

Fairmont State Faculty Senate  
Minutes

19 March 2024

Members: **Bob Niichel** (Executive Committee: President, Computer Science & Math), **Bill Harrison** (Exec Committee: Vice President, Social Sciences), **Lisa Eades** (Exec Committee: Webmaster, ASN), **Barbara MacLennan** (Exec Committee: Member at Large, Behavioral Sciences), **Raymond Alvarez** (Exec Committee: Member at Large, CoBA), **Denice Kirchoff** (Exec Committee: Member at Large, BSN), **Nick Myers** (SGA), **Sophie Stuart** (SGA), **Rick Harvey** (Academic Affairs), **Donna Long** (Exec Committee: Secretary, Humanities), **Todd Clark** (ACF Rep, Social Sciences), **Chris Kast** (Academic Affairs), **Kelley Flaherty** (Natural Sciences), **Stephanie Jones** (CSM), **Abby Chapman** (proxy for **Lafferre** (ET)), **Ashley Dover** (Library), **Jason Frazer** (CoBA), **Paul Reneau** (proxy for **Kiefer**, CoEHHP), **Julie Reneau** (CoeHHP), **Gina Fantasia** (BOG)

Guests: **Michael Davis**, **Brian Selmeski**, **Susan Ross**, **Amanda Metcalf**, **Janet Floyd**, **Julia Miller**, **Kaden Statler**

1.-3. Meeting called to order 3:00 p.m.; Agenda approved (Fantasia moved; Harrison seconded; 13 February 2024 minutes approved (Fantasia moved; P. Reneau seconded).

4. President Davis shared that Campus Carry requirements have been drafted by the CC committee. The vice presidents and athletic director are reviewing. More information forthcoming. Selmeski praised the committee's great work and efforts to meet the law.

Davis announced the upcoming Career Fair 3/27, which will have 115 employers present; upcoming Open Mike events with departments; and 4/4 inauguration. For the last, anyone who wants to invite a guest to the reception following the open-to-the-public ceremony should alert Cheryl Lewis.

Davis reported that the Day of Giving raised \$500k and thanked everyone for their support. Next year's Day already in planning stages. Niichel thanked President Davis for his work.

5. Old Business Major Item: Academic Integrity Policy. J. Reneau moved and Dover seconded passing the Policy for second reading. Motion passed. Ross noted that requested revisions were made, including removal of all Student Conduct Board participation. The Policy will now go on to the Provost. Harvey asked if it required BOG approval; Fantasia said probably not. Harvey asked if it will be in the Catalog; Ross said it will as it must be accessible to students and faculty.

6. New Business: Major

a. Proposed Senate Constitution and Bylaws revision. Harrison moved and Chapman seconded passing the changes for first reading. Motion carried with requested revision (see below).

Niichel covered the changes verbally. Changes to the Constitution require a full faculty vote and include a treasurer position on Executive Committee. Changes to Bylaws require a Senate vote. Senate committees were asked for input on their respective committees. Elected and Voluntary committees now have separate sections in the Bylaws. Elected committees will not include student representatives.

Committee changes include combining Academic Appeals, Student Hearing Board, and Faculty Harassment and Complaint committees to a single committee (renamed Faculty Appeals Committee); a new Animal Use and Care Committee; suggested changes to Athletic Committee and Student Hearing Board.

Additional discussion included:

Whether Constitution III.3 language on how the Senate president would be replaced and what the term for the VP taking over the president's term should be. Harrison suggested just to the end of the year during which the outgoing president left (and not the full term).

Whether Core Curriculum Committee should be named General Studies. The committee voted to retain Core Curriculum. Harvey suggested the committee should be named General Studies because that is the name of the program; Fantasia noted that we have a director of General Studies but states we can let

the committee name remain as is.

Alvarez asked if the Constitution and Bylaws will require revision if the University restructures; that depends on the scope of the restructure.

Alvarez noted that Aviation (which is eligible to cede its representation on Senate and/or Senate committees because it has fewer than 5 full time faculty) wants to delegate rather than cede representation; Niichel said that question depends on whether CoBA will provide representation.

Ross suggested naming the new Faculty Appeals Committee simply the Appeals Committee since the former does not appear to include student appeals. She asked what “final action” on Appeals means. Fantasia stated it means “final action by the Senate.” Ross suggests changing “final action” to “approval.”

Harvey to provide information on the joint Textbook/Bookstore Committee.

6.b. Curriculum Proposals 23-24-13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 17a, 17b, 18, 18a, 18b, 19, 19a, 19b, 19c, 19d, 19e, 19f, 19g, 20, 21, 22, 23, 23a. Harrison moved and P. Reneau seconded to move the group for first reading. Motion carried.

MacLennan noted that the Curriculum Committee does a thorough job.

#### 6.a. Minor business

Senate viewed and P. Reneau moved and Harrison seconded to send pictures of the Senate in session on for approval and posting to Senate webpage. Motion carried.

#### 7. Provost Report. Not present.

#### 8. Reports

ACF: Clark discussed various bills. One that would target obscene materials in libraries passed out of committee but did not proceed to a vote. 9 March was last day of session. H.B. 17 and S.B. 13 were flagged as higher ed concerns. H.B. 5690 proposes a taskforce on AI and will likely be funded. S.B. 650 provides supplement funding including for Fairmont State.

Kast asked if a special session on the budget was likely; Clark said yes.

Fantasia asked about \$460 million clawback from US DoE; Clark says we are one of 17 states in the same situation. Speaker Handshaw is awaiting more information on the reasons for the clawback and the amount.

Harrison thanked Clark for his hard work.

MacLennan asked why HEPC and FSU are in the same appropriation; Clark stated it was a last minute deal. Fantasia stated she was told DE and Middle College was a line item; Clark says there was lots of debate.

BOG: Fantasia noted 18 April is the next meeting. Committees are meeting. Fantasia is in the first year of a two-year term. Some BOG member terms are expiring; Governor will appoint new members. Policy on Policies will be out for review. Academic Affairs reviewing program guidelines.

Harrison thanked Fantasia for her work.

SGA: Stuart reported that rebuilding is going well. Some SGA members attended an SGA conference and learned a lot. SGA will have tables on Main Street to sell raffles to fund food trucks for the inauguration. Food trucks providing free food cost \$9k. MacLennan suggested they reach out to Main Street Fairmont.

Myers agreed that SGA is headed in the right direction, and they have something big planned for the inauguration.

#### 9. Miscellaneous

Nominating Committee for Executive Committee slate will be needed in April.

#### 11. Open Forum

Alvarez announced Senate inaugural Team Trivia event, promising “gravitas with humor.”

Clark reminded folks that 10 May is Nursing’s pinning ceremony.

Alvarez asked for participation in HCMG’s senior capstone survey project.

Clark noted that several Fairmont State alums are running for office.

Harrison announced the Model UN team will be competing in NY  
Harvey announced Skills USA would be competing on campus.  
Long announced Kestrel Celebration 22-23 March.

Meeting adjourned.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Long, Secretary