

Faculty Assembly

Minutes

January 29, 2021

The Faculty Assembly meeting of WVU-Potomac State College was called to order at 3:00 pm by Chair Wilcox via Zoom.

Voting Members Present

Arjel, K.
Armentrout, D.
Badenhoop, J.
Ballard, D.
Bridges, C.
Burnett, J.
Cheves, R.
Chisholm, S.
Cunningham, E.
DelSignore, R.
Douthitt, P.
Frazier, V.
Gardner, N.
Ghimire, G.

Hudgins, C.
Huffman, V.
Lamichhane, R.
Lawrence, C.
Lessard, D.
Liller, B.
Little, D.
Martini, M.
Moore, M.
Morgart, J.
Oberlechner, S.
O'Quinn, J.
Petersen, R.
Plitnik, B.

Poole, J.
Pritts, C.
Samuels, H.
Schafer, A.
Schafer, D.
Smouse, K.
Stephens, V.
Upton, R.
Van Vranken, N.
Vogtman, J.
Weaver, A.
Wilcox, G.

Voting Members Absent

Garcia Martinez, N.
Jones, J.
Mitchell, S.
Saifi, M.

Stone, J.
Sydow, T.
Zyga, L.

Non-Voting Members Present

Ochoa, G. Little, B.
Orlikoff, J. Taylor, L.

Guests of Faculty Assembly

Hart, N. House, M.

1. Call to Order

- **3:00 pm by chair, Gerald Wilcox**

Minutes were approved as distributed.

President Orlikoff reported the following:

Vaccines are ongoing, some are beginning their 2nd shot. West Virginia is doing a great job. Continued surveillance testing (10% per week). Faculty can request a test as needed. Athletes will be tested for regularly with the rapid antigen test. Excited to have Shannon Meek take over for diversity and our representative on the Diversity Council. She will also lead a SWAT team for strategic planning on campus. The SWOT teams (academics, enrollment, retention, finance, diversity) will form 3-5 year plans for the overall Strategic Plan.

Question: J. Vogtman: student athlete was told to report for testing during classes. Can testing be done during athletic practice rather than during class? Answer: Lucas says that it should be accommodated and not happen again.

Dean Ochoa reported the following:

Early Alerts have gone out, and please complete them by Tuesday. One faculty member reported that they received responses from students within an hour.

Faculty Assembly Chair Wilcox reported the following:

Reported on the death of Professor Kenneth Haines.

Vaccines are going well; this is the way to move the country back to normal.

Guest Speaker: Michelle House and Behavioral Services

Glad to be here. Really pushing the [website](#) for resources; multiple apps are listed there. Will focus on assessing needs at first in order to make plans. Kick off for a 30-Day Mental Health Challenge next week. There is also a referral link on the webpage.

Faculty Representative Reports:

- WVU Senate (Sheri Chisholm, Caitlin Hudgins, Heidi Samuels)
 - Provost Reed: Continue to use seating charts. Students will be tagged in Navigate if they are not eligible to attend in person.
 - Phased separation.
 - Rob Alsop gave an overview of the budget and upcoming legislation. While we have lost some revenue, overall expenses have also been reduced. Enrollment and retention will be a major focus. No campus carry on the legislative calendar. [Budget presentation recording](#).
 - Assistant Provost Niedermeyer presented changes to teaching evaluations. Reviewing P&T process and improving training. "No tenure cases had ever been denied based on SEIs."
 - Syllabus language about mental health.
 - TACO reported that early semester evals will be available; email to come.
 - EAB partnering with Morgantown for improvements and tracking program success. Not ready for PSC yet, but should be available soon.
- Senate Exec (Sheri Chisholm)
 - President Gee talked about the new federal administration and the Dept of Education nominee- signs are positive for their impact on higher education, too. Moving away from personal income tax, this will impact tuition and support in unknown ways.
 - WV doing great with vaccines, including Reed Pharmacy in Keyser.
 - Curriculum changes- communication minor may be positive for us.
 - Jessica Vanderhoff (TACO chair) reported that there is a process in the works to have SEI comments redacted if they are problematic.
- ACF (Tom Sydow)
 - Report was sent to all faculty. [Link](#)
 - Focus to improve broadband access.

Governance Charter and Faculty Assembly Constitution (Annexes 2-3)

Professor Badenhop moved to approve the Governance Charter, 2nd by _____. Carried

Brian Plitnik moved to approve the Faculty Assembly Cons. 2nd by _____. Carried

New Business:

- none

Announcements:

- Professor Weaver reported that we have 4 IRS certified students who can help with tax filing. We also have a link that can help but it cannot be shared publicly.
- Professor Samuels: WVU Work Pulse results are out in eNews. 85% of respondents reported they prefer to work remotely for some amount of the week. Will the survey help guide the SWOT? Per President Orlikoff, yes, it should.
- Chair Wilcox: we've gotten emails about an ad-hoc committee for student prizes, seats have been filled.
- Professor Samuels: Next year, there will be an issue with more underprepared students due to the impact of the pandemic. We must be aware. President Orlikoff: Morgantown wants to use some of the CARES Act money for bootcamps in the K-12 system for transitions to higher ed. Professor Chisholm brought up placement testing and making sure that is robust. Dean Ochoa reports that there are online options and that the English version worked in 2020.
- Professor Huffman reported that Lisa Zyga gave birth to Vera this past weekend.

Adjournment:

- Professor Upton moved for the meeting to be adjourned at 3:48pm. **Motion Carried.**

/ Mia Martini
Faculty Assembly Secretary