2-20-2003

AY 02-03 Meeting 2003-02-20

Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate, "AY 02-03 Meeting 2003-02-20" (2003). Faculty Senate Minutes. Paper 6.
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Governors State University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes, February 20, 2003

Senators Present: Michael Dimitroff, Russ Carter, Mercedes Graf, Ralph Bell, Jeannine Klomes, Ann Vendrely, Jane Wells, Heikki Heino, Dalsang Chung, Winfried Rudloff, Kyusuk Chung, Beth Hansen Shaw, Donald Culverson, Linda Proudfit

Guests: Paul Keys, Colleen Rock Cawthon, Eric Martin, Deborah Holdstein, Virginia Eysenbach, Jagan Lingamneni, Robin Sweeney, Pam Zener, Becky Nugent, Greg Kain, Mary Carrington

Dimitroff called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Announcements
Dimitroff stated that it is important to have a Senate secretary and requested that the Provost consider giving the Senate additional service CUEs for the secretary. Dimitroff reminded the Senators that text book orders are due by March 3.

Reports
Administration/Provost (Keys)
Provost Keys informed the Senate that the much-discussed reorganization of the College of Health Professions, which was initiated by the faculty more than two years ago, was approved by the IBHE. The dean intends to implement the changes by the summer. Keys stated that the administration is looking at innovative ways to move the University forward, even with the budget crisis, such as changing the indirect costs formula and adding initiatives for foundation funding. Other examples are the Graduate Council, which is looking at funding possibilities; and earmarks [$600,000 (Durbin) and $150,000 (Jackson) for FY03] for future years. Keys informed the Senate that the President will testify in Springfield, and he was requested to bring FY04 budget proposals with 5% and 10% additional cuts. There is still the possibility of a rescission for FY03.

Education Policies Committee (EPC)
Policy 15 (Assistant Provost Martin)
Martin stated that the revised Policy 15, Self-Directed Placement, was presented to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee as it was being revised and finalized. The current Policy 15 focuses on proficiency for English and math. The revised policy moves from proficiency testing to placement—self-directed placement. There is an online as well as an onsite student orientation and embedded in that process is the self-directed placement. There is an “orientation hold” on each student, and a student cannot register until the orientation is completed. Once the student starts the program, he/she has to complete it. There are technological safeguards built into the system. The self-directed placement tries to get students to critically reflect on what they need. Students are held accountable for their choices. After students complete the placement, they are given a list of choices. The choices are viewed by Student Development staff so that advisor intervention is possible. Martin requested that the Senate move the policy forward.
Development would like to implement it in SS 2003, if possible. Carter moved to approve revised Policy 15. Bell seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

University Curriculum Committee (UCC) (Vendrely)
Vendrely has been temporary chair in Muhammad’s absence. The committee will change its focus from review of catalog changes to program reviews. Over AY02-03, 329 curriculum changes were submitted. Eighty percent of those were recommended at the first review.

IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee (Kasik)
There was no report.

Academic Program Review Committee (APRC) (Carrington)
Carrington stated that the APRC program recommendations, which were prepared last year, were forwarded to the Provost. Lingamneni will give that information to the Senate Executive Committee. A committee member reviewed the GSU charter for references to authorizing the award of doctoral degrees. Some certificate proposals, that were originally submitted over two years ago, are being resubmitted. The committee would like to put a time limit on the certificate approval process. The committee proposes that certificate proposals that were initiated in 2000 will have one (1) year to complete the approval process. Any certificate proposals submitted after 2000 will have three (3) years to complete the approval process. Dimitroff reminded the committee that, according to the Senate bylaws, the APRC Chair must be a Senator.

University Assessment Committee (UAC) (Wojcik)
Wojcik reported that the Board of Trustees were briefed on the status of assessment at GSU and the status of the progress report, which is due to NCA by June 30, 2003. The committee approved the format for the annual assessment plan summary reports. The reports will be due April 1.

Bargaining Unit (Katz)
There was no report. Dimitroff stated that negotiations mediation is scheduled for February 26.

Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) (Dimitroff)
Dimitroff stated that adjuncts are not receiving their wages on time. He spoke with VP Tuohy, who informed him that the colleges do not submit the adjunct paperwork to HR in a timely manner; therefore, the contracts are delayed. A CHP Senator stated that paperwork to hire adjuncts for the winter trimester was submitted to HR in October, but the contracts were held until classes started. It was suggested that Dimitroff speak to HR and determine if the contracts can be issued sooner and if the contracts contain a clause that states if a class is canceled then the contract is void.

Dimitroff requested Carrington to present the issue of a time limit for the approval of certificate proposals. There was discussion as to what an appropriate time limit should be and about the process for approval. Heino moved to approve a time limit of three (3) years to complete the
approval process for certificate proposals. Carter seconded the motion. The motion was passed by majority vote (1, abstain).

Dimitroff informed the Senate that he discussed the issue of the construction workers’ taking prime parking spots with VP Tuohy, and Tuohy is working on the problem.

Dimitroff reported that the Third World Conference Task Force has had no cooperation from the CAS Dean.

A Senator noted that the number of faculty in the colleges and academic units has changed, and the number of Senate seats available for each has not. According to the bylaws, the number of seats is determined by a specific percentage of the total number of faculty members. There was a discussion as to whether full-time lecturers should be considered in the head count. A Senator noted that there appears to be a conflict between the bylaws and the constitution as to the definition of faculty. There was a discussion about the need to review and revise, if needed, the bylaws. It was suggested that the Governance Committee be given the charge to work on the bylaws. A Senator recommended that, until the bylaws are revised, the Senate should be in compliance with the existing ones regarding the number of Senators for each college and UL/CELCS/SAS.

Dimitroff announced that the Academic Program Elimination Review Committee (APERC) needs members. According the Faculty Agreement, the Senate manages the election process for the APERC committee membership. Nomination forms will be sent.

Dimitroff stated that the issue of who SEIs belong to has been raised. The union would like the SEIs to belong to the faculty members, not to the University. A Senator said that this issue has been raised before, and he would check his files to see if he had a copy of the research that was done previously.

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.