

Fairmont State University

Faculty Senate Minutes

September 10, 2103

303 Education Building

3:00-5:00 p.m.

Attendance: J. Webb-Dempsey (President), J. Bolyard, H. Costello, C. Crislip-Tacy, C. Edwards, R. Hammond, D. Hemler, M. Hokom, G. Jones, S. Kelley, G. Kirby, J. Kremer, D. Long, B. Mild, A. Patterson, R. Payne, T. Rogers, S. Roof, G. Sapp, C. Shields, C. White, J. Yerdon LeJeune

Visitors: M. Rose, C. Lavorata, J. Kirby, V. Dempsey

- I. **Reading and approval of May 7, 2013 minutes** – delayed until next meeting as minutes currently unavailable.
- II. **Announcements/Information/Discussion**
 - **Briefing on HLC Monitoring Report – Van Dempsey** (URL for report)
 - Shared copy of FSU’s response to HLC Monitoring Report with Senate, a product generated at the request of HLC after site visit. The monitoring report received after the fall 2012 accreditation visit by the HLC cited specific areas where FSU was not in compliance and response relates how FSU plans to come into compliance. Contains action steps (tasks as framed by HLC) – creates a systemic process re: how FSU will gather, process, and evaluate data. All FSU units (educational, financial, physical, etc.) will be involved.
 - When questioned about reliability of citations from HLC after visit, C. Lavorata stated that FSU had the opportunity to respond and correct factual errors.
 - Action steps directly affecting faculty are related to “aspirational identity” or who we want to be. Information from HEPC reviews incorporated into document
 - Section 3 Professional Development– 2 phases: what to be done immediately (within 6 to 12 months) and long-term structuring to ensure mechanism in place for academy to control.
 - Action Step 3.2 relates to development of “critical friends group”, faculty members from each unit which will help monitor assessment and share expertise.
 - Action Step 3.5 relates to development of “leadership council” to provide guidance and support to campus-wide efforts in strategic planning and implementation.
 - Numerous questions regarding roles and differences between “critical friends” and “leadership council”, as well as the selection process for members.
 - “Critical friends” share expertise.
 - “Leadership council” collaborates with University and unit leadership to provide guidance and support (as stated in the report circulated by V.Dempsey).

- **BOG representative - Bob Mild**
 - August meeting review of capital projects, architect approval, “wish list” re: appropriations
 - 2012-13 finances – State is 90 million below estimate of expected incoming dollars. Public higher ed. institutions suffer brunt of deficits. (More revenue received from business tax in 1999 than the past year.)
 - October meeting in Clarksburg – will be rewriting definition for “faculty member”

- **ACF representative - Sue Kelley**
 - During August 2013 retreat:
 1. Stop higher ed. cuts
 2. Revisions to Senate Bill 330
 3. PEIA issues – WVU reps favor pulling out of PEIA completely, but is this in the best interests or even feasible for other higher ed. institutions and individuals involved?
 - 7-8 million dollars in health appropriations will be lost. WVU reps will meet Sept. 19 with Barbara Fleischauer.
 - SB 330 passed 2½ years ago – restructuring of salary with individuals considered either as faculty, classified staff, or non-classified staff. Purpose was to force institutions (those not already doing so) to pay classified staff more using the Mercer scale.
 - Requests faculty senate support regarding SB 330 as not appropriate for higher education. Asking to restrict higher ed. cuts
 - Motion by B. Mild to support the ACF goal to work on SB 330 revisions and to stop cuts to higher ed. Second by B. Sapp and approved unanimously after no further discussion.
 - Mark Tour will lead a panel discussion on SB 330 on Oct. 17 at 4:00 PM in Bridgeport. There will also be an open forum afterwards.

- **Student Government representatives - no representative present**
 - Two representatives chosen last spring – one didn’t return to campus this fall and other has requested to be removed from student government due to school/classwork responsibilities.
 - Student government considering appointing representatives rather than holding campus-wide election due to time constraints.

IV. Old Business

- **2013-14 Committee Roster - Donna Long**
 - Changes to committee roster generated by committee-on-committees circulated. Several committees initially had 6 or more faculty members from the same unit. T Rogers stated that some people are placed on all committees listed (1st, 2nd, and 3rd choices). D. Long stated that frequently people indicate that they want to be on 2 or 3 committees.

- S. Kelley moved to accept the 2013-14 roster for 1st reading provided faculty will still be able to let D. Long know if there are further additions or changes to committees, second by T. Rogers. Passed unanimously after no further discussion.
- J. Webb-Dempsey will contact the committee chairs and inform them that they can convene their committees.

V. New Business

- **Recommendations from Constitutional Revisions Committee** – (changes attached)
 - D. Long, C. Shields, S. Roof, and J. Webb-Dempsey worked on changes during the summer.
 - Specific guidelines regarding ACF and BOG membership
 - Focus is currently on constitutional changes that faculty will vote on. Plan to work on by-laws later.
 - One important change would be to have faculty vote electronically rather than vote during a called faculty meeting.
 - Often very difficult to have a quorum present at the faculty meetings.
 - C. White asked how this change would affect ability of faculty to discuss changes prior to electronic voting. Faculty should still have adequate time to review and discuss prior to a called vote.
 - Another amendment relates to the by-laws. While constitutional changes will still require approval of the faculty, changes to the by-laws can be made by Faculty Senate and would not require the vote of the entire faculty.
 - S. Kelley moved to accept the revisions to Faculty Senate Constitution and By-laws as presented and corrected. Second by G. Jones and approved after no further discussion.
- **Strategic Planning Leadership Council faculty representation**
 - Numerous questions regarding roles and differences between “critical friends” and “leadership council”, as well as the selection process for members.
 - Consensus of committee was that representatives for both should be elected by members of units rather than appointed by deans or other administrators.
 - Also questions regarding whether one or both should be Faculty Senate committees.
 - Senate will discuss further during October meeting after a more detailed job description and an estimate of time involvement is provided by V. Dempsey.
 - It was pointed out that it is very important to have a “good fit” in order to produce positive results.

VI. Open Forum

- The 6th annual Hiku Death Match will be Sept. 13 at 4:00 PM in MMA. D. Long invited all to attend.

- Several committee members related that faculty members in their units were concerned about the recent dismissal of a tenured faculty member
 - Concerned about implications for other tenured faculty members and possible lack of due process
 - While unable to relate specific information, M. Rose addressed the concerns. She stated, “Trust the FSU grievance process. It has been in place and has worked well for a long time.”

- It was stated that several faculty members were unhappy that they (and their family members) would no longer be able to attend FSU athletic events without paying.
 - M. Rose stated that one of the charges to the new athletic director was that the athletic department must not go over budget.
 - This is just one of several changes that will be instituted this year in an attempt to maintain the athletic budget.
 - As Pierpont students are still paying a fee for athletic events, they are not required to pay to attend. This is the last year that the fee will be in place, therefore the last year that they will not be charged.

- **Academic Calendar**
 - C. Edwards asked when the academic calendar is circulated to faculty, as it is sometimes difficult to schedule FSU activities without knowing dates in advance,
 - C. Lavorata stated that it is prepared for 2 years at a time and she is currently in the process of putting it together for the next 2 years

*If you have items for the agenda please send your request to the President of the Senate by Tuesday morning, one week prior to the next Senate meeting, for consideration at the Executive Committee Meeting.

Next Meeting: October 8, 2013
Rm. 303 ED 3:00 – 5:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by:

Gale Kirby, Faculty Senate Secretary

Sept. 10, 2013