

WCU FACULTY SENATE

Date: April 20, 2012

Time: 2:00 – 4:00 pm

Location: FHG Library Room 613

Facilitator:	Julian Onderdork, President, Faculty Senate	Type of meeting:	Faculty Senate, scheduled monthly meeting
Note Taker:	Tanya Gatenby, Recording Secretary	Misc.	

Attendees:	Members Present: <i>designated by an X</i>			
	ina	<i>X</i>	Means, Jennifer	<i>Absent</i>
		<i>Absent</i>	Metz, Stacie	<i>X</i>
	or	<i>X</i>	Gatenby, Tanya	<i>X</i>
		<i>Absent</i>	Murphy, Corinne	<i>Proxy, Tara Guerriero</i>
	er	<i>X</i>	Nadolny, Larysa	<i>X</i>
		<i>X</i>	Nitica, Viorel	<i>X</i>
	J. C.	<i>X</i>	Onderdonk, Julian	<i>X</i>
		<i>Proxy, Danielle Truch (??)</i>	Pierlott, Matthew	<i>Proxy, Kristen Crossney</i>
	Beth	<i>X</i>	Sanz-Sanchez, Israel	<i>Proxy, Mark Gagne</i>
	thia	<i>X</i>	Schugar, Heather	<i>X</i>
	cott	<i>Absent</i>	Sharpe, Heather	<i>X</i>
		<i>X</i>	Shivde, Geeta	<i>X</i>
		<i>X</i>	Smith, Paul K.	<i>X</i>
	rdina	<i>X</i>	Staruch, Liz	<i>X</i>
	rt	<i>X</i>	Stiefel, Van	<i>X</i>
	e Lee	<i>X</i>	Verden, Claire	<i>Proxy, Tara Guerriero</i>
	n	<i>X</i>	Winterton, Sally	<i>X</i>
	ny)	<i>Proxy, Karen Obhen (??)</i>		
		Bill Hanrahan, Student Gov't		<i>X</i>
	Jane Kenney, Guest, Prof. and Secondary Education Jennifer Gibbs, Guest, Criminal Justice James Scythes, Guest History		<i>X</i>	

AGENDA ITEMS

Topic	Discussion	Action
<p>✓ Julian Onderdork, President, Faculty Senate</p>	<p>Senators, Proxies and Guests</p>	
<p>✓ Julian Onderdork, President, Faculty Senate</p>	<p>Minutes of the March 8, 2012 meeting approved</p>	
<p>✓ President Weisenstein</p>	<p>Thanks to everyone for a good academic year Governor has requested in his budget a 20% cut on top of the 18% cut is a 5% freeze. Board of Governors has not made a decision as to what they are going to do with the Governor's request. Good news is tax revenue is up a bit which might indicate a true recovery. President Weisenstein testified before the legislature and feels that there is an understanding of the importance of a good academic education. Probably will propose a 10 or 15% cut. Tuition may increase between 3 and 5%. As the proposed cut increases, it is the hope is the Board of Governors will understand the need for a higher tuition increase. Bottom line is the trajectory of defunding higher education in this state is pretty steep President's Weisenstein's suggestion is to work a bit harder on the revenue side to create our own independence and security. Drexel University generated 67 million dollars through their DE program. We have the ability to generate additional revenue ourselves and not just sit by and let things happen to us. Legislature has introduced bills with more regulatory relief that provide us the opportunity to generate more revenue. Strategic plan is shaping up to be good and appears to be reasonable. Question: <i>Graduate education – What is being done to make sure we can protect this opportunity for students?</i> The feeling is we should increase tuition enough in order to identify need based dollars. Graduate programs are really evolving as well as summer programs. Research indicates that students choose program based on price point, quality, and consumer convenience. Many people are getting a Masters degree by distance. That's why people are choosing institutions that don't have close to the reputation we do and paying higher tuition. This is a national trend. The same thing is happening with summer. Students indicated they would be more likely to take one or two courses if offered through distance education. Both summer and graduate enrollments have been</p>	

challenged. The expectations of students have changed tremendously. The Department of Education did a review of literature around Distance Education and found learning outcomes are often better than traditional classroom settings. Students more motivated, more focused, and comfortable with technology. WCU should look at things that are consistent with the mission and can help generate resources back to the institution.

Question:

Are successful student outcomes compared to 18 credit hours or one or two courses on campus?
Each study is different. You need to look at the research soundness.

Question:

If summer enrollment is up it can have a negative impact on the Fall.

We have people that are looking at both summer and distance ed. Fact is most people that attend summer are our own students. Did establish summer only Masters programs that could be done in three summers. People could come from 2 – 3 weeks and also build in youth camps. Summer session workshops were best recruiting tool for Masters and doctoral programs.

Question:

Noticed enrollment in summer have been soft. Why are students taking summer courses elsewhere and not here?

Not an easy alternative for students. This needs to be investigated further.

Stanford professor put class online and had 100,000 students with the intent of reaching hundreds of thousands of students.

Someone has to pay cost. Competition for best graduate students will help institution go bankrupt. Best bet for a bright future is to take more control of these things ourselves as an institution.

Question:

What happens as the state contribution continues to go down?

If the funding level is that low and we still have 100% of the regulation, you have to ask why.

Next year will be a really revealing year for Governor Corbett. One more year of large cuts, and he doesn't have to say anything. His actions will speak for themselves.

A 20% cut is 9.5 million dollars. What are some equivalents? College of Health Sciences is funded at 8.8 million dollars. That gives you some sense of the magnitude. We have the ability to buy time but that's all we are doing (with the stabilization funds).

Question:

Any thought to moving away from the 9 month model to a 12 month model?

Not seriously discussed because 70% of student body is employed and 35% are first generation college students.

Question:

What percentage comes from endowment?

Goal is within next five years to double endowment. The return on the endowment is 3.5% which is very good. Also a very good year in fund raising through gifts. Somewhere in the neighborhood of 22 million dollars. There are people in the Foundation that are very good.

✓ Julian	Thanks President Weisenstein for coming to the meeting and speaking to Faculty Senate.	
✓ Julian	Approval of February and March minutes.	
✓ Julian	Executive Committee Elections	
✓ Ellie Brown, Vice-president, Faculty Senate	Thanks to Julian for all of his hard work. Ellie presented a card to Julian signed by senate members.	
✓ Julian	Julian announced the final approval of revisions to PASSHE Board of Governors Academic Policy 1990-06-A. In November 2010, the WCU Senate and Council of Chairs protested the initial version of this revision and, with the help of WCU administrators and other State-wide advocates, persuaded the BOG to introduce further revisions that are more acceptable to PASSHE faculty. The proposed credit cap for BA degree programs has now been revised upwards from 40 to 42 credits. (BS programs remained capped at 60.) No Gen Ed, language or "culture cluster" course, even if required or recommended towards a specific degree, need be counted towards the degree. Further exemptions to the 42/60 cap may be available, and will require petitioning the Office of the Chancellor for an exception to the policy; accreditation requirements would be a compelling argument.	
✓ Julian	The revision to the Senate By-laws was postponed, and will be reexamined next AY year. However, it was agreed by unanimous vote that measures proposed during the ratification process—new rules governing attendance, proxy selection and elections, as well as a provision extending Senate representation to WCU temporary faculty for the first time—be informally instituted starting in the Fall.	
✓ Julian	Julian moved forward with a discussion about the draft of a letter that was approved in Sept regarding the Children's Center. It was felt that Senate should not relinquish this. Geeta has written a letter to make a statement to the community about concern of the closure and value of children's center. A motion was approved that a letter should go into the Quad.	Letter about the concerns of the closing of the Children's Center will be placed in the Quad.
✓ Julian	Julian reported progress on the Senate's efforts to create a joint letter to be signed by PASSHE Faculty Senates protesting Governor Corbett's Education Budget. Senate voted its approval of this letter, which was later approved by the Faculty Senates and/or University Forums of 12 other PASSHE campuses (only Mansfield voted not to sign the letter), and signed by their chief representatives. The letter was sent on May 17 to the Governor, the Lt. Governor, and 73 PA members of the House and Senate Education Committees and to those Senators and Representatives in districts containing PASSHE campuses.	WCU Faculty Senate President, along with the other PASSHE Faculty Senate Presidents, will sign a letter protesting Governor Corbett's proposed budget cuts
✓ Julian	Julian asked Senate members to consider writing a letter about full-time LBGQT letter. The position Jackie Hodes held is now open. Twenty-five percent of position now focuses on LBGQT, in comparison to other positions. LBGQT requests that Faculty Senate write a letter asking for support to Matt Bricketto and Linda Lamwers for LBGQT issues. Campus Climate Survey indicated	Student and Faculty Welfare committee will draft a letter regarding the coordinator position previously held by

Deleted:

	LBGTQ needed more support. Eli DeHope said she wasn't going to make a suggestion but pointed out the need for it. What if it's done from the position of Student and Faculty Welfare? Motion was approved to draft a letter about coordinator position from the position of Faculty Welfare and Student Welfare Committee from the Senate. Motion approved. The final letter, approved by Senate by electronic vote, was delivered to Dr. Matthew Bricketto on May 3, 2012.	Jackie Hodes.
✓ Julian	End of Year Committee Reports will be sent to Tanya and posted on the Faculty Senate website.	Committee Chairpersons to forward their end of year reports to Tanya Gatenby
✓	Executive Committee Election New President Ellie Brown VP – Tanya Gatenby Corresponding Secretary – Eli DeHope Recording secretary – Geeta Shivde At-Large – Stacie Metz, Kurt Kolasinski	
✓ Julian	Thanks everyone for all their work.	
NEXT MEETING		
Day and Time:	September 28, 2012 2:00 – 4:00 pm	
Topics:		
Please read/bring:		