

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes 3/19/24

Senators Present: Dr. Robert Gall (Chair), Dr. Gregory Chase, Dr. Brian Fitzpatrick, Dr. Corey Reigel, Jeremy Dann, Dr. Ray Holsapple (Policies Chair), Michelle Yadrick, Carol Zambotti, Dr. Ronald Hulewicz, Dr. Jeffrey Grubbs, Dr. Fuhua Chen, Jenna Cook, Dr. Hilary Bougher-Muckian (Secretary), Dr. Aaron Huffman, Rachel Wiechman, Dr. Courtney Huffman, Tina Dewitt (Alternate), Anna Stephan-Robinson

Senators Absent: Dr. Gerard NeCastro (Vice-Chair), Matthew Harder, Dr. Sherry Rocchio (Finance Chair), Zachary Loughman

Invited Guests: Douglas McCall (WV ACF Representative), Dr. Robert Kreisberg (BOG Representative), Dr. Cathy Monteroso, Dr. Tim Borchers, Andrew Lewis (Director of Student Success Center), Patrick Kelly (Director of Purchasing), Jacob Manning (General Council)

Meeting called to order at 3:30PM.

Dr. Tim Borchers, President Updates:

1. The latest draft on the strategic plan has been sent out via email to employees and includes a survey on themes and outcomes.
2. The two Biology departments are proposing to combine. This will be reviewed by the BOG.
3. Jacob Manning, our new General Council, is working with others in the state to update our Deadly Weapons/Dangerous Objects in a way so that it is compliant with the law.
4. The Weapons Policy will go out for 30-day comment this week.
5. There will not be storage lockers on the 4th Floor of Campbell Hall (as proposed in the previous meeting).
6. An AI task force will be created from both faculty and staff. This group will determine best practices in using AI at the university.

Dr. Cathy Monteroso, Interim Provost Updates:

1. New department chair announcements were made this week: Dr. Vishakha Maskey (Undergraduate Business), Dr. Ryan McCullough (Media & Visual Arts), Dr. Matthew Harder (Music & Theatre), Dr. Sherry Rocchio (Graduate Business), Dr. Raymond Holsapple (Physical Sciences & Mathematics).
2. The site location for the Aviation Program (Ohio County Airport) needs to be voted on for approval today.
3. Faculty provided feedback about the infeasibility of submitting grades during spring break. It is too late to change the procedure this year; however, this change will be addressed next year.
4. There is a proposal to change the Supplemental Contracts Procedure. Administration is looking for feedback.
5. Program reviews are underway to examine contribution margins in 5-year reviews and determine efficiencies.
6. There will be a task force developed soon on micro-credentials. Interested individuals should contact the provost.

Andrew Lewis, Director of the Student Success Center.

1. The retention committee meets bi-weekly (chaired by Andrew Lewis).
2. We are planning on using Watermark to implement Student Success and Engagement survey software which will replace academic alerts. This system can be used as an app for students. We hope to have this as a pilot in the spring semester 2025 and everyone by fall 2025.

3. The College 101 description and title has been changed and has been sent to the curriculum committee to review. Aaron Kuhn is heading up the College 101 committee.
4. Procedure 230 is being altered and will be sent to the Policies and Procedures Committee and then to the Faculty Senate for review.

Dr. Robert Kreisberg, Faculty Representative, Board of Governors

1. No report. There has not been another BOG meeting. The next meeting is March 27th.

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

1. Absent. Reports sent to faculty via email.

Patrick Kelly, Director of Purchasing: Concealed Carry Information

1. There was a team formed to implement changes for campus carry including students and faculty.
2. There will be several Campus Carry trainings: April 16th at 10am, April 26th at 10am, May 1st at 1PM. The first session was recorded and will be posted.
3. July 1st is when the policy goes into effect.
4. Only revolvers and pistols can be carried. These weapons must be concealed. If a weapon is not concealed, contact campus police.
5. We are permitted to charge a fee for storing weapons. At this time we are not charging; however, we may charge for storage in the future.
6. Those who are carrying must have a permit. Weapons are not permitted in leased vehicles. Faculty will not be notified of who has a permit.
7. Areas with exemptions will have posted signage notifying individuals that they are not permitted to concealed carry. When there are temporary areas off limits (e.g., P-12 students on campus), there will be signage posted.
8. Trainings such as Stop the Bleed, CPR, and First-Aid are being planned. There is also an Active Shooter Drill planned for June. The university has a zero tolerance policy for violence. We are conducting a Comprehensive Threat Assessment of the campus.
9. There is an Employee Assistance Program for Benefit Eligible Employees. This includes three free counseling sessions through the EAP program.
10. Due to cost, we will not be putting Physical Panic Buttons in the classroom; however, we may be using Rave to have a software version of a Panic Button.

Questions: What will students do with their guns if they are in class and then want to go to meet with a faculty member in their office? Are guns permitted to be stored in a faculty office, locked in a drawer? Will there be any monitoring of students having guns other than for storage? What communication is going out to students? Is the waiting room included for the behavioral health center?

Responses: The student could either put their weapon in their car or in a secured storage when coming to an office. Yes, guns are permitted to be held in an office for storage by faculty. The only students that will be monitored or registered are those using storage. Informational meetings are being held for students and emails will be sent out to students with information over the summer. The waiting area is included in the exemptions.

Dr. Rocchio, Chair, Finance Committee:

1. The finance meeting was on March 13th.
2. Housing and meals are running on a deficit of 1.4 million. This deficit is being met by graduate tuition revenue, royalty income, and investment earnings.
3. Graduate tuition number is being budgeted at a higher number.

4. FY 2025 tuition and fees proposed a 2 percent increase in tuition and fees for undergraduate and a 3 percent increase in graduate tuition and fees.
5. Overall budget FY 25 will be flat but balanced.

Dr. Ray Holsapple, Chair, Policies Committee:

1. Policy 210 is being modified again, after not being approved by administration last year. The faculty should expect a survey from the policy committee seeking feedback on how to address the policy. We are hoping to have a proposal at the April senate meeting.
2. Procedure 230 Class Withdrawals is being revised and senate feedback is being requested. The changes are intended to increase retention.
3. Policy 214 changes dealing with online and in class observation were proposed; however, due to feedback from department chairs no changes are being made at this time.

Action Items:

I. Reapportionment

Dr. Holsapple motioned to discuss. Jeremy Dann seconded.

Dr. Gall Called for a vote. Vote: Unanimously in favor of senate reapportionment. The new reapportionment is as follows:

College of Business - 2 representatives; College of Education and Human Performance - 2 representatives (currently 3); College of Liberal and Creative Arts - 7 representatives; College of Sciences - 8 representatives (currently 10)

II. Ohio County Airport as Additional Location

Dr. Chase motioned to discuss. Dr. Anna Stephan-Robinson seconded.

Discussion and Questions -

Dr. Gall Called for a vote. Vote: Unanimously in favor of approving Ohio County airport as secondary location for WLU.

III. Procedure 223 (Reporting Midterm Grades)

Dr. Chase motioned to discuss. Dr. Holsapple seconded.

Discussion & Questions:

Dr. Gall- The executive committee gave the recommendation to extend the procedure for midterm grade submissions by 1 week during the Spring semester.

Questions: Did the registrar's office receive any feedback on how this extension might be detrimental to the students to receive grades late?

Dr. Gall's Response: There has not been any negative feedback from students or the registrar's office.

Dr Gall called for a vote. Vote: Unanimously approved the recommendation to the provost's office to change the procedure for midterm grade submissions for the Spring semester to one week later, following spring break.

Faculty Forum Items:

- Our fall Holiday and spring holiday are poorly planned as these could be potential dates that could be used for advising.

Motion for Adjournment- Motion to adjourn and seconded. Motion unanimous. Adjourn at 4:24.