

Senators present: Linda Cowan, Jeff Pfister, Anna Stephan-Robinson, Gayle Jesse, Aaron Huffman, Ryan Koenig, Vishakha Maskey, David Wolfe, Darrin Cox, Aaron Harper, Dominique Hoche, John Float, Robert Kreisberg, Chad Kuhns, Mohamed Youssef

Absent members: Aaron Huffman, Jon Serra, Corey Reigel

Administrators, Representatives, and Honored Guests: Brian Crawford (*Provost*), Sylvia Senften (*ACF Representative*)

Guests: Kim Underwood

Senate was called to order by the Senate Chair, Darrin Cox at 3:31 p.m. in Campbell Hall, room 304.

Announcements: Chair Cox reported that he had been in contact with the President and the Provost regarding items discussed during Forum in the November meeting and that he was asked by Senate to formulate a letter expressing Senate's concerns. Results: 1) Provost Crawford was said to have had discussions with V.P. of Student Services, Scott Cook. Chair Cox reported that he received word from the Provost that he did not believe that there were any FERPA violations with regard to the sharing of University statistics in the Campus Security report. 2) The Respect in the Workplace session was directed by BOG in response to a personnel matter. Individuals who were not able to attend will be contacted to view a recording of the session. Individuals who completed the session should soon be receiving a certificate of completion. 3) The letter signed by members of the Executive Committee was presented to BOG at the November meeting. Issues raised at the last Senate meeting regarding the Perpetual Calendar have been addressed. BOG Policy 10 and 11 reportedly are being reviewed for revisions. 4) Senator Gail Jesse has been replaced by David Wolfe as representative from the College of Business. Since Senator Jesse was our parliamentarian Senator Harper will take over this position.

President Greiner:

- Enrollment – as anticipated with the decline of high school graduates entering higher education, WLU is down about 40 students from last January. WLU, Fairmont, and West Virginia Tech were the only institutions in the state with enrollment increases this year. According to demographics it is likely that WLU has seen the last enrollment increase. WLU will begin to budget for enrollment decreases.
- Senate Bill 1 – the current legislation calls for any student enrolled in an Associate degree program to receive free tuition. President Greiner stated that this is a concern for all regional schools. The language has changed from the original bill to receive free tuition for any student enrolled in an Associate of Applied Sciences program (plumbing, welding, carpentry). President Greiner predicts that with an already decline in enrollment forecast from WV demographics, there will be no incentive for a commuting student to attend WL when they could go elsewhere for free. President

Greiner has been vocal about objecting to this current legislation with State Representatives.

- Governor's Budget Bill – President Greiner has been in contact with members of the House and Senate to report that this legislation is damaging to higher education and WLU. Passing this legislation could result in a \$1.2 million funding cut for WLU.
- Campus Carry legislation – this bill is being reintroduced. President Greiner objects to this legislation. The bill would allow students to have firearms in the classrooms and their residence halls. President Greiner is concerned that allowing alcoholic beverages and firearms is potentially dangerous.
- Utilities – the water meter calculating the WLU's water supply was replaced in front of Liberty Oaks resulting in a dramatic increase in utility cost. The cost of water had been approximately \$70,000 per year and the new approximated cost would be over \$500,000 per year. President Greiner reported asking for 10% of the budget to be withheld in order to cover the cost of this increase.
- *Questions from floor* – 1) funding for free technical community college, 2) purpose of recent Articulation Agreement with Northern

Provost Crawford:

- Dean Search – College of Business and College of Sciences are underway
- Master of Science in Athletic Training should be headed to HLC by the end of January
- MS Dental Hygiene and MA Clinical Psychology interim reports have been written and will be headed to HLC.
- BOG Policy 38 – reviewed at Dean's Council for discussion.
- *Questions from floor* – No Questions

Jeremy Larance – Planning Task Force:

- Preparing Concept Papers – Before the semester break the group met to review the data collected. From the discussion they developed 4 broad themes (1-Academic Success, 2-Branding – small size: 1 on 1 interaction with faculty, 3-Operational Efficiently – clarifying roles, and 4-Student Experience-beyond classes). Teams working on each theme will develop 3-6 page papers, providing broad overviews, due March 1st. Papers will be sent to the campus for review, via email and website. On March 29th PTF will hold a "Vision Conference" with approximately 40 constituents to create goals. In April PTF will hold a "Goals Conference" to identify the strategies of how to reach the goals.
- General Education program revision – Dr. Larance reported that he has been working with a group of about 17 faculty and staff members to revise General Education program. A proposal has gone to Dean's Council for feedback. The proposal will next go the Chair's Council and then to Senate for review. Dr. Larance reported that WLU is the only institution in WV with 5 different GS programs and this is problematic during accreditation. WV institutions and the 20-peer institution identified by HLC average 37 hours in General Studies.
- *Questions from floor* – Senator Hoche reported hearing feedback about difficulties with the revised website. Senator Cowan inquired about the timeline for implementation.

Sylvia Senften – ACF Representative:

- Legislative Session – “hundreds” of bills have been submitted for the 60-day session. Legislator party is roughly the same balance of Democrats and Republicans.
- HEPC – working with TIAA to reduce administration costs.
- Blue Ribbon Commission – has yet to submit a final report.
- Funding – employees receiving announcements of a 5% raise particularly in education was not accurate.
- Higher Education Day – Senator Ihlenfeld is the newest Senator from our region. Dr. Senften recommends taking time to contact legislators that you feel are important.
- *Questions from the floor* – Chair Cox inquired about a public radio report of funding education through approving Medical Marijuana

Jim Haizlett – BOG Representative:

- BOG Representative Haizlett is on sabbatical for the semester and reported through email that he will be attending BOG meetings. Faculty should review his December letter (sent to all faculty) for his most recent update. All comments/concerns should be sent to him through email. The next BOG meeting will be Wednesday, January 30th at 4:00 p.m.

Chad Kuhns – General Studies

- Course Reviews – the function of General Studies Committee is courses reviews. 5 courses were reviewed during the Fall 2018 term. Spring – 8 courses have been selected based on factors of: 1) largest enrollment and 2) courses that have not been reviewed within the last 5 years.
- Self & Culture rubric – found to faulty, several people worked on the revision. Professor Kuhns reported that Professor Ryan McCullough did a great job revising the Self & Culture rubric. Faculty teaching Self & Culture courses have been asked to use the revised rubric.
- Capstone collection of data – last fall all programs were ask to select a capstone course to collect data on 3 of the 4 rubrics. Approximately 50% of programs did submit a capstone course for assessment; the committee will be following up with programs that did not yet submit information. Data will be collected on these courses and will be compiled and used for general assessment.
- *Questions from the floor* – Senator Youssef asked about the review process.

Finance: Chair, Dominique Hoche

- Meeting – due to recent weather conditions the committee was unable to meet.
- Focus – the committee is reconsidering the direction and looking for a better way to address the situation.
- *Questions from the floor* – No questions.

Policy Committee; Ryan Koenig

- Textbook Policy – the committee just received the revision from Dean’s Council and will be reviewing this update soon.
- Policy 123 Revision – Senator Koenig explained the purposed changes as outlined in the attachment.
- Motion - Motion to suspended rules was made by Senator Cowan, seconded by Dr. Senften.
- Vote – Senate voted to suspend the rules.
- Motion - Senator Cowan made a motion treat both amendments as one, Senator Koenig seconded.
- Discussion occurred.
- Motion - Senator Kreisburg made a motion to table the motion so that further conversation could take place between the committee and President Greiner in order to develop a revised policy which would be agreeable to both sides (faculty and administration), seconded by Senator Koenig.
- Vote – Senate voted to table the motion.

Space Utilization; Kim Underwood

- Meetings – the committee has been busy meeting to generate ideas and plans of action. Dr. Underwood has met with Provost Crawford to discuss issues with scheduling classes and has met with IT Director, Joe Rodella.
- Classroom Utilization – the committee sees that potential of inefficient space utilization and would like to see courses scheduled based on the needs of the course rather than conveniences of that individual. The four-member committee is active collecting data from classrooms on campus (capacity, types of desks, chairs, technology, lighting) and creating a system to allow professors to “look” at classrooms through a webpage (example was shown). Dr. Underwood reported that utilization should also be considered for utility costs such as lowering HVAC temperature/lights in areas when classes are finished for the day.
- Committee will be meeting with Liz Richter and Joe Rodella in the near future.
- Department Utilization – the committee is considering making recommendations of classrooms for some classes such as large General Studies courses. The committee is discussing a possible policy or procedure for allowing faculty to comment on the how space should be used.
- *Questions from the floor* – Senator Harper inquired about the plans for using administrative space.

Family Medical Leave; Kim Underwood

- Meetings – the committee has met with HR Director, Diana Harto and Brian Schamp. The current West Liberty Family Medical Leave Act policies are in the process of change per regulations from the State. Legal counsel is involved in the change. West Liberty University is reported to have been more generous in the past with respect to paid leave. Diana Harto recommended that the committee collect data from faculty about how different Colleges and Programs have handled recent cases.
- Equivalent Work – the committee also discussed the possibility of considering how individuals could be completing work at home.
- *Questions from the floor* – No Questions.

Faculty Forum:

- Various topics were identified and discussed.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The Senate adjourned at 5:24 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jeff Pfister, Senate Secretary