

Minutes of ACCE Meeting
March 19, 2009
Capitol Complex Cafeteria
Charleston, West Virginia

ATTENDANCE:

Members in attendance:

Amy Pitzer, Concord University
Mike Dunn, Marshall University
Robert E. Long, West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission
Fred Hardee, Bluefield State College
Ellen Moore, Blue Ridge Community and Technical College
Dennis Mitchell, Fairmont State University
Mary Alltop, Glenville State College
Beverly Jones, Pierpont Community and Technical College
Deborah Cruse, Potomac State College of West Virginia University
Kenneth Harbaugh, Shepherd University
Verne Britton, West Virginia Network for Educational Telecomputing (WVNET)
William H. Porterfield, West Virginia State University
Paul Martinelli, West Virginia University

Excused:

Cathy Stevenson, Community and Technical College at West Virginia University Institute of Technology
Larry Bloom, Eastern West Virginia Community and Technical College
Mary M. Igo, New River Community and Technical College
Mary Ann Edwards, West Liberty State College
Timothy Beardsley, West Virginia University at Parkersburg
Sid Cooper, West Virginia University Institute of Technology
Johnna Beane, West Virginia University Robert C. Byrd Health Sciences Center Charleston Division

Unexcused:

Janene Seacrist, Council for Community and Technical College Education
Vacant, Marshall Community and Technical College
J. Christopher Gray, Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College
Robert A. "Zac" Wycherley, West Virginia Northern Community College
Evonne Masters, West Virginia School of Osteopathic Medicine
Lee Ann Porterfield, West Virginia State Community and Technical College

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson, Ms. Amy Pitzer from Concord University, convened the meeting at 11:02 am.

LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Ms Pitzer asked Mr. Kenneth Harbaugh from Shepherd University to address the various House and Senate bills that should be of interest to ACCE. Mr. Harbaugh distributed a copy of those bills to the members. He specifically referenced and commented on the following bills.

Senate Bill 29-Allowing paid sick leave to be used as paid family leave

Senate Bill 63-Increasing deposit from excess lottery funds to higher education improvement fund

Senate Bill 247-Authorizing non-base building salary enhancement for certain state employees A bad bill based on Ms. Pitzer's comments

Senate Bill 313-Expanding the number of hours temporary state personnel may work

Senate Bill 373-Relating to Promise Scholarship

Senate Bill 475-Relating to PEIA Finance Board

Senate Bill 519-Authorizing Governor institute employee furlough program

Senate Bill 536-Relating to reorganization and consolidation of the community and technical colleges

Senate Bill 638-Relating to higher education capital facilities

Senate Bill 640-Relating to higher education employees' eligibility for Legislature

Senate Joint Resolution 1-Proposing amendments to Constitution designated Fair and Equal Citizenship Amendment

House Bill 2247-Right to decline to work more than 40 hours in a workweek

House Bill 2250-Salary increases for public employees based upon residential housing costs

House Bill 2330-Requiring decisions in full-time classified workforce reduction at state higher education institutions be made on basis of seniority

House Bill 2337-Authorizing Governor to pay nonbase building salary enhancement to eligible state employees

House bill 2340-Approving fee waivers for certain students, faculty, and staff at institutions of higher education and providing non-resident faculty and staff may get the exemption only up to the amount of in-state tuition

House Bill 2367-raising state salary level to at least 125% above the Federal Poverty Guidelines

House Bill 2433-Increasing amount of annual and incremental salary increases

House Bill 2481-Giving state institutions of higher education more flexibility in the planning and operation

House Bill 2571-Relating to privatization contracts

House Bill 2631-West Virginia Public School Employment Relations Act

House Bill 2692-Requiring the Secretary of Administration to promulgate rules for travel reimbursement equal to the federal standard mileage rate

House Bill 2767-Changing the membership of the PEIA Financial Board

House Bill 2904-Authorizing rules for higher education

House Bill 2927-Requiring the Legislature to approved changes in costs imposed by the PEIA Finance Board

House Bill 2933-Prohibiting privatization of government services unless private companies can prove that they can perform those services more efficiently similar to House Bill 2571

House Bill 2955-Removing WVU Tech from the merger with WVU

House Bill 2961-Adding 2 members to institutional BOGs of WVU and MU based upon race, gender and ethnicity

House Bill 3032-Providing that all employees have a right to review and copy the contents of their personnel file

House Bill 3138-Providing paid childbirth leave for higher education personnel

List of bills that ACCE is willing to take a position.

Senate Bill 63-support

Senate Bill 247-oppose

Senate Bill 373-neutral

Senate Bill 475-support

Senate Bill 519-oppose

Senate Bill 536-can support based on response to certain questions

Senate bill 638-support

Senate Bill 640-support

Senate Joint Resolution 1-support

House Bill 2330-support

House Bill 2337-oppose

House Bill 2367-support

House Bill 2433-support

House bills 2481 and 2550-neutral

House Bill 2571-support but concerned with last sentence

House Bill 2631-oppose
House bill 2767-support
House Bill 2927-provisional support
House Bill 2933-provisional support
House Bill 2961-oppose with current configuration

Ms Pitzer reported that a resolution may be introduced in the Senate Education Committee today that would mandate a continuation of the study of various aspects of the Personnel Study for another year. She also indicated that all members could attend the scheduled meetings with the following: Senate Education Committee Chairperson, Mr. Robert H. Plymale from Wayne County, House Education Committee Chairperson, Ms. Mary M. Poling from Barbour County and Chancellor of the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission, Dr. Brian Noland. She also encouraged those members who would be present on Friday, March 20th to attend the photo-op with the Governor.

LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE/RETREAT COMMITTEE

Ms. Deborah Cruse, Chairperson from Potomac State College of West Virginia University, provided members with an update on the sites being considered for the two activities. Those sites are the following: Stonewall Jackson Resort, Blennerhassett Hotel and the Resort at Glade Springs. She proposed sending an –mail via the ACCE LISTSERV to members with cost estimates from the three properties along with a request that the Executive Committee be given the responsibility of selecting the site

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MEMBERS

Ms. Pitzer highlighted the significant contributions of Ms. Jean Lawson, legislative staff for the Senate Education Committee as it related to higher education in general but to classified employees and ACCE, in particular. She indicated that Ms. Lawson may be retiring soon and thought it appropriate that ACCE recognize Ms. Lawson for her dedication to higher education and her unwavering support for classified employees. She proposed the recognition occur at the April 10th meeting of ACCE. A gift, plaque and resolution in honor of Ms. Lawson could be presented on behalf of ACCE. Ms. Pitzer stated that she would work with Senator Plymale on the time and date of the presentation. Her final point was that this is to be a “complete” surprise.

There being no further business to come before the members, Ms. Pitzer recommended that we adjourn to attend the meetings that are scheduled for this afternoon. The meeting adjourned at 1:10 pm.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

Robert E. Long, Secretary
UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED