

Minutes
Faculty Senate Meeting
Friday, December 9, 2013
Ferrell Hall 305
1:30 p.m.

- I. **Call to Order:** The Faculty Senate Meeting was called to order by Senate chair, Dr. Tim Ruhnke at 1:34 p.m.
- II. **Reading and Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from the previous Senate Meeting were read. **Motion to approve the minutes carried.**
- III. **Reading and Approval of Agenda: Motion to approve the Agenda carried.**
- IV. **Comments from the Chair:** Dr. Ruhnke notified the Senate that he presided over election for the Chair of Communications. Dr. Ziyati is the new Chair. He replaces Sherri Shaffer who now heads the RBA Program.
- V. **Reports:**

a. **President** – FY 14 budget is a concern due to revenue projections and a mid-year reduction possibility. Preparations are being made for this reduction. There will be a hiring freeze with few exceptions. This will not be a permanent cut. Raises across board and merit raises will still happen. Operational budgets in colleges will not be affected. WV has a Rainy Day fund of almost one billion dollars. There are discussions about using these funds for FY 15. Ten percent of funding goes to higher education. Medicare and Department of Education were exempt from cuts last year. Therefore, higher education cuts were more than 10%.

Retention – We must be responsible for our fate. We can't count on State funding. State funding is 19% of WVSU's total budget. Only three other WV schools had an enrollment increase of Freshman. We were one, but only ended up at 1.2% increase overall. We are losing students at all levels. Retention programs last year were coming from all areas. There will be a Retention & Student Success Council developed and Vice President McCarthy will lead this. Dr. Hemphill commended Dr. Ruhnke and other members of the Degree Completion Task force. The work of this committee will be turned over to this new council. Membership will include faculty from each college and students. This will help ensure a coordinated plan moving forward. Dr. Hemphill encouraged faculty to make suggestions and participate as they are an important piece in this.

Computer replacement – There is a list of about 10 computers that need replaced, two of which are not working. Moving forward, IT is compiling a computer list to establish oldest to newest. IT will review yearly and determine a list of those needing replaced. This process is a standard approach in industry.

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The Provost Search committee is moving forward and there will be a webpage developed about this process. Timeline is to wrap up in March with a July 1st start date. This will be the most important hire of his Presidency.

Faculty asked Dr. Hemphill if we know why students are leaving, and he said we are collecting information about why students are leaving through Exit Interview process. Financial issues, transferring due to majors and some don't feel treated well or are connected. He encouraged faculty to assist students as they are the first to tell if something else is going on.

- b. Provost / VP of Academic Affairs.** He discussed his retirement. Dr. Hemphill asked him to stay, and he committed to staying for two years. He is committed to WVSU, and concerned about reaffirmation. He will assist with the Master Plan and Reaffirmation of Accreditation.

He is reviewing policies and procedures, because we must document how we do things in Academic Affairs. The new Provost may make changes but this information will help new Provost. The BOG encourages right sizing the institution, and he wants faculty assistance with this.

Dr. Whitehead, Dr. Carson and Tom Bennett will host a December 16 retreat for faculty. He encourages those that are invited to attend.

Many invoices in Printing Services haven't been paid. Printing Services will require everything to be submitted on-line and may change how to pay for printing.

Academic Affairs will still review all faculty positions open due to retirement.

He commended Dr. Kimberly Whitehead on the new class schedule. She is working with Deans and Chairs to have the catalog come out on time.

He commended Dr. Harrison on his service to the University. He will retire January 6, 2014.

WVSU will be implementing the first phased retirement this year.

General Education will move classes to Sullivan Hall, East. This change is because Oasis will be using 15 classrooms, and they will upgrade facilities as well.

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Dr. Fultz asked if there will be new programs. Dr. Byers said the College of Business & Social Science – 4 areas will become concentrations and leadership. Also, a BFA in music. We would be only school in state that offers this. Dr. Vaughan asked about possible elimination of programs. Dr. Byer wants to strengthen what we have. He would prefer to have more full-time than adjunct. He said Academic Affairs had to cut budget by 1.2 million, and that future cuts would be difficult.

Dr. Ruhnke expressed concern about faculty having appropriate equipment with the classroom change. Dr. Byers has the list of necessary equipment.

- c. BOARD OF GOVERNORS (BOG) - Guetzloff.** During the retreat layoffs of personnel was discussed. In the Retention meeting an increase in Freshman number was reported. If we continue to bring in and retain more we should have more money. He is getting mixed messages about budgets.

President Hemphill evaluation was the best evaluation process he could remember.

He reports concerns about the Audit report. Dr. Hemphill said he wasn't talking about full-time faculty. Dr. Whitehead will be reviewing with Dean's enrollment in courses.

- d. ADVISORY CONUCIL OF FACULTY (ACF)-Ford.** He reports that Roy Nutter discussed the community colleges desire to keep full-time tenure track faculty push. He emphasized the importance of the K-12 Core Curriculum changes.

SB 330 – Classified Staff Representative expressed extreme concern over slow movement over pay.

He discussed the importance of shared governance on all campuses, and believes our campus does a good job with this.

The Advisory Council Students wants transparency of student fees and fiscal transparency should be our concern too.

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- e. Research and Development.** Dr. Umesh Reddy forwarded a report.

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Dr. Kiddie questioned the value of report over a year old. He said it is too early to receive this report since recommendations aren't ready to make to Academic Affairs because deadline extended.

Dr. Harris moved and Dr. Vaughan seconded a motion to accept this report and have follow up report in February which will contain additional requests from Chairs instructors.

VI. Old Business:

- a. Faculty Status for GRDI and other personnel.** Dr. Ruhnke commented that the Executive Committee discussed this in October meeting. He clarified that the individuals working GRDI in Research & Extension. Credentialed to be part of departments but not attached currently. The question is how we deal with current employees and future hires. GRDI employees will have to go through Promotion and Tenure.

Dr. Barney said they will be evaluated on research/teaching/service with based on the percentage of their assignment. Both GRDI and the appropriate department will be involved in the hiring process.

Dr. Barney said the funding line will be in Land-Grant, and will not affect department budgets. Faculty will be on hiring committees. He said Dr. McMeans will use State matching dollars if Federal dollars are cut or unavailable. Every tenure position is based on funding.

Dr. Ruhnke said guideline will have to be written, and GRDI should have a specific contract to evaluate each person. He will work with the Executive Committee to develop proposed changes and request guidance from the Chancellor's office. This will be complete by Spring 2014. This same issue will need to be addressed for Administration positions.

- b. Purchasing procedures and allocation of student fees.** Dr. Byers will meet with Deans and Chairs on January 13, 2014 to clarify this issue.

VII. New Business:

- a. Copying and printer policies.** Printers were programmed to print double sided.
- b. General Faculty Meeting.** No items to add to this agenda.

Adjournment: There being no further business or announcements, **a motion to adjourn.**
Motion carried.