

West Virginia University Institute of Technology Faculty Assembly Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, April 3, 2025

Time: 1:01 - 1:27 p.m.

Location: Life Sciences 200

Chair: Cortney Barko

Secretary: Jemma Cook

Meeting Overview:

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

I. Approval of Minutes

- Minutes of the March 6, 2025 meeting were approved with no corrections.

II. Faculty Announcements and Achievements

Announcements:

- Dr. Patrick Brown announced Dr. George Such will be giving a Brown Bag Lecture titled “Understanding Identity Threat in the University Classroom,” on 4/22 at 1 PM in Innovation 203.
- Dr. Jemma Cook asked faculty to encourage students majoring in Psychology, Criminal Justice, Forensics, Health Service Administration, and Public Service Administration to please apply for the Richard C. Flint scholarship to help with costs related to tuition, books, etc.

Achievements:

- The Research Committee submitted a report to the Chair listing the following publications by faculty members, including:
 - “When Freedom and Anarchy Collide: The Visual Imagery of the Destruction of a Woman in *Sons of Anarchy*.” presented at the College English Association Annual Conference on 3/29/25 in Philadelphia, PA by Dr. Rachel Bragg
 - “Recognizing the Mothers Left Behind in Jesmyn Ward’s *Men We Reaped*.” presented at the College English Association Annual Conference on 3/28/25 in Philadelphia, PA by Dr. Cortney Barko

III. Administrative Report

President T. Ramon Stuart

- Was not present.

Vice President of Academic Affairs, Dr. Tamara Floyd-Smith, in a written statement read to the assembly by Chair Barko:

- Apologies to the assembly as VP Smith was hosting upcoming WVU President, Dr. Michael Benson, and Interim Provost, Dr. Paul Kreider
- Expressed hopes that all enjoyed the Gold & Blue Campus celebration
- Request for faculty present at the following events
 - Faculty and Student Teamup (FaST) lunch on 4/15/25 from 1100-1400
 - Commencement on 5/10/25
- Day of Giving occurred on 3/26/25. Full gift details unavailable at this time, but Nemacolin will provide full-time faculty support for a position in the culinary program for at

least 3 years

- Thanks to all that participated in Engineering Day, Math Field Day, WVU Day of Giving, Undergraduate Research Day at the Capitol, WV Construction Expo, ASCE Virginias Conference, and the K-12 Bridge Design Competition.
- Please ensure students receive the feedback they need to finish the semester strong. Please practice self-care and -compassion as well.
- Broad acknowledgement of thanks to the institution of WVU Tech and the faculty

IV. Chair Report

Dr. Courtney Barko:

- Regarding students registering for Biology 111: General Biology
 - The number of lab sections for BIOL 111 will be reduced in the Fall 2025 semester due to understaffing
 - BIOL 111 and 112 lectures and labs have been separated so students can register for only the lecture or lab section if needed for their major or to repeat due to D/F/W
 - Students not majoring in Biology, Nursing, or Psychology are encouraged to consider taking courses other than 111/112 and associated labs to meet their GEF 2 requirements. Alternatives may include two 3-hour lecture courses that meet the GEF 2A requirements such as BIOL 105 and 108
- Regarding students registering for Psychology 203: Research Methods and Analysis 1
 - Due to a limited numbers of seats in PSYC 203, students that are not PSYC majors are encouraged to register for other equivalent courses such as BIOL 225 or STAT 211

- List of Spring 2025 graduates has been sent to faculty.
Faculty are asked to review the list for any corrections

V. Committee Reports

ACF Report provided by Dr. Christopher McClain:

- No update since last meeting of the Faculty Assembly

Senate Report provided by Dr. Doug Terry:

- No update since last meeting of the Faculty Assembly; next meeting will be held on 4/7/25

Commencement Committee

- Chairs are asked to encourage their faculty to attend commencement
- More backdrops are being provided photos with faculty and their graduates
- Motion introduced and passed to allow a graduating student in the ROTC program has asked if their commissioning ceremony may be held at Commencement

VII. Agenda Items

A. Nominations for open Faculty Assembly positions and Faculty Assembly committees

- FA Chair-Elect
 - Nathan Galinsky
- FA Secretary
 - Jemma Cook
- ACF Representative
 - Patrick Brown
- Academic Affairs (1 position)
 - Gifty Osei-Prempeh

- Athletics (2 positions male nominees)
 - Mark Vecellio
 - Patrick Brown
- Library (1 position)
 - George Such
- Research (1 position)
 - Jemma Cook
 - Josh Price will serve in the spot reserved for a member of the School of Business

VIII. New Business

- No new business introduced

The meeting adjourned at 1:27 p.m.