

Minutes, Faculty Assembly Meeting

200 Life Sciences

April 6, 2023

Chair: Cortney Barko

Secretary: Rachel L. Bragg

Chairwoman Barko called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m. A quorum was present.

I. The minutes of March 2, 2023 were approved.

II. Faculty Announcements and Achievements

- a. Dr. Rachel Bragg presented “True Crime, Meet Tourism: The Revision of True Crime Podcasts as True Crime Tourism” at the 52nd Annual College English Association Conference in San Antonio, Texas
- b. Dr. Doug Terry presented “‘The damn dust—it gets in your marrow’: Domesticity and Nature in Josephine Johnson’s Dust-Bowl Novel, *Now in November*” also at the 52nd Annual College English Association Conference in San Antonio, Texas
- c. Dr. Somenath Chakraborty was awarded the Open Education Resources Grant, organized by the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
- d. Dr. Chakraborty also supervised original research by student Noah Quesenberry, which resulted in a co-presented poster presentation titled “Efficient Inter-Process Communication in a Multi-Threaded Environment” at the 20th Annual Undergraduate Research Day in Charleston
- e. Dr. J.T. Hird co-authored the article “Second-Maximal Subalgebras of Leibniz Algebras” along with Lindsey Bosko-Dunbar, Jonathan D. Dunbar, and Kirsten Stagg Rovira, which was published in *Communications in Algebra*
- f. The Student Arts Showcase will be held April 26th from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., with the award presentation being held from 1-1:30 p.m. and culinary display from noon to 2 p.m.
- g. Dr. Rachel Bragg announced that the Faculty Talent Show will be explored again next year due to a low number of responses for this year
- h. The Brown Bag Lecture will be held on April 11th at 1 p.m. with Lauren Fowler presenting on folk traditions in Appalachia

III. Administrative Report

- a. T. Ramon Stuart, President
 - i. Congratulations to Dr. Kimberlyn Gray for receiving a grant from the Carter Foundation
 - ii. Transformational Grants allowed the repurposing of \$60,000, with most of the grants being awarded to academic units
 - iii. This year’s Day of Giving was a success with 148 gifts

- iv. Recruitment and registration are a major focus; need to enroll all students we currently have; the School of Nursing has registered 85% of their students
 - v. The budget continues to be reviewed, including budget reduction scenarios; a system-wide communication regarding the budget will likely be provided next week
 - vi. Budget discussions to date for WVU Tech have focused on new ways to recruit students, including reciprocity agreements with contiguous states along with evening classes, more online course offerings, and how to better serve adult students
 - vii. Please send any questions related to the changes to PEIA to Faculty Assembly chair to be shared with the president
- b. Scott Fleming, Dean of College of Business, Humanities, and Social Sciences
 - i. According to current promotion and tenure process, deans currently review every faculty member each year
 - ii. New Process is being proposed for evaluations by the deans
 - 1. Teaching Assistant Professors and Visiting Assistant Professors would be evaluated each year
 - 2. Assistant and Associate Professors would be evaluated every three years and during their promotion and tenure year
 - 3. Full professors would be reviewed at their request
 - iii. There was some discussion of cases of appeal or rebuttal, at which point a dean review could be requested
 - iv. Dr. Barko will share the policy with faculty for consideration

IV. Chair Report – Cortney Barko

- a. Faculty Assembly committees will be contacted again regarding policies on how each committee operates; chairs of each committee are asked to please have the policies in place by the start of the fall semester; policies will be uploaded to n: drive and can be presented in fall to the Faculty Assembly
- b. Commencement is May 6th at 4 p.m.
- c. The Dean of Students Leadership Awards will be held on April 19th; please RSVP for the event
- d. Faculty should encourage students to register for classes
- e. The student awards lunch for the Leonard C. Nelson College of Engineering and Sciences will be held April 28th
- f. Information on the student evaluation pilot will be sent to all faculty
- g. The Tech Entrepreneurship Club has created a culture lounge in Innovation; please encourage students to visit
- h. The Culture Engagement Survey deadline has been extended

V. ACF Report – Asad Davari

- a. ACF position information was provided by email; position is up for election this year; the position includes release time per the Faculty Assembly Constitution

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Faculty Senate – Asad Davari
 - i. The main discussion at the March Faculty Senate meeting was focused on the \$35 million deficit along with a drop in the college going rate for the state of West Virginia
 - ii. Provost Reed discussed the need to work to address the deficit along with the college going rate
 - iii. 176 applications were received for promotion and tenure
 - iv. There is a policy that chairs, deans, and the provost should be reviewed, though the policy is not currently being implemented at WVU Tech as it has been in previous years
 - v. The WVU system was given \$3 million by the state for salary increases related to the PEIA increase
 - vi. The Faculty Senate meeting that will be held on Monday will also include a question and answer session on the budget

VII. Agenda

- a. Nominations for Open Faculty Assembly Positions and Faculty Assembly Committees
 - i. Chair Elect
 1. Cortney Barko
 - ii. Secretary
 1. Rachel Bragg
 - iii. ACF Representative
 1. Andi Kent
 - 2.
 - iv. Academic Affairs
 1. George Coroian
 2. Gifty Osei-Prempeh
 - v. Academic Awards
 1. Cynthia Hall
 - vi. Athletics (2 positions, both must be male)
 1. Mark Vecellio
 2. Patrick Brown
 - vii. Legislative (2 positions)
 1. Doug Terry
 2. Adrienne Williams

viii. Library

1. Tyler Moss
2. Brent Linsley
3. Aida Jimenez

ix. Research

1. Cynthia Hall
2. Joshua Price

x. Student Conduct

1. Cynthia Hall
2. Somenath Chakraborty
3. Chris McClain

b. Motion to close nominations; second. Motion passes.

VIII. New Business – N/A

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rachel L. Bragg, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, English