



Faculty Senate Meeting

Minutes

April 4th, 2025, 11:00 am

Present: President Martin, Ron Shidlemantle, Josh Grubb, Sarita Rhonemus, Bill Bennett, Darrel Malamisura, Betty Nash, Vincent Mateescu, Julie Orr, Kristin Hogan, Roy Pruett, Vanessa Godfrey, Albert Berkoh, and David Balok.

Previous Minutes: A quorum was met and Vanessa made a motion to approve the previous minutes and Roy seconded. All were in favor with none opposed and no abstentions.

Report from President Martin: The President explained the goal and desires of the event on May 8th and May 9th. All Juniors and seniors from Mercer County Schools will be on campus. 40- 50 in a group rotating around all the areas. Will be a full day both days. All departments should be on campus showing off their technology and specialties.

He then went on to discuss admissions. Josh Grubb and Ron will discuss where we will be. We are looking at adding more students. We will have some challenges as far as housing, but increase in enrollment is a positive growth.

The annual day of giving on April 9th is our first day of giving ever, for BSU. We have goals to raise money for Scholarships but also to see how many donors/ stake holders we can get for BSU. At the time of our meeting 98% of the cabinet has given, The BOG will commit 100% of donors, Alumni is also being asked to contribute. So, the President is also asking Faculty to give. On the donation page you can designate where the donor would like the money to go.

Sarita: Welcomes Dr. Amanda Matoushek as the new Dean to replace Tammy Ferguson. This will begin in the summer.

Admissions Update: Josh Grubb- Have begun to use the CRM to its full potential to augment communications with new or interested students. This is utilizing automated email and text communications. There is also some personal outreach still happening. Names will be purchased of students in the region of those who have taken ACT or SAT exams. Names have also been acquired organically through relationships with some of the local schools. There is also an Applicant communication flow through the automatic CRM program. This is considered basic communication from the CRM. The next steps are to be much more complex communications with more personal touches. A meeting is planned for the next week to begin work on the next step. The goal is to make things more automated. Another goal is to increase international students, that are non-athlete students. There will be one specific recruiter for this Goal to work with specific international non-athlete students.

There is an open position in admissions. The day after it was announced that there were 4 employees in admissions they went back to 3 personnel. It was decided to hire a processor to help Christina with the manual work of applications and admissions.

Ron- Added that we are more up to date with communications and are now sending out a very personalized welcome packet that is signed by the President. Admissions counselors are also making personal phone calls in the evening hours of 4-8 pm as a “best practice” for admissions.

The open house had 100 people in attendance and it was considered successful. Approx. 500 are expected to attend on May 8 and 9th. He stated we are almost 8% up from last year at this time. FTE is up 4%. Applications are up but accepted numbers are down slightly. We need to also work on our re-admit numbers. These are not where we want them to be.

Faculty Nomination: Julie Orr shared that Katie Shepherd was interviewed on WVVA news as she was nominated as Hometown Hero for her work.

Old Business: There is no news/ movement on the incentive for Post Tenure review. President Martin would like to meet with the executive committee to discuss this.

Security Update: A firm has been hired and there are some things on how to make this work. We are looking at using Criminal Justice students to be in work study and help patrol parking and other issues. He believes the team is walking around and checking doors now.

Upward evaluations: This concept is new to the President, it was brought up years ago and kept getting pushed down the road. President Martin will discuss this with Sarita.

Campus Beautification: April 22nd 8 am – Noon.

Housekeeping Update: Vanessa shared the new proposal that was given to the two girls in Dickason Hall and the reason they turned the offer down. The President encouraged the ladies to contact Top Notch and/or Chuck McGonagle ASAP for clarification.

Access to Listservs: Key persons, i.e. chairs of committees, Faculty Senate Chair, Deans etc. should have access to the listserv that pertains without having to go through News and Events as an all user. It would also be helpful to be able to access a global calendar of items of importance. All should be able to add to this or at least have access to it.

Committee Meetings Updates: P & T committee: The P&T guidelines have been created and posted on Google. They will contain folders for being able to drop information into it and have the information broken down into sub-folders.

No other Committees have met since the last meeting.

New Business: Open discussion as to why graduation is being held at the armory instead of Mitchell Stadium. The President discussed the reasoning behind it. Some students prefer Mitchell Stadium but it was determined the Armory was the best location. If it appears to be that crowding would be an issue we could perhaps limit the number allowed to attend. The President will need to look at the numbers.

Graduation Speaker is Marvin Woody- President of Conwell.

AFT and WVEA have merged- for information to all faculty.

Executive Session: Roy made a motion to go into executive session and David seconded the motion.

We then went into executive session for discussion with the President.

Once the discussion took place. The motion to come out of executive session was made by Vanessa and seconded by Roy.

Meeting End: After coming out of the session, A motion was made by Roy to adjourn with Kristen seconded the motion. All were in favor, with none opposed. Meeting ended at 12:30 pm