

# Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes 2/20/24

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**Senators Present:** Dr. Robert Gall (Chair), Dr. Gregory Chase, Dr. Brian Fitzpatrick, Dr. Corey Reigel, Jeremy Dann, Dr. Ray Holsapple (Policies Chair), Michelle Yadrick, Dr. Gerard NeCastro (Vice-chair), Dr. Sherry Rocchio (Finance Chair), Dr. Carol Zambotti, Dr. Ronald Hulewicz, Dr. Jeffrey Grubbs, Dr. Fuhua Chen, Jenna Cook, Dr. Hilary Bougher-Muckian (Secretary), Christopher Vopal (alternate), Matthew Harder, Sara Alig (alternate), Dr. Anna Stephan-Robinson, Dr. Fuhua Chen

**Senators Absent:** Dr. Aaron Huffman, Dr. Courtney Huffman, Rachel Wiechman, Dr. Zach Loughman, Dr. Douglas McCall

**Invited Guests:** Dr. Robert Kreisberg (BOG Representative), Dr. Cathy Monteroso, Dr. Tim Borchers

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Meeting called to order at 3:30PM.

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## **Dr. Tim Borchers, President Updates:**

1. The Strategic Planning Committee is seeking feedback for the mission, vision, and goals/themes that have been developed. A survey has been sent out to faculty. The committee is seeking feedback from the survey by February 22nd. The next step is determining strategic initiatives. The committee intends to form larger areas of initiatives rather than being very specific. The values will also be worked on soon.
2. The quality initiative must be completed and submitted to the HLC by June 30th 2027. This is a project that is significant in scope, and an institution must show genuine effort was put forth in completing the project. Many schools focus on student success or planning. Our visit will be in 2028-2029.
3. There will be a campus carry training. A FAQ document is being put together. Email questions to [campuscarry@wlu.edu](mailto:campuscarry@wlu.edu). Storage lockers will be placed in Shaw Hall and College Union. Two dorms will also have gun storage. There will be signage across campus. We will also be updating our Weapons policy. The policy will be based on state law and WVU policy.
4. Patrick Kelly will make a presentation to the senate on campus carry at the next meeting.
5. We may be moving from Google platform to Microsoft only.
6. We will be inviting provost candidates to campus the week of March 11th. There will be open sessions, presentations, and sessions with faculty leadership. Feedback forms will be available. There were a large number of applicants and initial interviews were completed in Zoom.
7. The Athletic Director search is just beginning. We will have candidates on campus at a later date.
8. The Great Colleges to Work for Survey will be distributed in March. This is a national survey that will provide us with benchmark data, and a baseline, on how we compare to other universities in areas such as professional development and employee satisfaction. We will use this data to strengthen professional development opportunities and employee engagement.

*Questions: In strategic planning, what feedback are you referring to when you say feedback has been addressed? Why was science not included but the arts were mentioned, specifically? Will there be a storage area on the 4th floor of Campbell by the clinics? Is there an increase in PEIA? There is no data reporting and tracking of COVID-19, and there have been recent outbreaks in some colleges/departments.*

*Response: The feedback was from the survey as well as the sessions on campus and from ERB. One point of feedback was to remove the oldest university. The committee thought science would be included in scholarly exploration; however, this is something that can be mentioned in the survey. The President will mention Campbell for consideration for gun storage. There is a PEIA increase of 10.5 percent on July 1st. The governor has provided funds to offset the costs of these increases in his budget proposal which has not yet been approved (\$565,000 to West Liberty).*

**Dr. Cathy Monteroso, Interim Provost Updates:**

1. The Aviation Program is awaiting HLC approval.
2. We are looking at a potential partnership with Marshall on a Doctorate of Physical Therapy program. This would be placed in Main Hall and would be a partnership with Exercise Physiology.
3. Sarah West is working on enrollment data for program review and these reports will go to program directors the week after spring break. We are using five year enrollment data for program review to examine external demand. Program review data will help determine cost per course. CLA component looks at cost of delivery: number of students in courses and cost of delivery.
4. The Distance Education committee voted to change the name of the office of E-Learning to The Center of Teaching, Learning and Online Education. They also proposed a \$1000 base for course proposals plus \$250 for every credit above 3. They are also proposing that compensation for refreshes will be compensated at the same rate as the development of new courses.
5. The College 101 committee is looking at putting a cap of 15 students on College 101.
6. Senate re-appropriation is in the process of being completed.
7. The IPEDs report is available on the HEPC website under data and news and shows how we compare to other institutions in the state.

*Questions: Why is there a CAP on college 101? Is this data for program review just for reporting purposes? If there are changes to be made in the budget based on program review, would those be made for the next fiscal year or beyond that? We need to examine the difference between BA and BS and the number of credits in a program.*

*Response: College 101 instructors would be more engaged with a lower ratio which may help with retention. The program review data will help us to determine efficiencies and appropriate differentials. This will also help us determine which areas to invest in at the university. Changes to the budget would likely be beyond the next fiscal year, and this data would be to determine best program offerings rather than change the budget. There is a committee examining the differences between BA and BS and requirements.*

**Dr. Robert Kreisberg, Faculty Representative, Board of Governors**

1. There are two empty BOG seats that need to be filled. There will be another opening up in June.

**Dr. Douglas McCall, Faculty Representative, WV Advisory Council of Faculty Members**

1. Absent
2. Dr. McCall will be sending out updates to all faculty regarding ACF and the legislative session.

**Dr. Rocchio, Chair, Finance Committee:**

1. Undergraduate tuition was overbudgetted. Graduate tuition, gas and oil are making up for this revenue in the budget.
2. We hope to have a better understanding of the number of returning students for next year so that there is not such a gap in the predicted number of students vs. actual number of students.
3. At this point there seems to be a flat budget for next year.

**Dr. Ray Holsapple, Chair, Policies Committee:**

1. By the March meeting we hope to have a paired down revision on Policy 210 for senate review.
2. Dr. Kettler is chairing the Graduate Council. The policy committee is working with this committee to refine policies for faculty who teach graduate courses.

3. We will be modifying policy 214 and the section on online and in class teaching observations.

**Action Items:**

- I. Action Items: Policy 227—Emeritus Appointment (tabled)

***Dr. Holsapple motioned to discuss. Jeremy Dann seconded.***

*Discussion and Questions - Does this work as academic years or calendar years? Why is this being changed? Is 20 years too many? Is there language that states that you do not automatically get emeritus status?*

*Dr. Monteroso - It is based on calendar years. Dr. Konchar-Farr researched these policies across universities and many were 10 or 15 years for emeritus status. It is not automatic but the years are only what qualifies someone for eligibility. The policy does not state how many years after retiring someone can apply. Thus, you could nominate someone who retired several years prior.*

***Dr. Gall called for a vote. Vote: Unanimously in favor of reducing the eligibility for emeritus status to 10 years.***

**Faculty Forum Items:**

- We will be re-apportioning the Faculty Senate next month and elections will be held in April. The new senate will meet the last week in April to elect officers.
- Patrick Kelly will be making a presentation on Concealed Carry in the senate at the next meeting.
- Would it be possible to extend course evaluations through finals week?
- Would it be possible to extend midterm grade reporting so that there is more time between midterm and reporting date?

**Motion for Adjournment-** Motion to adjourn and seconded. Motion unanimous. Adjourn at 4:20PM.