

Minutes, Faculty Assembly Meeting

208 Life Sciences/Zoom

February 3, 2022

Chair: John T. Hird

Secretary: Rachel L. Bragg

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

- I. The minutes of December 2, 2021 were approved.
- II. Announcements: n/a
- III. Administrative Report – Carolyn Long, President
 - a. Enrollments show an increase as compared to this time last year.
 - b. FTEs also show an increase as compared to this time last year.
 - c. For the first time, there will be no cuts to the budget, as the state is not making any budget cuts.
 - d. WVU is beginning a new budget process, which will likely result in WVU Tech no longer having debt service.
 - e. The Senate Finance Committee passed the funding formula with no revisions and it will now be presented on the Senate floor; only the policy will be part of code, as the formula will not be included. The funding formula will be implemented over a three- year period.
 - f. The Senate Finance Committee also passed a bill to remove the soda tax; the funds are now provided through a dedicated source, which will be helpful to WVU.
 - g. The mask policy for COVID-19 for the university will be reviewed at the end of February; the number of positive cases continues to decrease on all three campuses and for the state.
 - h. Homecoming is next week.
 - i. WVU Tech has submitted a bid to host the first round of the NAIA Division 2 Championship; pledges have been received to cover all costs.
- IV. Administrative Report – Joan Neff, Provost
 - a. 17 students were dropped due to registered, not paid status; 5 have been reinstated and 12 have until Friday at noon to complete the required form for reinstatement.
 - b. A new student success advisor has been hired; Open House will be held next Thursday for the Student Success Center.
 - c. Recruiting for a new Assistant Registrar.
 - d. A new director of the Launch Lab has been hired; dual reporting structure with Morgantown. The New River Gorge Development Authority is also part of the cooperative agreement.
 - e. Computer policy will be finalized soon; concerns have largely been addressed with a few issues remaining.

V. Chair Report – John T. Hird

- a. The academic calendar has been updated to reflect a university holiday on Good Friday.
- b. The Faculty Status committee is working to address the comments received on the Promotion and Tenure document with a goal of having a first reading in April and a second reading and vote in May.
- c. A petition received from commuter students to offer Zoom options for class during inclement weather was discussed; along with President Long, the petition has been discussed with students in terms of why it is not reasonable, as it is difficult to offer some classes by Zoom on short notice.
- d. Congratulations to Paul Rakes for his nomination for Teacher of the Year award from Faculty Merit Foundation.

VI. ACF Report – Asad Davari

- a. A new chair was elected at the January 14th meeting.
- b. There was a short discussion of the Campus Carry legislation.
- c. Higher Ed Day at the legislature has been cancelled due to COVID-19; ACF representatives are meeting with key senators, including the chair of the senate education committee.
- d. There was some discussion of the funding formula.

VII. Committee Reports

a. Faculty Senate – Asad Davari

- i. The resolution related to a vote of no confidence in President Gee and Provost Reed failed to pass at the December meeting. President Gee and Provost Reed held a meeting to discuss changes that should take place as a result of the concerns expressed in the resolution.
- ii. President Gee discussed the state budget, noting that it is in a good place and that the University's budget is also in a good place.
- iii. Campus Carry legislation will likely not be an issue this year.
- iv. Rob Alsop provided a presentation on the legislative session and the funding formula as well as discussed the raises for state employees; during the executive committee meeting on January 24th, President Gee stated the funding formula is a priority.
- v. President Gee also addressed the raises for state employees, noting WVU would be giving 3.5% raises based on merit and other factors.
- vi. Provost Reed discussed the academic transformation process and encouraged everyone to attend campus conversations about the process to provide input.

b. Academic Awards – Cynthia Hall

- i. Email announcing the ability to submit nominations will be sent soon; forms will be available on website.
- ii. Nomination forms will be due February 25th by noon.

c. Convocations Committee – Adrienne Williams

- i. The application process, forms, and budget have been updated and are on the Faculty Assembly n drive.

VIII. Agenda: n/a

IX. New Business: n/a

The meeting was adjourned at 1:38 p.m.