

Minutes, Faculty Assembly Meeting

200 Life Sciences

February 2, 2023

Chair: Cortney Barko

Secretary: Rachel L. Bragg

Chairwoman Barko called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

I. The minutes of December 1, 2022 were approved.

II. Faculty Announcements and Achievements

- a. Dr. Somenath Chakraborty, Assistant Professor of Computer Science, presented “The Classification of Native and Invasive Species in North America: A Transfer Learning and Random Forest Pipeline” at the 5<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Recent Trends in Image Processing & Pattern Recognition
- b. Dr. Chakraborty also presented “A Competent Deep Learning Model to Detect COVID-19 Using Chest CT Images” at the 10<sup>th</sup> Machine Intelligence and Digital Interaction MIDI Conference, which was organized by the National Information Processing Institute in Warsaw, Poland
- c. Dr. Chakraborty’s book chapter “Deep Learning Methods to Resolve Cyber Security Issues” was also published in December 2022
- d. Dr. Cynthia Hall announced the Psychology Club is holding a fundraiser on March 27<sup>th</sup> from 5-9 p.m. at El Mariachi in Beaver to support travel to present at conferences as well as visits to graduate programs. Live music will also be provided.

III. Administrative Report

- a. T. Ramon Stuart, President
  - i. Grants received in January were reviewed
  - ii. Attended WVU Day at the Legislature; WVU Tech should consider participating in the future
  - iii. Meeting with Governor Justice on February 8<sup>th</sup> to discuss funding in the amount of \$25 million dollars for the development of fields for the baseball team
  - iv. Concealed carry on campus bill will likely pass; the SGA authored a statement in support of the legislation
  - v. One goal is to build and boost morale on campus, with a fund of \$40,000 being set aside to support those efforts; one suggestion in relation to building morale is shifting to a 4 day work week, which is being discussed
  - vi. Trivia Night is being held next Monday
  - vii. WVU Tech currently has a \$397,000 budget shortfall though there are \$1.1 million in salary savings due to positions being held

- viii. WVU has \$14 million budget shortfall which will likely continue into the next academic year
  - ix. More focus is being placed on enrollment, student success, retention, and graduation rates to help address the budget issues
  - x. Another goal is working to address communication challenges
  - xi. Developing councils of excellence related to enrollment management and student success; the Chair of Faculty Assembly will be participating in executive leadership meetings and the councils of excellence to help facilitate communication
- b. Jake Corey, Chief of Police
- i. The focus of University Police office is providing community policing with 7 full-time officers and 1 part-time officer, all of whom are full service law enforcement officers
  - ii. More foot and daily patrols are being conducted and faculty, staff, and students are encouraged to call the University Police office with any concerns
  - iii. Issues regarding thefts from vehicles will continue to be addressed through partnership with the City of Beckley Police Department

#### IV. Chair Report – Cortney Barko

- a. A special meeting of the University Assembly was held on January 18<sup>th</sup> to consider the resolution supporting the new Promotion and Tenure document; the resolution did not pass
- b. Faculty attendance at the Welcome Reception for President Stuart is appreciated
- c. Katie Sauls has provided a schedule of trainings relation to mental health and HEPC's Green Bandana Initiative; all trainings are free
- d. WVU Day at the Legislature was held on January 31<sup>st</sup>
- e. Donations are still being collected for the purchase of a rocking chair as a gift from the faculty for Carolyn Long
- f. Homecoming Festivities will begin next week and will include a Career Mentorship Panel on February 10<sup>th</sup> that represents a collaborative effort between Career Services and the Golden Bear Alumni Association
- g. WVU Tech will be piloting a new SEI this spring that is focused on providing better feedback for faculty
- h. Early Alert is now open as noted in the newsletter from the Registrar

#### V. Committee Reports

- a. ACF Report – Asad Davari
- i. The January 27<sup>th</sup> meeting focused on campus carry and dual enrollment
  - ii. The main goals of the ACF for this year include student mental health and safety, student success, the dual credit credential requirement for faculty; economic health and development for colleges, and internationalization with a focus on recruiting more international students
- b. Senate Report – Asad Davari
- i. The resolution in support of the new Promotion and Tenure document did not pass

- ii. President Gee and President Smith of Marshall presented a joint resolution against the campus carry legislation
  - iii. New budget model for WVU will be implemented next year
  - iv. The COVID-19 syllabus statement is no longer needed in syllabi
  - v. The Provost and faculty leadership will be working on revisions to the Promotion and Tenure document with the goal of presenting it to Faculty Senate or the University Assembly for another vote
- c. Cynthia Hall – Academic Awards
- i. Nominations are now open for the university’s annual academic awards
  - ii. Nominations can be submitted on the website through February 24<sup>th</sup> at noon

VI. Agenda

- a. Elections: Athletic Committee, Academic Appeals, and Academic Awards
- i. Nominations for Committee Positions
    - 1. Athletic Committee – Aida Jimenez
    - 2. Academic Appeals – Jordan Farmer
    - 3. Academic Awards – Charan Litchfield
  - ii. Vote by acclimation
- b. Resolution of Thanks for Carolyn Long – tabled until March meeting due to time constraints

VII. New Business – N/A

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rachel L. Bragg, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, English