

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes 10/18/22

Senators Present: Dr. Robert Gall (Chair), Dr. Gregory Chase, Dr. Sherry Rocchio (Finance Chair), Dr. Hilary Bougher-Muckian (Secretary), Dr. Jeremy Lawrence (alternate), Dr. Ronald Hulewicz, Dr. Brian Fitzpatrick, Dr. Gerard NeCastro (Vice-chair), Dr. Corey Reigel, Dr. Sylvia Senften, Dr. Anna Stephen-Robinson, Jeremy Dann, Chelsea Robertson (alternate), Hannah Hart, Dr. Ray Holsapple (Policies Chair), Dr. Rose Kutlenios, Dr. Zachary Loughman, George Vopal, Michelle Yadrick, Carol Zambotti, Dr. Darrin Cox (ACF Representative), Douglas McCall (Parliamentarian), Dr. Aaron Huffman, Dr. Courtney Huffman

Senators Absent: Dr. Jeffrey Grubbs

Invited Guests: Provost Dr. Cathy Monteroso, Mr. Jason Koegler (VP of External Affairs), Dr. Jason Metz (BOG Representative)

Guests: Dr. Koncha-Farr, Dr. Saubrier, Dr. Wheeler, Dr. Kettler

Meeting called to order at 3:30.

Mr. Jason Koegler, VP of External Affairs Updates:

1. Alumni Association is critical to West Liberty success, and has not been a focus in the past. In 2019 only 2.7 percent of alumni gave donations.
2. Sustaining membership and National Alumni Advisory Board are two new initiatives. Sustaining membership will be a philanthropic donation to the WLU Foundation directly. The cost is \$50 for a sustaining membership. Sustaining membership allows exclusive access to perks such as travel opportunities with alumni, webinars, exclusive updates from the president, VIP access at games, and professional development opportunities. The goal is to have 500 sustaining members by the end of June. The National Alumni Advisory Board will be headed by Joelle Murrury and includes 11 alumni members.
3. Homecoming events include a recognition Alumni Wall of Honor Ceremony and Breakfast, tailgating, inaugural Alumni Family Festival, Homecoming Parade, and alumni parties. The area behind the Fine Arts Building is being utilized. Other events include Eli Lambi (alum) performing, food trucks, organization tents, and Zoo Science animals.

Dr. Monteroso, Provost Updates:

1. Enrollment update as of October 17th:
 - Fall of 2022- 2,247 total students (Total students down 3.6 percent from Fall 21)
 - Freshman 2022- 495 total students (Increase in freshman by 11 percent)
 - Fall 2022 Continuing Undergraduates - 1,509
 - Applications for Fall 2023 - 556 (Up 3.7 percent from 2022)
 - Accepted applicants - 238 (60 pending)
 - Transfer Students for Fall 2023 up by 6.7 percent from Fall of 2022.
 - Housing total students up by 2.9 percent from Fall 2022.
2. Data was collected for Open Educational Resources (OER) usage for Spring 23. This will be tracked each semester. HEPC has a goal to have a general studies track with only OER.
3. No HEPC form to fill out yet on Annual Reviews and 5-Year-Reviews. Form will come out in November. Assessment committee working on a form. Intent to Plan step may be eliminated in new process for program development.
4. HEPC is pushing for 120 hour degree completion (part of HEPC funding formula). Creative Arts Therapy has met this requirement as of the last curriculum meeting.
5. The motion on the agenda regarding censor relates to an administrative position and not a faculty position; thus, HEPC Series 9 does not apply. HEPC Series 55 addresses administrators that report

directly to the President. HEPC Series 9 covers faculty appointments. WV Code 18B-86 requires that administrators with faculty status must teach 3 credit hours or conduct research over an 18 month period. The administrative position in question carried with it a faculty rank. Provost Monteroso requested that the motion be amended to remove the name.

Questions- Questions raised include when faculty FTEs are calculated, the university status on ACT/SAT applicant requirements, the \$75 cap on textbooks, enrollment decreases, and lack of faculty involvement in search committees. Several senators expressed concern that faculty and staff are learning late about searches being done for vacant positions and faculty are not being included in these committees.

Dr. Montero's Response: Faculty FTEs are calculated after the census is taken. Not available yet.

HEPC stance will determine direction with ACT/SAT requirement. We are looking at other testing options. Test scores are still required for scholarships. Drop in enrollment is across the board in universities across the state. Online course usage in Freshman students seems to be a retention issue. Purchasing textbooks seems to be an issue in retention as well. OER tracking came from the state and is a state HEPC mandate. If the course resources are over \$75 students will be notified when registering for the course.

The Dean of the library and enrollment positions were posted over the summer. Faculty input was solicited. The Switch to Bamboo software may have been why faculty and staff are not being informed of job postings. Committees are hand selected by thos is in charge of the search committee (hiring manager). This is consistent with the procedure for how hiring has been done in the past. The president signs off on all search committees and hiring.

Dr. Jason Metz, Faculty Representative, Board of Governors

1. Next board meeting will take place on October 19th.
2. At the last Presidential Search Committee meeting the committee authorized the use of a hiring firm. The committee will also be receiving input from Dr. Tucker, Chancellor of HEPC, at the November 7th meeting. AGB & Academic Search are the two search firms that will likely apply. Meeting dates for the Presidential Search committee will be October 24th (6PM), November 7th (6PM), November 21st (5PM), December 5th (6PM), and December 12th (6PM).

Questions - What is the goal date to have a new president? Is there a plan for an interim president?

Response - The search firm committee will help to determine a realistic timeframe. Original estimate for January was too ambitious. Plans for the interim president will be brought up at the next BOG meeting.

Dr. Darrin Cox, Faculty Representative, WV Advisory Council of Faculty

1. No meeting from ACF yet.
2. There is concern about overloads in faculty teaching. WVU and Marshall only require 6 hours per semester for faculty also doing research. Community colleges require 15 credits per semester. WLU requires 12 per semester, and up to 15, without additional pay. At WVU research faculty are required 12 total hours per academic year and two other areas of contribution, service and professional activity, are only expected to be reasonable.
3. ACF will not make a public statement on any amendments.
4. Retreat is in early November and ACF representatives will attend. The retreat is primarily about legislation. Another concern that will be discussed at the retreat is HEPC's power in policing institutional violations in HEPC policy.

Dr. Ray Holsapple, Chair, Academic Policies and Procedures Committee:

1. The academic integrity policy was finalized in the last Policies meeting (see action item III).

2. There are adjustments to proposed Policy 123 (See action item IV).
3. Faculty should expect an email from the faculty senate to faculty at large soon.

Dr. Sherry Rocchio, Chair, Finance Committee:

1. Finance subcommittee meeting was held on September 28th.
2. Sale of land update: There is a process in place. The steps include: legal advertisement posted, public hearing, and a meeting for anyone to contest the sale.

Action Items:

- I. Old Business: Censure of Provost, Human Resources Director, and President (*Amended Motion Title: Motion on Giving Faculty Status to Administrators or Staff*)

Dr. Cox made a motion to pick up the motion to censure the Provost, Human Resources Director, and President. Dr. NeCastro seconded. Chair Gall called for a vote. Motion to pick up the motion on censure is unanimous.

Dr. NeCastro read a statement. Concerns raised in the statement include a lack of consultation with the COLCA and the Department of English and Modern Languages, a lack of shared governance, and HEPC policy violations.

Discussion ensued. Points raised include the importance of shared governance and following HEPC policies, lack of faculty consultation in hiring decisions, and what this appointment means for teaching obligations and privileges.

Dr. Sefton suggested censure issue go to the BOG.

Dr. Cox read a statement. Concerns raised in the statement include a lack of involvement of the faculty senate and lack of shared governance. Dr. Cox shared that he had consulted with ACF representatives who agreed that academic units should be consulted prior to faculty status being awarded to an administrator and that the decision was a clear violation of HEPC policy.

Discussion ensued. Point raised on the need for faculty and department input on whether an administrator should have tenure or a specific rank. A concern was raised regarding how this will impact the English department, which is already down multiple faculty members. Other concerns included how and why faculty status was provided and by whom.

Several senators requested to remove all names from the motion: Dr. Akassi, the President, HR

Director, and the Provost. A point was raised that the motion should be about policy violations in the process of giving faculty rank, not specific individuals.

Dr. Monteroso's response: Based on classification, Dr. Akassi is not a member of the department. Administrators with faculty rank are required to do either teaching or research to retain their faculty rank. These types of decisions are made by who they report to, in this case, the president. Personal personnel issues cannot be discussed.

Dr. Holsapple made a motion to amend the motion to remove Dr. Akassi, President, Provost and HR director from the amendment. Dr. Loughman seconded. Chair Gall read the proposed amended motion (see above title and list of action items).

Discussion ensued. Question raised regarding who will receive notification if motion passes.

Chair's response- If passed, the motion will go to the President and Provost. Dr. Metz will report to the BOG.

Dr. Chase made a motion to end discussion on amended motion. Senator Yadrick seconded. Chair Gall called for a vote on the amended motion. Vote: 1 no, remaining yes. Amended motion passes.

II. Selection of Faculty Senate Representative to Policy Review Committee

Chair Gall called for nominations. Dr. Loughman nominated Dr. Holsapple. Senator Dann seconded. Chair Gall called for a vote. The vote was unanimous and Dr. Holsapple was elected as the faculty senate representative to the Policy Review Committee.

III. Academic Integrity Policy

Dr. Holsapple made a motion to discuss changes to the Academic Integrity Policy. Dr. Stephen-Robinson seconded.

Dr. Holsapple: Input was gathered from faculty. Changes made to the policy include changing the timeline of the committee to 3 weeks, adding a timeline to the investigation of 120 calendar days, and representatives can now speak on behalf of the accused and ask questions.

Discussion ensued. Point raised on policy being gender inclusive and using they/them.

Chair Gall called for a vote. The vote was unanimous. The Academic Integrity Policy passed.

IV. Policy 123 Changes

Dr. Holsapple made a motion to discuss Policy 123. Dr. Stephen-Robinson seconded.

Dr. Holsapple- When making policies and procedural changes and creating new policies and procedures, faculty and staff should have input prior to approval. 3.3 changed to ask that administrators first consult with the faculty senate or staff council before they go to the president for approval.

Discussion ensued. Point raised on how this change will impact the timeline during months when the senate does not meet.

Dr. Holsapple's response: These changes make the policy consistent with HEPC policy.

Chair Gall called for a vote. Policy 123 passed unanimously.

Faculty Forum Items: *None.*

Motion for Adjournment- Dr. Loughman motioned to adjourn. Dr. Chase seconded. Motion unanimous. Adjourn at 5:10PM.