

Fairmont State University Faculty

Amended Senate Meeting Agenda

September 14, 2021

3:00-5:00 p.m.

Called to order: 9/14 at 3:01

Note from Interim Secretary: These are my first official Faculty Senate minutes; there may be unintentional issues with them. PLEASE send any comments, questions, edits, and/or suggestions to nslota@fairmontstate.edu as soon as possible, so that I can make changes before the minutes get approved on Tuesday.

Members Present: Charles Shields (President), Donna Long (VP, Humanities), Todd Clark (Exec Committee: Member-at-Large, Social Sciences), Bob Niichel (Exec Committee: Webmaster, CSM), Nina Slota (Behavioral Science), Rachel Cook (Natural Sciences), Molly Barra (Library), Tom Cuchta (math+computer science), William Harrison (Faculty rep to ACF), Tyler Singer (HHP, Exercise Science), Julie Reneau (Education), Josh Smallridge (Social Science), Steven Roof (Academic Affairs), Tim Oxley (Academic Affairs), Denice Kirchoff (Nursing), Stephen Rice (Exec Committee: Member-at-Large, Natural Sciences), Nathan Myers (Humanities), Trey Jones (SGA), James Davis (Exec Committee: Member at Large, Business and Aviation), Janet Floyd (Business and Aviation), Gina Fantasia (Faculty Rep. to BOG), Jennifer Satterfield (Nursing)

Guests: Diana Phillips, J. Robert Baker, Michael Ransom, Amanda Metcalf, Richard Harvey, Deb Hemler, Sherry Mitchell, Christopher Kast, Jennifer Satterfield, Toni Poling, Douglas Lecorchick, Jan Kiger, Janie Leary, Rebecca Cepek, Musat Crihalmeanu

I. Reading & Approval of the minutes from the August 10, 2021 meeting

Motion to approve: Bill Harrison/Tom Cuchta. Passed.

II. President Martin

Dr. Phillips—Dr. Martin is in Charleston with legislators.

III. Provost Phillips

- i.** Badge/ID issues, unanswered questions—There was an announcement today about new ID cards for faculty. Chuck will go back and re-forward unanswered questions for next meeting. Dr. Phillips: If these unanswered questions relate back to professional development, single-access to building, that project hasn't moved much since August. The university wants buildings to be safe and secure, especially during non-peak hours. To move forward, additional info from facilities is needed, because they are still working out what kinds of locks will go on each building. Bottom line: this is a safe way to maintain control of buildings. Dr. Phillips has dealt with situations with active shooter situations, bomb threats, etc.. How do we do that so that we are safe and secure, especially for those who work off-peak hours? President Shields stated that the matter will be taken up at the next meeting.
- ii.** Parking permits. Faculty have to go to HR to find their individual rate. Donna—

When I tried to pay, they took a check. Todd hasn't gotten rates, yet. Rates should be published each year.

- iii. Dr. Phillips: Creation of Academic Leadership Team (ALT). ALT consists of her direct reports—the Deans, Graduate Studies, Library, and Honors), department chairs, and the President of Faculty Senate. 1st meeting was in July. Meets twice a month, and provides professional development for them. As we move forward, the ALT's purpose, objectives, etc. will be published on the Provost's website.
- iv. The Provost would like to create two ad hoc committees. The first will look at best practices for PTAR. The second will define terms and best practices of online and remote teaching. Each committee's charge will start out broad—look at definitions and best practices, and slowly become more refined. These will be ad hoc committees, so they will have a start and end date. The committees will provide recommendations about PTAR and online/remote learning.

Question: What are you looking for in terms of online, since we stress F2F? Dr. Phillips—this is exploratory. The Faculty Handbook said nothing about online and remote teaching. We need a flexible working environment with the faculty. No preconceptions, just a conversation. There are no parameters, currently, it's just happening; we need to be deliberative.

Motion to allow the executive committee to choose the 6 members for the two proposed provost committees. (Cuchta/Fantasia)

Motion to amend the motion to allow the executive committee to choose a slate of 6 members for the two proposed provost committees to be voted on by the Senate. (Niichel)

Amendment to the motion was received as friendly.

After brief discussion, the amended motion carried.

President Shields announced that the current meeting will be recorded to help the new secretary create the minutes. As this is a public meeting, consent is not required.

IV. Reports of Officers, Boards and Standing Committees

- i. BOG Representative, Gina Fantasia
 - BOG mtg Aug. 19: Discussed personnel changes in athletics, COVID protocols, upgrades to master plan for some athletic facilities. The master plan was discussed because the Foundation is cooperating on funding and fundraising.
 - BOG bylaws committee—no new business.
 - Housing and student life reported, but enrollment/housing/student life is not finalized until mid-October. Initial numbers indicate it was down except in DE and grad.

- Finance Committee reported minor modifications to the budget to hire government relations liaison and to fund 3rd party digital surveys for the Presidential Perception Survey.
- Foundation gave an updated report of their fundraising activity.
- Board went into executive session. Came out with engagement letter re correspondence to chair.
- Questions:
 - Question: Was there any discussion of using bonds for a new athletic facility? Answer: No.
 - Question: What is the purpose of funding 3rd party digital surveys? Answer: To provide funding for Senate Surveys like the Presidential Perception Survey and to house the data on external servers.

ii. ACF Representative, Dr. Bill Harrison—

- Next meeting Friday. Working on things we want in legislative agenda. Fund education, tuition, visas, PEIA, academic freedom, etc.
- If anybody has any questions, thoughts, or suggestions, please get in touch.

V. Student Government Report

- Trey Jones—SGA was still collecting dresses for HS girls—until Friday, Sept. 17th.

VI. Unfinished Business

Major Items

- i. Faculty Handbook

President Shields moved to the next item on the agenda since the Handbook Committee Chair (Robert Baker) was not present.
- ii. Proposed revisions to Faculty Senate constitution and bylaws (second reading)

President Shields noted that the motion to approve the revisions to the constitution and bylaws had been previously tabled and not taken up in the subsequent meeting, the motion had died and would need to be re-introduced. Since there had been significant new additions to the revisions since the last time the Senate had considered them, the President felt that the approval process should just start over at first reading.

VII. New Business

Major Items

i. Proposed revisions to Bylaws and Constitution

- New info—2 versions-1 with tracking, 1 without.
- **“Motion to consider the revisions to the bylaws for first**

reading.” (Niichel/Cuchta)

- Friendly amendment: **“Motion to consider the revisions to the bylaws and Constitution for first reading.”**
- As a reminder, bylaws can get amended by Senate, but amendments to the Constitution require approval by Senate and then approval by full faculty.
- How does General faculty convene? Section 2 special meetings 20 regular faculty ask the president of the university, or 5 senators can request of the Faculty Senate President. The President of the university opens the meeting and turns it over to President of Faculty Senate.
- Correction to bylaws: Page 7--BOG policies shall govern.
- How are we voting on edits? The second reading will include proposed revisions.
- Academic Affairs can elect two senators, but it doesn't say if deans and chairs can fill those seats.
- Section 3-term limits on Exec. Committee 3 years or 3 years per seat? Historically, 3 years and then a break.
- Discussion of wording about whether senators must be in their third year at Fairmont State before becoming senators. There is a clause for exceptions.
- **Motion carried.**

Minor Items

i. Campus Climate Committee

- Question as to need. If ad hoc, it died. Bring to our constituencies and see if they want it. Revisit in October.

ii. Acceptance of last year's committee reports

- **Motion to Accept the committee reports as presented (Long/Niichel):**

Athletics

Admissions & Credits

Common Book

Curriculum

International Education

Legislative Advocacy

Faculty Welfare

General Studies

Handbook

Presidential Perception Survey

Student Financial Aid Appeals

Student Hearing Board

Technology Committee

Ad-hoc Winter Term Committee

Motion carried.

VIII. Announcements/Information/Discussion

- #### i. Dr. Baker arrived for the interim report from the Handbook committee.

- Dr. Phillips has agreed that the Post Tenure Achievement Review (PTAR) will not be in the handbook, at this time. The ad hoc committees will address and add in-to the next version.
- Two faculty forums were tentatively scheduled: Thursday, October 14 and Tuesday, October 19. 12-1:30 in the afternoon.
- Still waiting for final version; legal still reviewing.
- Fora will be question & answer format, some background.

ii. Pay increases

- Dr. Phillips—met with CFO to learn history, context. We won't know more until census. There are discussions.
 - Faculty member—Looked at wages from 2011 until now and forecast until 2026, given historical data for inflation rates, annualized consumer price index changes. We'll lose about 12%, if wages stay where they are. Assumed a \$60,000 salary.
 - Even with a 10% raise in 2026, you'll still only be at 97% of what you make now.

iii. Class formats, recording, and COVID protocols

- What are the requirements vs. what is choice? Lack of standardization across campus.
 - Most recent communication said synchronous broadcast and recording. Are recordings only for ill students?
 - No direct simple messaging across campus. That's a problem.
 - Socially distancing in classrooms? Students need to be reminded. Nursing and biology often can't socially distance.
 - Some programs were told they can't de-densify, which doesn't fit the Covid protocols.
 - Dr. Phillip's response: For any type of concern, please come to me with details so I can run them down and attempt to fix them. Feel free to reach out to me personally; I will look into any issues in a low-key way.
 - COVID response team. Attendance policies are set by professor.
 - If a student hasn't done the campus procedure and you haven't received the email, you can deal with them how you want.
 - Students with disabilities (especially, immunocompromised students and those with mental health issues that make it problematic to attend on campus) should have accommodations paperwork.
 - Lack of or old campus COVID signage, mask requirement, etc.
 - Signs were back-ordered, some arrived the day before the meeting.
 - Student COVID testing?
 - Athletes because of NCAA policies/regulations,
 - Residence halls? If there is an incident in a specific environment where there is a high enough concentration,

then there is testing.

Motion to adjourn. Motion passed.

Next Meeting: October 12, 2021 3-5pm

***If you have items for the agenda please send your request to the Faculty Senate President (Charles.Shields@fairmontstate.edu) by Tuesday morning October 5, 2021 for consideration by the Executive Committee.**