

Senators present: Michael Aulick, Linda Cowan, Brian Fencl, Jeff Pfister (*secretary*) Gregory Chase, James Crumbacher, David Hanna, Hannah Harnar, Aaron Huffman, Ryan Koenig, Darrin Cox, Aaron Harper, Dominique Hoche, Corey Reigel (*vice-chair*), Peter Staffel, Chad Kuhns, Fuhua Chen, Jon Serra (*chair*), Mohamed Youssef

Absent members: Matthew Zdilla

Administrators, Representatives, and Honored Guests: Stephen Greiner (*President*), Sylvia Hawranick-Senften (*ACF Representative*), James Haizlett, (*BOG Representative*), Les DeFelice, (*BOG Chair*)

Senate was called to order by the Senate Chair, Jon Serra at 3:30 p.m. in Campbell Hall, room 304.

Les DeFelice – BOG Chair :

- BOG Chair DeFelice expressed his appreciation of West Liberty for personally supporting him as a student. He credited West Liberty as the major reason why he was able to get focused when he was a student. This guidance has now helped his leadership in his current business.
- Role of BOG – Chair DeFelice reported that the job of BOG was to “follow the rules” the role of BOG is not to “meddle in University affairs”. BOG is an advisor panel for the president. If issues occur, “a motion is made, seconded, discussed, and then passed or tabled”.
- Policy 23 – this policy has been “around well before this administration but hasn’t been used.” Chair DeFelice stated that he agreed with anonymity for comments. BOG representative, Jim Haizlett stated that at the last BOG meeting Chair DeFelice stated that if comments are received without a name they would not be reviewed. Discussion continued.
- *No Questions from floor*

President Greiner:

- Policy 34 – President Greiner reported that he received a “great number” of anonymous letters in support of Policy 34. Because the comments were written “word for word” and not submitted electronically, possibly from the same person, the comments were tossed out. BOG representative Haizlett, Senator Cox and Senator Cowan inquired about process of disseminating comments, discussion continued. President Greiner reported that he is not tied to a process but he is tied to a board vote and that he is obligated to follow a Board vote.
- BOG Policy 23 – BOG representative Haizlett reported that he felt that the vote conducted at the Board meeting was against policy. President Greiner reported that had he not followed BOG’s vote he would be committing an act of insubordination. Chair Serra expressed that some faculty fear making public criticism because in the

past those public comments could be held against that person. President Greiner reported that he doesn't operate that way. He expects people to have the right to make comments and respects comments. Senators Harper and Staffel commented on practices that would allow those to make comment without abusing the system.

- Pay Raise – President Greiner proposed to BOG a 3% pay raise (1 1/2% from the State and a matching percentage from the University) pending on enrollment and budget as of July 1. The increase would take effect at the next pay raise cycle beginning October 1.
Questions from floor – 1) P-Card reduction/misuse

Provost Crawford:

- Policy 23 – Provost Crawford encouraged faculty to send in comments as he intends to do.
- MS Athletic Training will need to some revisions before going to HEPC. Due to new accreditation standards some revisions will be necessary.
- Faculty Salaries – delayed spring meeting while Policy 245 was out for comment. Comment period should be up by the end of the semester. The Provost reported that we may need one or two faculty members at large selected by Senate. Chair Serra reported that Senate would send out an announcement for 2 faculty members to serve once the policy goes into effect. Provost Crawford felt that the meeting would occur in mid to late May.
- *Questions from the floor* – No Questions.

Darrin Cox – Finance Report:

- Policy 245 – is out for comment.
- *Questions from the floor* – No Questions.

Darrin Cox – Faculty Workload

- Senator Cox compared sister and brother institutions throughout West Virginia comparing and contrasting classifications of workload and presented three recommendations.
- **Motion – Darrin Cox made a motion for Faculty Senate to approve the three recommendations so that the new Senate and Provost to work toward a solution, Peter Staffel seconded.**
- Discussion occurred.
- *Vote* – Faculty voted, Motion: 16 Yea, 0 Nay, 2 Abstention - Motion Passes

Sylvia Hawranick-Senften – ACF Representative:

- ACF – held in Charleston at the end of March.
- HEPC – 1) Chancellor Hill will be retiring at the end of the year. HEPC board will be identifying a search committee. 2) West Virginia is 1 of 10 states that does not have attainment goals. HEPC will be working to develop attainment goals within the State. 3) Program Review – HEPC Chair expressed concern that institutions were not taking attainment goals seriously. 4) Funding – The State of WV is looking at a new higher

education funding model. Faculty members are encouraged to review the new proposals.

- President Greiner reported that the deadline is April 27th for sending Chancellor Hill a note to support the new educational funding model. President Greiner also stated that he was very familiar with this funding model as it was one that he had worked with before and noted that West Liberty's financial benefit would be around 1.6 million dollars.
- *Questions from the floor* – No Questions.

Jim Haizlett – BOG Representative:

- BOG Representative Jim Haizlett provided two handouts for review. Jim expressed a personal concern about how policies are being generated and a concern to have more input and involvement within constituents before policies are distributed for comment.
- Policy 23 – responses were received from all colleges. 12 comments were received in favor of the policy as written.
- President Greiner stated that the current practice of passing comments directly to the president's office had been occurring at least 15 years.
- *Questions from the floor* – 1) Clarification between anonymous vs. confidential comments.

Chad Kuhns – General Studies:

- Senator Kuhns encouraged Senate to carefully consider General Studies proposals that come to vote.
- Norming Session – rubric is difficult to apply to general assignments. GSAC Self and Cultural rubric will see a significant revision. These revisions should take place for possible implementation for the Spring 2019 semester. Faculty currently teaching Self and Cultural GS courses have been contacted and have been asked not to complete assessment data this semester.
- *Questions from the floor* – No Questions.

Aaron Harper – Academic Policies Report:

- Policy 231 – Final Exam. The committee felt the old policy was too restrictive. Senator Harper reported that the committee now felt that this revised policy went too far in the other direction. The committee reviewed other policies throughout the State and proposed comments and displayed the work from the committee for review at the meeting.
- Motion – Aaron Harper made a motion for Faculty Senate to agree to send the proposed revisions as a comment. Linda Cowan, seconded.
- Discussion occurred.
- *Vote* – Faculty voted, Motion: 15 Yea, 0 Nay, 0 Abstention - Motion Passes Unanimously

Dominique Hoche – Personnel Policies Report:

- Committee has met twice to address issues of shared governance. The committee feels that there are areas for improving but they are not yet ready to address the needs at this time of the year.
- Chair Serra recommended that the body of the next Senate allow for the committee to continue their work next year.
- *Questions from the floor* – no questions.

Announcement

- 2018-2020 Senators will meet on April 24 for elections.

Faculty Forum:

- Various topics were identified and discussed.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The Senate adjourned at 5:30 p.m.
Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Pfister, Senate Secretary