



ADVISORY COUNCIL OF FACULTY 2006-07 REPORT CARD

The Advisory Council of Faculty (ACF) was established by the West Virginia Legislature as an advisory board to:

- The WV legislature,
- The Higher Education Policy Commission (HEPC) and the Council for Community and Technical College Education (CCTCE),
- Local Boards of Governors, and
- Faculty constituents.

Faculty issues and concerns are discussed among the members of the ACF, with institutional Senates and Assemblies, and with faculty constituents. All major issues are approved by Faculty Senates and Assemblies (see *West Virginia Higher Education Working to Bridge the Gaps, 2006-07*, or visit www.wvacf.org). The following is a brief overview or “report card” on ACF activities during the academic year 2006-07.

July 9-10, 2006: ACF held the annual retreat at Twin Falls Resort. ACF membership duties were reviewed and the ACF By-Laws were updated to include a section of duties and the addition of a Legislative Advisory Coordinator officer. The Faculty Study Issues Committee presented a report on the Committee progress. Dr. Flack shared a report on the Legislative Issues for 2006-07 and the group worked through a list of issues and concerns to include in the 2006-07 ACF brochure and presentations. Members were asked to take the list back to their Senates and Assemblies for approval. Elected officers for 2006-07 included Leslie Lovett, Chair (Pierpont C&TC), Roy Nutter, Vice Chair (WVU), Patricia Shafer, Secretary (WV State U), Ann Rose, Webmaster (West Liberty State U), and Sylvia Shurbutt, Legislative Advisory Coordinator (Shepherd U).

August 18, 2006: ACF Chair Lovett asked HEPC that more time be given for consideration of the Peer Selection Series. Chancellor Noland provided explanation of the need to get the current code into series format and promised to make sure ACF will be notified of items which develop over the summer when faculty are not always present. Jim Barton attended the August ACF meeting to explain the process and answered questions.

September 11, 2006: ACF member Patricia Shafer named to serve on the Task Force for revising Series 23.

October 19, 2006: ACF meeting was hosted by New River Community and Technical College, Beckley, WV. Senate and Assembly Chairs and Presidents and the Chancellors were invited to attend.

ACF agenda was adopted by approval from 87% (20/23) of the Faculty Assemblies and Senates. No response either for or against was received from Southern C&TC, WVU School of Medicine, or the WV School of Osteopathic Medicine.

Adopted 2006-07 ACF Faculty Issues:

To sustain quality West Virginia higher education,

- (1) Increase legislative funding to the National Average in order to fund
 - o Improved student access and retention at each institution,
 - o The cost of inflation that annually affects each institution,
 - o Yearly merit increases for full-time faculty,
 - o New full-time and tenured faculty positions,
 - o Raises for adjunct faculty salaries;
- (2) Provide legislative funding for tuition waivers for faculty and staff dependents;
- (3) Reinstate into State Code 18B-8-3, item C, awarding a minimum 10% base salary increase upon faculty promotion in rank;
- (4) Increase the State's share of retirement contribution from 6% to 7.5% for Higher Education employees;
- (5) Raise the cap for percentage of tenured faculty in the CTC system to 30%;
- (6) Allow Higher Education employees the right to serve in the legislature.

October 26, 2006: ACF Faculty Presentation given to the HEPC.

December 1, 2006: Draft letter approved and sent to Chancellor Noland asking that ACF officers be consulted before ACF members are appointed to HEPC directed committees.

December 11, 2006: ACF Faculty Presentation given to the Joint Standing Committee on Education.

December 14, 2006: ACF Faculty Presentation given to the CCTCE.

December 2006: Patricia Shafer and Connie Moore appointed to the Master Plan task force.

February 1, 2007: Faculty Senate and Assembly Chairs attend the ACF meeting. After the meeting some of the ACF members and Faculty Senate/Assembly Chairs went to the capitol and were introduced on Senate floor by Senator Plymale. The group then met privately with Senators Plymale and Edgell to discuss legislative agenda. A meeting was held with Delegate Poling and some of the group attended Chancellor Noland's presentation to the House Education Committee.

February 2, 2007: C.B. Wilson and Sylvia Shurbutt the co-chairs of the Select Committee in Higher Education Faculty in West Virginia, present findings to HEPC. Other ACF Committee members included, Betty Dennison, Ben Miller and Leslie Lovett. Findings are posted on ACF web site, www.wvacf.org.

February 22- 23, 2007: ACF Higher Education Day at the Legislature. A display was placed on the lower rotunda, describing ACF and the 2007 ACF legislative agenda. Sylvia Shurbutt, Roy Nutter, Betty Dennison, John David, Leslie Lovett and Connie Moore represented the group. The group was introduced by Delegates Tim Manchin and Linda Longstreth in the House of Representatives. The group met with Jay Cole and Jim Pitrolo of the Governors Staff, Senators Plymale, Oliverio, Prezioso, Unger, Delegate Harry White and Senator Thomblin's aide, Ramie Barker to discuss legislative issues. Senator Unger submitted SB 699 to amend code 18b-10-6a relating to expansion of tuition waivers on February 19.

March 2006: ACF member Sylvia Shurbutt named WV Professor of the Year by the Merit Foundation.

April – May 2007: Letters thanking Legislative contacts for their support of higher education faculty issues were sent on behalf of ACF.

May 2007: ACF Member Connie Moore was named the 2007-2012 Abelina Suarez Professor of Nursing.

July 29-30 2007: ACF retreat planned at Canaan Valley Resort to determine Higher Education ACF agenda for 2007-08. Twenty-five registrants were confirmed as of July 23.

August 2006- July 2007: Members represented ACF by attending HEPC, CCTCE and LOCEA meetings and functions.