs to still be negotiated.

#### **Academic Affairs Report:**

Dr. Ruhnke distributed and referred to the report submitted by Dr. Byers.

It was also announced that the **New Student Orientation Program** has been approved. Dr. Ruhnke discussed the details and highlighted significant facts. Kellie Toledo is confirming up the new AmeriCorps Program to begin in 2012. Gary Adams is also making contacts. The Institutional 5yr. plan is also being developed. In sum the May commencement will have approximately 200 students graduating this semester.

Dr. Ruhnke made a suggestion that any direct questions about this reports should be made to Dr. Byers.

#### **Student Affairs Report:**

The student financial assistance program, inclusive of mentioning the changes to the amount of the Pell Grant was discussed. Following that discussion, Dr. Ruhnke talked about the student being permitted to be covered by the parent's health insurance. He made remarks that with students 26 and under; there is no indication that they must be enrolled in school, not to mention a full time student.

#### **WVSU Board of Governor's Report:**

In the 2010-2011 Academic year, the rate of tuition for attending WVSU is \$3,824 and we are 1-2 thousand dollars less expensive compared to the average institutions in the state. Kanawha Valley Community and technical College cost only \$1500 in yearly gap, compared to WVSU. On the other hand, housing has went up due to rising cost of electric and other demands of inflation and this pattern may continue. There is a possible 10% increase that will be incorporated for Appalachian Electric Power. Mr. Casto stated, in anticipation of the projected university budgets; only 8-10% of that includes, campus residency. It was stated that athletics are largely based on student fee. With the exit of the KVCTC; WVSU will be experiencing budget cuts of approximately 20% annually, with total losses totaling around \$80,000 per year.

#### **Physical Facilities:**

The department is spending too much money and they are more than \$100,000 dollars in the hole. Personnel costs are extremely high with a more than 20% of an increase FY 2010-2011 year to date. Expenses were approximately \$583,000 and YTD, total cost \$961,000 thus far. It was recommended that the department head should be asked to provide a justification for this level of over spending.

#### **Academic Facilities:**

Spent 8 million dollars in 2010 and to date, in 2011 has utilized 5 million dollars so that department is staying within the prescribed budget for expenses.

\*\* Program Committee reports were concluded in 1 hour 10 minutes.

### **Advisory Council of Faculty**

Comments were made regarding an Advisory Council of Faculty and the topic of reducing a bachelor Degree requirements to 120 credit hour, without cutting General Education classes and free electives for students.

### **Old Business:**

Financial Aid- satisfactory academic progress for the students must be made each semester. Academic suspension was discussed and it was stated if a student receives all Fs, there will be no appeals process. This academic appeals process is governed by Federal regulation and students cannot keep obtaining student aid checks for their own personal gain. Kellie Toledo is also on that committee. Legal concerns have also been reviewed about advance withdrawals and appeals. With academic suspension and probation the BANNR system will be utilized and students falling in this category; cannot take more than 14 hours per semester. Dr. Guetzloff mentioned, if students have any prerequisites across BANNR and dropping the students was also mentioned. Administrative withdraw policy is reasonable. Dr. Ruhnke distributed and discussed the IUPUI Policy. Ad hoc committee will be discussed at a later time. Finally, the Planning and Advancement committee is addressing the WVSU Capital Campaign. These funds will be used to assist undergraduate academic scholarships; however the student must be a first generation.

The new University Scholarship Programs was raised again. At this time, it was inquired about the best methods in making the offer to students. The question was addressed as to what the criteria is, i.e., number of students to be awarded and how many each school will be awarded and in sum, who has the right to make the offer. . It was properly moved, seconded, and voted unanimously, to accept the Endorsement Policy for the new student Scholarship Program. Other items discussed at this time relating to the program was; legacies and alumni, in state vs. metro tuition, and contract for continuous enrollment; tuition lock in. Scholarships mentioned was the Hairston fund, with questions surrounding how those will be awarded.

### **New Business:**

The ***Fleming Hall*** project was revisited and the question was raised if we would go over the specified \$900,000 award. It was stated that we would not incur any debt and the renovation would be within what was budgeted and maintain the quality of the campus. Dr. Carter discussed that, the new gymnasium would hold approximately seat 2500 people and there is dialogue being conducted with recommendations of moving commencement back to the campus of WVSU.

### **MIC**

MIC startup was due to begin 3 weeks from the current day. There has been a court order implemented and the production has been postponed until the hearing, which will be held on March 21, 2011. Experts from Texas A & M have been contacted to study the matter. There has been a request for donations that would be appreciated. Local communities can have a local board to

oversee activities at chemical plants.. It was recommended that WVSU should formulate an advisory committee for monitoring this process more effectively.

Dr Tom Guetzloff, is chairing a committee to address these matters and has stated that the individuals from Bayer were supposed to attend meetins with the WVSU Environmental and Safety Committee meetings but do not attend. There was also a recommendation for WVSU to host a Town Hall meeting for addressing these concerns further. It was stated that this method has been taken in the past. What about a public forum?? Dr. Carter closed by saying, the representatives from Bayer used to attend the meetings with the Environmental and Safety Committee and referred to the minutes of those meeting, being on the website and encouraged all to read at their disposal.

It was properly moved, seconded, and voted unanimously, to adjourn the meeting at 4:00p.m.