

West Virginia University Institute of Technology Faculty Assembly Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, May 1, 2025

Time: 1:00 - 1:47 p.m.

Location: Life Sciences 200

Chair: Cortney Barko

Secretary: Jemma Cook

Meeting Overview:

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

I. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of the April 3, 2025 meeting were approved with no corrections.

II. Faculty Announcements and Achievements

Announcements:

- No faculty announcements were made at this meeting

Achievements:

- The Research Committee submitted a report to the Chair listing the following publications by faculty members, including:
 - “Nuclebindin-1: A Structural Analysis” published in the *Proceedings of the West Virginia Academy of Science* by authors including Dr. Naresh Ramesh
 - “Adaptive Network Recovery: A Feedback-Driven Approach to Enhancing Resilience Against DDoS Attacks” published in *Security and Management and*

Wireless Networks, CSCE 2024, Communications in Computer and Information Science by authors including Dr. Waseem Al Aqqad

III. Administrative Report

President T. Ramon Stuart

- Met with new WVU President recently. They reported being impressed with list of faculty achievements presented by Dr. Barko; suggested sharing such accomplishments more broadly would be a worthwhile idea
- Retirees will be honored at the End of Semester Cookout on 5/2/25 at 1 PM in front of Carter Hall
 - Vice Chair of WVU Board of Governors, Dr. Patrice Harris, will be in attendance
- February 16, 2025 marked WVU Tech's 130 years since its founding
- New Award, the WVU Impact Award presented to five individuals at WVU Tech
 - Presented to Dr. Cortney Barko in recognition of her service over the past year

Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Tamara Floyd-Smith:

- Thanks to those faculty that participated in the Faculty and Student Team-up (FaST) event on April 15
- DFW Dashboard summary data presented to faculty
 - Overall DFW rates decreased from 20% to 16% of grades received from Fall 2022 to Fall 2024
 - Please help continue this trend by assisting students wherever appropriate
- Dr. Hird asked VP Smith whether faculty would have access to the DFW data
 - VP Smith asked Dr. Barko to see if a relevant committee could be granted access to these data and

make them available to other faculty members

IV. Chair Report

Dr. Courtney Barko:

- Commencement will be held Saturday 5/10/25. Student registration opens at 8:30 AM with the ceremony to start at 10 AM. Faculty are encouraged to arrive between 9-9:30 AM. Students' family and other guests may arrive closer to 10 AM.
- Final grades are due on Monday, May 12 at noon

V. Committee Reports

ACF Report provided by Dr. Christopher McClain:

- ACF met 4/25/25 via Zoom
- Joseph Jenkins of HEPC General Council spoke about the SB 474 ("DEI bill") and other relevant bills passed in the recent meeting of the State Legislature.
 - Gov. Morrissey has not yet signed any of these bills so no new action/discussion was proposed
- Dr. Chris Rasmussen, HEPC Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, visiting state institutions to discuss academic leadership regarding
 - Common course numbering for core gen. ed. courses at community colleges
 - 60+60 policy and structure to increase transfer rates of credits from Associates to Bachelors degrees
 - Gen. Ed. structure
 - Microcredential program development
- Dr. McClain asked whether Dr. Rasmussen was including faithful representation of diverse academic disciplines in discussion with academic leadership. Some programs (e.g., STEM) have prerequisite chains that present challenges to

one-size-fits-all structures. These challenges may not be insurmountable, but it is important to have representation from such programs in the discussion.

- Dr. Rasmussen said he would make sure discussions would take such issues into consideration.
- Majority of institutions will have new representatives in next year's ACF session.

Senate Report provided by Dr. Doug Terry:

- Meeting occurred on 4/7/25
- Introduction of WVU President Michael Benson
 - Welcome and intro with discussion of his background, importance of shared governance, and need for administration to be active listeners
- Chair Report, Dr. Diana Davis
 - Discussion of Faculty Senate elections which concluded in mid-April
 - Next year's Representatives for WVU Tech will be Rachel Bragg, Mark Jones, Kenan Hatipoglu, & Douglas Terry
- Faculty Representative for State Government
 - HB 3279: Bill removing for faculty and student representatives on WVU Board of Governors passed. In executive session, it was mentioned there was still Gov. Morrissey will not sign bill
- Faculty Senate Chair-Elect Candidate Statements
 - Matt Valenti, Prof. of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering, was only person running for position
- Revisions to Faculty Evaluation, Promotion, and Tenure Guidelines
 - Revisions to document were passed, including amendment excluding Tech faculty from requirement for outside evaluations for promotion and tenure

Commencement Committee

- Message with times for registration, ceremony, etc. will be sent to all students by Karen Skaggs

Wellness Committee provided by Caroline McKelvie

- Facilities staff member on committee left, please reach out to volunteer to join if interested
- Lunch & Learn events unlikely to provide food for all events going forward

VII. Agenda Items

A. Approval of Spring 2025 Candidates for Graduation

- Approved with no corrections

B. Susan Wood, Director of Career Services

- Thanks to faculty for their help
- Graduate Placement Survey
 - Please encourage students that are graduating to complete
 - Goal is 70% completion
 - Please consider incorporating completion of the Graduate Placement Survey into your capstone courses
 - Verification email being integrated into process for forwarding to relevant faculty
 - Job, Graduate, and Internship Fair scheduled for September 18, 2025
 - Product of student feedback to combine multiple events into a single event
 - Please encourage students to attend
 - Please contact if need any assistance over the summer

VIII. New Business

- Caroline McKelvie asked who is an advisor to send Course Overload Petitions to as signature lines are for

Asst./Assoc. Dean and Assoc. Provost, which we don't have

- School Chair will sign for Asst./Assoc. Dean and VP Smith will sign for Assoc. Provost
- J.T. Hird asked if Carter Hall steps will be repaired over the summer
 - Yes
- L.J. Fox announced opportunity for a free sandwich
- Mary Strife will be retiring
 - Thank you to the faculty and thanks to her for her service
- Dr. Barko's last meeting as Faculty Assembly Chair; Dr. McClain will take over as Chair over the summer
 - Thanks to her for her service

The meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m.