

Minutes, Faculty Assembly Meeting

Zoom

December 3, 2020

Chair: Brian Dickman

Secretary: Rachel L. Bragg

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

- I. The minutes for November 5, 2020 were approved.
- II. Announcements:
  - a. Faculty Achievements:
    - i. Nathan Galinsky and colleagues at the Department of Energy published an article titled "Analysis of Hematite Attrition in Jet Apparatus" in the journal *Powder Technology*.
- III. Administrative Report – Carolyn Long, President
  - a. There are currently no changes to the budget though Congress continues to discuss COVID-19 stimulus packages, which includes monies for higher education; any stimulus money will be helpful for this year but not next year.
  - b. COVID-19 testing will be held prior to the start of the spring semester using the saliva test with the goal of having all testing and results prior to the start of classes.
  - c. Students should be encouraged to register for spring and should be informed that the spring semester will be the same as fall in terms of being in-seat.
  - d. Enrollment numbers are down for the spring 2021 semester and fall 2021, which emphasizes the need to encourage students to register and to contact WVU Tech if there are financial reasons for not registering for classes.
  - e. WVU Tech is still receiving financial support from Morgantown; prior to the pandemic, Tech was nearing the ability to be financially independent of the main campus.
  - f. Thank you to all faculty for their hard work during the fall semester.
- IV. Administrative Report – Joan Neff, Provost
  - a. Thank you to faculty for accomplishing the delivery of fall classes as in-seat classes.
  - b. Searches for the dean positions are on-going, with a second candidate for the College of Business, Humanities, and Social Sciences being scheduled for various Zoom meetings this week and a second candidate for the Dean for the College on Engineering being scheduled for Zoom meetings next week. The finalists will be brought to campus for a visit.
  - c. References are being checked for three candidates for the Registrar position though interviews may be postponed until late January.

- d. The deadline for Digital Measures is December 31 by 11:59 p.m.; student evaluations should be automatically updated but this information will be confirmed.
  - e. There was some discussion of the faculty in the College of Engineering not receiving the resume and interview participation information for the candidates for the dean's position in the College of Business, Humanities, and Social Sciences; the recording of the presentation and other information will be shared with all faculty again.
- V. Chair Report – Brian Dickman
- a. It has been confirmed that the student registration PINS for the spring semester have been sent by email and are also available on the n:/ drive.
  - b. Options to electronic voting are still being reviewed
  - c. All faculty are encouraged to attend the WVU Faculty Senate meetings, including the upcoming meeting, an agenda for which has already been distributed.
  - d. Reminder about Digital Measures
  - e. The WVU Tech promotion and tenure document is still being reviewed by the main campus.
- VI. ACF Report – Asad Davari
- a. During the November 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Vice Chancellor noted that some higher education regulations will change with the new president.
  - b. Committee chairs in the state legislature are still being assigned.
  - c. Promise Scholarship applications and adult student enrollments have declined.
  - d. Free tuition at community colleges has not impacted four-year degrees significantly.
  - e. The legislature is currently planning to discuss the budget and then will enter a special session in the summer to address all other issues.
- VII. Committee Reports
- a. WVU Faculty Senate – Asad Davari
    - i. There is one concern related to the budget as identified by President Gee, which is the expectation of receiving \$40 million in funding from the CARES Act.
    - ii. A presentation was given on Intellectual Property Rights.
    - iii. Provost Reed discussed how the spring would be operating in the same fashion as the fall semester.
    - iv. Pass/fail grade options from the spring semester were discussed and if there are any questions about pass/fail grades, then contact the Provost's Office.
    - v. The Board of Governor's rule on discrimination has been modified.
- VIII. Agenda
- a. Approval of December Graduates
    - i. The list of December graduates from WVU Tech was presented for review and approval.
    - ii. Motion to approve the list of December graduates. Second. Motion passes.

b. Academic Integrity

- i. The proposal for changes to the academic integrity violations appeals process was presented, which includes naming the WVU Tech Faculty Assembly Academic Appeals Committee as the Dean's designee for both colleges for course-level academic integrity violation appeals and naming a subcommittee of the Faculty Assembly Academic Appeals Committee of only faculty members of that committee as the WVU Provost's designee for conduct-level academic integrity violations appeals.
- ii. The current process was discussed, with it being noted that if the main campus escalates the violation to academic misconduct, a separate process is followed from that of other student conduct violations and appeals. The current process provides for the final review of appeals related to academic misconduct to be reviewed and decided by the Provost or the Provost's designee. The proposed changes would designate a subcommittee of the Faculty Assembly Academic Appeals committee as the final step in the review process. That subcommittee would not include students or the reporter.
- iii. A previous appeal was discussed in general terms to illustrate the current process.
- iv. The goal of the proposal is to designate faculty as the final step in the appeal process for more serious academic integrity violations.
- v. Motion to approval the proposal as written. Second. Motion passes.

IX. New Business

- a. N/A

The meeting adjourned at 1:39 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

Rachel L. Bragg, Ph.D.

Associate Professor, English