Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes    10/16/15

Attendance:  Tina Nicholson, Rodney Montague, Mike Lilly, Michelle Cofer, Roy Pruett, Tamara Ferguson, Norm Mirsky, Dharshanna Arachchi, Adam Ozyavas, Steve Bourne, Geoff Hunter, Darrel Malamisura, and Dr. Connor

I.  Call to Order

II.  Roy Pruett made motion to approve minutes with corrections; Michelle Cofer seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

III.  Dr. Connor again explained that he was in attendance to answer questions.

IV.  Old Business

Darrel Malamisura asked for comments about the informational meeting.  Mike Lilly said it was well attended.  Steve Bourne explained he had class.

Malamisura explained the Constitution revision is still underway.  No enrollment numbers were given at the BOG meeting, but Terry Thompson said we have 1489 with 59 c-holds and 1430 paid.  Steve Bourne asked if yesterday was the reporting date and if we had included the c-holds in the number reported.  He explained enrollment was 1564 last fall.  Discussion followed.  Dr. Connor explained we had a 19% increase in freshmen and will focus on retention.  Michelle Cofer asked what we are doing to improve retention.  Dr. Connor explained that internal and external factors impact retention; faculty and Student Support do a good job but housing is an issue.  Rodney Montague asked if we had numbers for full-time and part-time.  Norm Mirsky explained all the numbers would be on-line after the census date.  Michelle Cofer made a motion to invite the retention director to discuss strategies developed.  Roy Pruett seconded the motion and all were in favor.  Steve Bourne explained the need for quantitative analysis and the fact that we always use qualitative data.  He questioned the 15 to Finish program and explained that when advisees work, he recommends taking 12 hrs so they can be successful.  Dr. Connor advised we put aside what we are told if it goes against our values. Norm Mirsky explained 15 hrs is one FTE.  Dr. Connor explained BSC has a good director of research who keeps good data and is a fine analysist who could give good information and recommend she be invited to senate.  Mike Lilly explained that 15 to Finish was designed to help graduation rates, and Darrel Malamisura explained it works for traditional students but not our students. Faculty discussed how graduation rates are counted in WV.  Steve Bourne explained we should be able to do a second count so that we could include transfer students in our graduation rates.

V.  Committee Reports

Michelle Cofer said that Assessment will meet next week.  Budget should also meet once Shelia Johnson gets the information about budget cuts.  Norm Mirsky explained that BOG will have a finance committee comprised of him, Buzzo, and Kantor.  Mike Lilly explained that HEPC would not be meeting at BSC, but would meet in Charleston and in Logan.  He plans to go to Charleston to talk with the chancellor.  Mike Lilly explained the curriculum updates are in last month’s meeting minutes and that the registrar had questioned the change in fees which must be approved by BOG.  Promotion and Tenure will not meet until next year.  Norm Mirsky explained that Dr. Krotseng had said that BSC would not make decisions based on achieving university status at the BOG meeting.  Steve Bourne
questioned the 11 million endowment fund, and Norm Mirsky explained that the foundation determined how those funds were to be used. Darrel Malamisura explained the College Council asked for input concerning having faculty and staff wear ID. A short discussion followed and Malamisura explained that wearing ID isn’t practical because people misplace and forget their ID. Mike Lilly proposed we oppose requiring faculty and staff to wear ID. Roy Pruett seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The draft for Procedures for Resolution of Harassment Complaints was discussed. Norm Mirsky pointed out that one person did the investigations and that the term “preponderance of evidence” is problematic. Rodney Montague pointed out that security has no role. Other issues were discussed. Darrel Malamisura recommended that we should move carefully and asked senators to send comments to him and to Tammy Ferguson. Steve Bourne pointed out that step 3 in the draft is unclear.

Norm Mirsky explained that specifics for the budget cut have not been sent. He also explained that clarification is needed. Darrel Malamisura explained that the institution could save money in several areas. Dr. Connor explained that this is the first institution he’s seen that does not have budgets. He said that he still doesn’t have a budget. He recommends that we need the opportunity to reduce and reallocate funds. Steve Bourne said that we have never had budgets and asked if the BOG knows that budgets aren’t given to anyone. Norm Mirsky said that the BOG knows that bills are paid and the lack of budgets has been a 30 year fight. Coach Hunter explained that we can’t spend money on items that do not impact enrollment. We also noted we do not have a plan to turn around our declining enrollment. Dr. Connor again said that the external and internal factors impact enrollment and that BSC has a detailed plan but needs a budget assessment. Darrel Malamisura explained we don’t have control over external, but we do have control over internal issues like spending money where it isn’t needed. Dr. Connor said the issue is broad and we should receive information and then make decisions to reduce hostility. Steve Bourne explained we should read Good to Great and that this is not a public vs private issue. Darrel Malamisura said according to code, we should have the information. Steve Bourne explained that in order to do a good job, you have to have a budget. He then made a motion to adjourn, and Roy Pruett seconded it.