**Faculty Senate Minutes**

Monday, February 15, 2021, 3:10 p.m., online via Zoom

**Senate Roster for 2020-2022:**

Kurtis Adams (MUSC), Robert Anthony (SCCJ), James Broomall (HIST), Larry Daily (PSYC), Rhonda Donaldson (LIB), Karen Green (SOWK), Jeff Groff (DEPS), Michael Groves (NURS), Max Guirguis (PSCI), Osman Guzide (CME), Heidi Hanrahan (ENGL/LANG), Desmond Lawless (RSES), Mengyang Li (CHEM), Belinda Mitchell (EDUC), David Modler (ART), George Ray (BADM), Kathleen Reid (ECON), John Steffen (BIOL), Cindy Vance (ACCT), Kevin Williams (COMM), Max Guirguis (ACF).

**Officers:** Heidi Hanrahan (President), John Steffen (Secretary), Jeff Groff (Parliamentarian)

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Kurtis Adams MUSC Present

Robert Anthony SOCI/GEOG Present

James Broomall HIST Present

Larry Daily PSYC Present

Rhonda Donaldson LIB Present

Karen Green SOWK Present

Jeff Groff DEPS Present

Michael Groves NURS Present

Max Guirguis PSCI Present

Osman Guzide CME Present

Heidi Hanrahan ENGL/LANG Present

Desmond Lawless RSES x

Mengyang Li CHEM Present

Belinda Mitchell EDUC Present

David Modler ART Present

Tim Nixon CORE x

George Ray BADM x

Kathleen Reid ECON Present

John Steffen BIOL Present

Cindy Vance ACCT Present

Kevin Williams COMM Present

**Meeting Schedule (2020-2021):** 9/7, 9/21, 10/5, 10/19, 11/2, 11/16, 12/7, 2/1, **2/15**, 3/1, 3/22, 4/5, 4/19

**I. Approval of February 1, 2020 Minutes. Approved at 4:01 pm.**

**II. Committee reports**

**Assembly Committees and Representatives**

A. Admissions & Credits (Senator Reid). Continuing to get feels about late withdrawals.

B. Curriculum & Instruction (Senator Groves). Actuary Science went through. 1st reads will start next week.

C. Core Curriculum (Tim Nixon): No Report.

D. Advisory Council of Faculty (Senator Guirguis). Another “campus carry” (SB 246) has been introduced. MG: Eliminate exceptions to conceal / carry bill & everyone could bring gun to school. Expect opposition to bill.

**Faculty Senate Committees and Representatives**

E. Library Liaison (Senator Donaldson). No Report.

F. Professional Development, Faculty Salary, and Welfare (Senator Reid). Applications for summer stipend grant due today, mini-grants due March 10.

G. Scholarship & Awards (Senators Vance and Adams). List of eligible candidates for McMurran scholars were sent in today.

H. Senate Bylaws (Senators Anthony and Groves). No Report.

I. Washington Gateway (Senator Williams). No Report.

**External Committee Representatives**

J. Calendar Committee (Senator Mitchell). No Report.

K. Diversity & Equity Committee (Senator Green). Remind faculty to complete campus training on Sakai.

L. Enrollment Management Committee (Senator Broomall). No Report.

M. Graduate Council (Senator Williams) No Report. N. Student Success Committee (Senator Hanrahan). No Report. O. Technology Oversight Committee (Senator Guzide). No Report.

**Other Committees**

P. Assessment Task Force (Senator Donaldson) No Report.

Q. Budget Advisory Council (Senator Adams, Senator Groff, Senator Williams). No Report.

R. Internationalization Advisory Council (Senator Lawless). No Report.

S. Threat Assessment Task Force (Senator Daily). No Report.

**III. Visitor: Dr. Mary J.C. Hendrix, President**

President Hendrix shared presentation: ‘Delivering education in a challenging environment’. President Hendrix presented results of the President’s Office preparation for the 10 year Higher Education Policy Commission Accreditation Review. The SU preparatory findings show that SU doing well with COVID 19: cumulative cases low: 4 SU members quarantined, 13 off-campus (exposure & active cases). Cost-to-date: spent > $900 thousand to keep campus safe. Only $252 thousand reimbursed so far. Budget updates presented. The Office of the President has presented the CARES package. SU’s Revenue, expense, & net loss figures presented, showing probable 60 days cash on hand. Presented challenging enrollment numbers (i.e. under-enrollment), and presented some current recruitment plans (e.g., , polishing & elevating Shepherd brand, and collecting & using market research to develop investments. EPH drives economics of the state. Also Loop Devo Project, Hospitality Program.

**IV: Visitor: Dr. Kelly Hart, VP for Enrollment Management**

What is happening in world of admissions? Declining # of High School graduates & all universities are competing for that smaller #. So where are we and how did we get here? Currently down 500 students in admissions. We are doing it without a Customer Relationships Management (CRM) system – everything is manual. SU is going to purchase a CRM and it should enhance communications with prospective students. Purchase & pursue students names via ACT’s & SAT’s. SU is currently going SAT optional…do not have to have an SAT for an SU student. However, Promise scholarship requires SAT and the Promise # is down by ½. Postal service was behind because of election, and mailers & financial aid to new students finally arrived this month. Increasing # of daily tours. End of Feb do Accepted Student events, see how pandemic goes in March & offer two more acceptance events. What SU is experience is common to other small universities. Is pursuing “junior rank’ HS students for Fall 2022. Enrollment Management will work with counselors locally and in the states surrounding us.

**V. Old business**  
A. Evaluations of BOG and Administrators. Answers about Sakai-based evaluations from Dr. Renninger (LR): they are anonymous because they cannot be used to determine ID. SB: use Sakai tool as per policy in Faculty Handbook. Policy in handbook is specific to academic administrators but will be used across campus and revised to cover other administrator contexts. Anonymity can be an issue in small departments. LR: Sakai-when set up as anonymous, is anonymous, & can’t be changed…HH shows eval criteria. 9 criteria so far.

**VI. New business**

1. Parameters for Professional Development funding (Senator Reid and Provost Beard). Adjunct instructors observed lack of access to professional development fund, and want this topic brought to the Senate. Discussed mini-grant availability, faculty excellence awards & professional development (i.e. Travel) availability. SB: clinical faculty & adjuncts are eligible for faculty excellence awards & professional development Are leftover mini-grants available for adjuncts & free trainings for part time instructors? KR: Biggest area of possibility is mini-grants. Donors decide who is eligible for mini-grants, not administrators of mini-grants. Perhaps talk to donors to make it eligible for adjunct, non-tenure track. SB: should we take this to professional development board? HH; SU not in position to support non-TT, adjunct via professional development funds. If we keep getting more cuts, then that excess $ (in mini-grants, professional development, etc) will be needed by TT faculty. SB: perhaps consider FT, but not TT…SB: We’ll take it on a case by case basis, and direct individuals to particular places.

**VII. Announcements**

Merit pay applications due March 1, 2021.

Possibility of State of WV to eliminate WV state income tax. This is important to discuss among faculty because a main source of educational funding comes from this tax. If this elimination occurs, educators will be in a tough position.

Meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.