

WCU FACULTY SENATE MEETING

Date: October 22, 2015

Time: 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location: FHG Library Room 613

Facilitator: Jim Brenner, President

Type of meeting: Scheduled Meeting

Note Taker: Bessie Lawton, Recording Secretary

Misc.

Attendees:

Members Present: *designated by an X*

Abdel-Salam, Sami	<i>X (Proxy: Michael Antonio)</i>	Krulikowski, Anne	<i>X</i>
Abdesaken, Gerald	<i>X</i>	Lawton, Bessie Lee	<i>X</i>
Akuoko, Mathias	<i>X</i>	Loustau, Erica	<i>X</i>
Atuahene, Francis	<i>X</i>	Metz, Stacie	<i>absent</i>
Belak, Phyllis	<i>X</i>	Miller, Thomas	<i>X</i>
Benedict, Kristopher	<i>X</i>	Onderdonk, Julian	<i>X</i>
Bolton, David	<i>X</i>	Pierlott, Matthew	<i>X</i>
Bowen, Brian	<i>X</i>	Reed, Melissa	<i>X</i>
Brenner, Jim	<i>X</i>	Saboe, Matt	<i>X</i>
Brown, Eleanor	<i>X</i>	Sanz-Sanchez, Israel	<i>absent</i>
Cherry, Dan	<i>X</i>	Schugar, Heather	<i>X</i>
DeHope, Eli	<i>X (Proxy: Greg Tully)</i>	Scythes, Jim	<i>X (Proxy: Cynthia Haggard)</i>
Forbes, Daniel	<i>X</i>	Selvaggi, Tina	<i>X (Proxy: Jackie Hodes)</i>
Haggard, Cynthia	<i>X</i>	Sestrick, Timothy	<i>X</i>
Hill, Erin	<i>X</i>	Sullivan, Rosemary	<i>X</i>
Kenney, Jane	<i>X</i>	Van Schooneveld, Jackie	<i>X</i>
Kolasinski, Kurt	<i>X (Steven James)</i>	Williams, York	<i>X</i>
Kopacz, Ola	<i>X</i>	Wiest, Julie	<i>X</i>
Adjunct Faculty Rep: Mitchell Goldfarb	<i>X</i>	Student Gov't Rep: TBA	--
Adjunct Faculty Rep: William Sawyer	<i>X</i>	ROTC representative: TBA	--

Guests in Attendance: Barbara McPherson (Nursing)

AGENDA ITEMS

Topic	Discussion	Action
Welcome to Senators, Proxies, and Guests (J. Brenner)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Welcome and Introductions Minutes from September 18, 2015 meeting approved 	

<p>President Weisenstein updates</p>	<p>1. The State still doesn't have a budget, but WCU will be fine. 80-85% of our revenue comes from tuition and fees, so we are not as dependent on the state budget.</p> <p>2. One of the issues resulting from not having an approved state budget is that student financial aid is not funded, so we have to backfill that amount first. When the budget is passed, we get the money back from the state. Some institutions cannot do that.</p> <p>3. Board of Governors had a motion to pool all reserves from all institutions, then disburse as needed. Motion was defeated 9-5. We don't know if this will be brought up again.</p> <p>4. The President does not know what will happen to the President's office. He is not part of the process for selecting a successor. He believes an Interim President will be named after the first of the year to allow for a transition. Board of Governors would like the search to be longer, so Interim will be appointed for 18 months. This would allow for more input from the community in the process. There is no policy for appointing an interim President. The Chancellor makes the decision for the Interim. The Chancellor will recommend for the permanent and the Board of Governors will interview.</p> <p>5. For the Interim job, he thinks it's helpful to have an internal candidate.</p> <p>Q: Last time, the Provost was appointed interim for 2 years. Will this happen this time?</p> <p>A: It depends on the President. Some want continuity, some keep people in place for stability.</p> <p>Q: Are we doing a Provost search at the same time we are doing a President search?</p> <p>A: President Weisenstein thinks the institution would want to avoid it, by doing it earlier or extending the term of the interim provost. He thinks Laurie is doing her job well.</p> <p>Q: Engineering program?</p> <p>A: He thinks what will happen is WCU will bring in someone on a consulting basis. He feels we need to find someone who will come to us on an intermittent basis, or hire a faculty member to design a program in consultation with related disciplines. The problem with a consultant is we still have to do the work. There will be pushback from institutions around Philly, since it will represent competition. We are looking at electrical engineering because of our strength in computers. Mechanical engineering needs lab space.</p> <p>Q: Philly campus – space issue. No offices, students sharing space, is there a plan to have our own space</p> <p>A: There should be. We had a plan with Cheney to make an offer for a 5-story building in Philly. PASSHE denied us this opportunity. We have more than 300 students in Philly, other institutions have less than 35. There is a non-competition clause, which prevents us from taking programs there that other institutions want to offer, like business. We will be outgrowing the space soon.</p> <p>Q: on the Teacher-scholar model, what is the university vision on research and support?</p> <p>A: Given our faculty, we should have about \$10 M in annual research expenditures. We are a long way from that. Gautam is working to generate interest. Barriers: need to offload people, help secure external grants (the path we have to take). It is difficult to offload people (25% limit), but if can't do this, we can't get some grants like NIH. Since I've been here we've grown 20% in enrollment, grown 23% in faculty hiring. Worked with APSCUF to convert temporary to full-time faculty.</p> <p>Q: Where would you like to see WCU 5-10 years from now?</p> <p>A: We turn away a lot of good students. We wanted to have branch campuses, but that did not work out. Research like institutions to figure out how to give those who want to do research the opportunity to do so. We will continue to market WCU – we have both a good price point and quality. Consumer Reports ranked us #21 in value. Would like to see us offer more doctoral programs, will need to amend Act 188 to allow for this. Need to enact legislation that would give us the right like IUP to offer PhDs. We can't grow too much more because it puts pressure on the campus and community. Will see distance ed continue to grow and reach students who are non-traditional. New Commons building– 1st floor – offices from Lawrence. 2nd floor – faculty and staff dining lounge. 3rd-5th – academic, hope to be completed in 2019. BPAC is 51 days behind schedule , was</p>	

	<p>scheduled to open in fall 2016.</p>	
<p>APSCUF – Bob Gallup, Treasurer</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mark Rimple is not able to come, so Bob Gallup is taking his place. 2. APSCUF goal is to work with other groups like the Senate on issues that are contract-related. 3. Next week, all faculty meeting – Tuesday, October 27th, Main 168, 3:30, will provide updates on contract negotiations. APSCUF forwarded a proposal for a one year extension of the current contract. 	
<p>Senate business</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Minutes from April and September approved. 2. Interim presidential appointment – Jim gave an update. Chancellor will decide who and for how long. He is under the impression that the Chancellor will take input from Council of Trustees. We drafted a letter to the Chancellor, but we put this on hold. Jim has been talking to Mark Rimple, who asked us to put the statement on hold. We are working to see if the Senate should put something forward as faculty rep when APSCUF is the faculty bargaining unit. Q: How hands-on is the Chancellor, usually he takes the recommendation of Council of Trustees. A: Don't know. We don't know how much opportunity faculty will be given in the process of selecting the Interim. 3. Ellie said there is the potential that half of the Cabinet will be appointed for a few years. It's problematic that faculty are being left out of that much of the Cabinet even if for just a couple of years. There is a process for faculty involvement for permanent positions, but there is no requirement for interim positions. 4. Cynthia said a concern is who will sign tenure and promotion documents when the President leaves in March. What is the process of accountability for those who are appointed in interim positions? 5. VP for Information Technology search – formed without Senate consultation. Melissa Reed is our Senate rep. Search firm will meet Monday, Oct. 26. Our Constitution states the President seeks a Senate rep for upper-level searches. John Villela has been sent an email that the committee had been formed without consultation from Senate. Step 1 of grievance process is to try and resolve with the administration. Step 2 is for APSCUF begins the grievance process. We have drafted a letter to John Villela, cc-ing President W, Laurie Bernotsky, and Mark Rimple. Q: Is there a pattern, and is it deliberate, that Senate was also not included in the Social Equity search. VP for External Operations was a position that was created and appointed. 6. Academic reorganization – we prepared a feedback letter. We need to show administration that we are being vigilant about the searches and the reorganization process. Some departments have concerns about fit, timing, lack of transparency, and lack of data to inform the process. The letter was approved unanimously. 7. Inflate-a-date letter. Matt Pierlott drafted the letter for the Senate. There was some discussion on the length of the letter and whether it needs to address the male dolls. Letter will be sent to SSI Director, President, PR, Provost, VP of Student Affairs, and Quad. The vote was passed with one nay vote. 8. Master facilities and space management plan – released to Cabinet last week. 	
<p>Liaison reports</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. LGBTQ advocacy committee - Dan Forbes - not met 2. CCIT – Ellie – Senate and APSCUF are working together to address concerns about how the administration followed up on an issue raised at a recent CCIT meeting. 3. Faculty mentoring - Tim Sestrick 4. Sustainability advisory - Kurt Kolasinski is the new liaison 5. Space allocation - York 6. University Forum – no liaison 7. Multicultural faculty - Israel - 8. APSCUF - Cynthia – APSCUF working on issues of ADA training, background checks, distance 	

	<p>ed SRIS, policies for virtual office hours for people who teach online, classroom speaker "policy," budget committee, promotion and tenure policies, feedback for sabbatical applications that are rejected, continuing ed programs. WCU met the 25% cap.</p> <p>9. Council for Diversity, Inclusion, and Academic Excellence - Eli –</p> <p>10. ADA – Matt- one issue is the accessibility of course materials. PDFs may not be text-readable for those with vision problems. Some textbook websites may also have materials that are not text-readable.</p> <p>11. Budget review committee- Jim - meeting Oct. 23</p>	
Announcements	<p>Green Dot faculty bystander training 11/4 4-6 pm</p> <p>Campus climate survey – complete by 10/23</p> <p>Call for gen ed advisory board members – Rodney Mader</p>	
Committees	<p>- committees met to fill out workplans (attached)</p> <p>Faculty welfare and ethics - Chair: Jim Scythes</p> <p>Student welfare - Chair: Francis Atuahene – met with Paul Gargiulo to discuss names of transgender students on D2L. Paul is working to formalize a process through LGBTQA so we can communicate to them how to address the issue.</p> <p>Membership and elections - Chair: Heather Schugar</p> <p>Communications - Chair: Kurt Kolasinski</p> <p>Research- Chair: Israel Sanz-Sanchez</p> <p>Ad hoc Facilities and sustainability - Chair: Tom Miller</p>	
Senate Exec Committee	<p>President: Jim Brenner</p> <p>Vice President: Heather Schugar</p> <p>Recording Secretary: Bessie Lawton</p> <p>Corresponding Secretary: Kurt Kolasinski</p> <p>At-Large Members: Matthew Pierlott and Israel Sanz-Sanchez</p> <p>Immediate Past President: Eli DeHope</p>	
	5 pm adjournment	
NEXT MEETING		
Day and Time:	November 20, 2015, 3-5 pm	
Topics/ Presenters:		

Committee Reports

Research ad-hoc committee:

Chair: Israel Sanz-Sanchez

Members:

- Original issue that got the ball rolling with this ad-hoc committee in 2014-2015: WCU institutional mission - should it be modified to mention research?
- Access to internal funds (faculty in CAS and, to a lesser extent, other colleges have experience significant delays in the processing of payments, which makes it difficult to complete research projects in a timely manner).
- Expectations for research are increasing in many colleges and departments, but teaching loads are remaining the same (or even worse, since many departments have eliminated discretionary AWA). Related issue: how is the 25% expectation for temporary faculty affecting AWA availability and overall conditions for research?
- Different levels of support for research across disciplines: e.g., Business and Public Affairs gives one yearly AWA, but this level of support is not homogeneous in other units.
- Teaching/research identity at WCU: are we a teaching-only institution? If not, what is the connection between teaching and research? Is research only valid for us at WCU if it is directly connected to teaching?
- Next Senate meeting on 10/22: Visit by the President and Mark Rimple. We will start working towards a more articulated vision, but by that meeting we will have perhaps one or two questions for them in connection to faculty research.

Membership committee:

Chair: Heather Schugar

Members: Rosemary Sullivan, Phyllis Belak

Topic: to look at list

Project goals: Identify members up for re-election, check attendance

Work plan: get from Jim, check offices

Topic: Put out call for membership

Work plan: Heather Leaman

Topic: Run Exec committee election

Work plan: encourage to stay for 2 years

Topic: Track proxies' attendance

Work plan: send letter for # of service

Facilities and sustainability ad-hoc:

Chair: Tom Miller

Members: Ola Kopacz, Tom Sestrick

Project goal: investigate speak with Senate leadership

Student welfare:

Chair: Francis Atuahene

Members: Dan Forbes, Mathias Akuoko, Dan Cherry

Topic: LGBTQ ally name change issues

members: Francis Atuahene, Dan Cherry, Dan Forbes

project goals: get technical glitch resolved

work plan: get in touch with Paul Gargiulio D2L guy

Topic: off campus incidents involving students

members: Mathias Akuoko

Faculty welfare:

Chair: Jim Scythes

Members: Eli deHope, Stacey Metz, Bessie Lawton, Cynthia Haggard, Tina Salveggi, Matt Pierlott, York Williams

Topic: monitor Philly campus, wage tax

members: Cynthia, Bessie

Topic: space allocation

members: York, Tina

Topic: Parking

members: Jim, Matt

goals: less WCU vehicles space in Swope (send elsewhere), revisit assigned spaces