

Minutes for Faculty Senate Meeting 11/14/17

Attendance

Members

Joe Kremer President of the Faculty Senate, Amy Godfrey Business, Donna Long L&L, Mike Ransom Behavioral Science, Dan Eichenbaum SOFA, Aimee Richards SOFA, Jacki Sherman Library, Mark D. Wolf Tech, Deb Hemler Natural Sciences, Steven Roof Academic Affairs, Tom Cuchta Math and CS, Jim Davis Business, Dominique Cuccaro SGA, Abby Ott SGA, Robin Payne Social Science, Bill Harrison Social Science, Harry Baxter ACF, Thomas McLaughlen Sci-Tech, Amanda Metcalf SOEHHP, Julie Furrow Nursing, Matthew Hokom L&L, Budd Sapp BOG

Guests

Stephen Jones Interim President, Mirta Martin President Elect and Office of the President, Robyn Shannon Assessment and Planning, Diana Noone Social Science, Chris Lavorata Academic Affairs, Jack Kirby Academic Affairs, Sam Spears SOFA, Richard Harvey Business

Meeting gaveled to order at 3:00 PM

- I. Reading and approval of minutes of October 10, 2017 meeting

Minutes of previous meeting approved

- II. Announcements/Information/Discussion

President Jones

- President Jones is grateful for his time here at Fairmont State. Spring enrollment is 9.6% lower than Fall enrollment. He wants this to change with new cohorts being created for Spring
- Six year graduation rate is 2 times as high for athletes and 2.5 times higher for Nursing students than the average population of the school
- 173 students owe Fairmont .25 million dollars and a letter has been sent by both President Jones and President-Elect Martin to more nicely try to get the students who owe these monies to pay these monies and to re-enroll.
- Our out of state enrollment is significantly smaller than several other WV public universities especially that of WVU; athletes are 57% out of state.
- President Jones thanked all those who participated in Maroon and White Day

President-Elect Mirta Martin

- Dr. Martin is glad to be here on campus and has hit the ground running. She has met with faculty, staff, students, and the Board of Governors. She wants to emphasize Hope, Inspiration, and Accountability.

- Fairmont must sing its own praises and point out why we are special in an effort to help with the two main initiatives of recruitment and retention. If we don't turn these around we will not be sustainable. We must add 8.5% enrollment for a 13% switch.
- We should try to replace each lost student with 2 more. One to replace and one to increase the number of students. We must do away with obstacles for our student. We should have 10 accolades for our school 5 unique to Fairmont and 5 quantifiable. We must say what is great about Fairmont and talk to someone about us over break. We are all accountable for recruitment and retention.
- Students should be encouraged to reach out to people they know to emphasize how great Fairmont is.
- Dr. Martin emphasized that we will be a presence in Charleston and she will meet leaders in Charleston to emphasize our case.

Dr. Shannon

- Annual Peer Review of program assessment reports for major and graduate programs. We will add minors this year in the Spring
- Self-evaluation for non-degree areas such as IT and the Library have started, Falcon Center is underway, and Folklife and Athletics have been completed.
- Dr. Shannon has met with her counterpart at WVU on how to provide data to faculty for program reviews and how to get data. There has been discussion of possible template specifications.

Dr. Budd Sapp (BOG)

- Next BOG meeting will be December 7th at the Caperton Center
- He can share recommendations made
- Salaries have fallen below CUPA. Maybe we can have partnerships with businesses to help us out.

Dr. Baxter

- ACF report focused on what loss of HERA would mean for such things as training and professional development funds
- The next Great Teachers Seminar supported by HERA will be June 18-21, 2018
- Dr. Corley Denison and Civility Commission VP of Academic Affairs wants to establish good relations and new administrators and faculty are invited to the workshop
- Legislative event will be held Wednesday, December 6, at 4PM from 4-6 Falcon Center 3rd Floor Conference Rooms
- In the Legislature January 10, 2018 State of the State and January 23, 2018 is Higher Education Day. The Legislative Advocacy Committee will travel down to Charleston on January 18, 2018
- PEIA hearing took place on November 6, 2017 with the last one on November 14, 2017

Decisions will be made by the Finance Board on December 7, 2017. Under discussion are items such as switching to household income and 3 schedules with \$65,000 the highest.

Survey says 75% of respondents oppose the switch to household income

SGA

- Maroon and White Day table a success
 - Mural painting in tunnel this Spring
 - Looking for ideas to improve activities on Locust Avenue and get students more involved
- III. Unfinished Business
- Synergis was discussed with several concerns being brought up about their proposal. Dr. Diana Noone raised several specific concerns.

Issues raised as concerns:

- Poor sourcing of Synergis material.
- They have been sued in Federal Court for breach/interference of Contract.
- Discussion of possible Fraud found in Discovery
- Urbana which used Synergis was bought by Franklin University and is now a branch of Franklin University
- Budd Sapp did a great job at the meeting with Synergis

Other Synergis Discussion

- Dr. Martin has stated that although she was familiar with this type of company she has not worked with Synergis in the past. Discussion then involved our lack of funds to invest which Synergis could supply and that Fairmont would retain control due to HLC regulations and we also own our courses. The contract would be for 7 years with an option to then extend for another 5 years. Dr. Kirby and the Graduate Council will be involved as well.
- Plagiarism Statement will be handled by the Faculty Welfare Committee with input from Dr. Lavorata and with use (by permission) of Assumption College materials as a guide.
- RFP would be required.

IV. New Business

- Phil Berryhill affirmed as faculty committee member to look into parking issues on campus
- Discussion of Title IX training on campus. We will continue to use current program for our Title IX training obligations. We had an in depth set of seminars at the beginning of the Fall 2017, semester. Administration made clear it was open to new practical ideas regarding Title IX.

V. Open Forum

- Marching Band in Colebank 11/14/17
- The Board of Education approved our Aerospace Program
- State Lego League tournament to be held on December 2, 2017 at the Falcon Center with volunteer judges welcome
- Concern was raised about Athletics overriding academically important activities and not being willing to compromise on this.
- Mike Ransom stated there will be new IRB requirements published

Meeting Adjourned at 4:50

