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AY 08-09 Meeting 2009-12-18

Faculty Senate

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Governors State University  
Faculty Senate  
Minutes December 18, 2008

Senators (Present = X):

- N. Adam
- X. E. Alozie
- X. R. Bell
- X. P. Blobaum
- X. M. Clark
- X. B. Essex
- X. S. Gandy
- X. D. Green
- _ P. Guimond

- H. Heino
- _ M. Kasik
- _ T. Kelly
- _ T. Kim
- _ J. Klomes
- _ C. Luo
- _ G. Lyon
- _ R. Muhammad
- _ B. Wilson
- B. Parin
- _ L. Proudfit
- _ W. Rudloff
- _ A. Sanders
- _ J. Simon
- _ E. Wignall
- _ B. Winicki

Guests: Assistant Provost Sandra Mayfield, Colleen Rock, Dave Drechsel, Joe Matula, Becky Wojcik

Call to Order
Blobaum called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m. Since there was not a quorum, the agenda was revised to begin with the Administration Report. Blobaum welcomed the guests.

Administration Report

Provost Report
On behalf of Provost Hudak, Assistant Provost Mayfield distributed an organization chart, as requested by the Senate. The Senate asked for the following additional information: a flowchart that shows how the academic University committees such as, PBAC and its subcommittees, the Faculty Senate, and the Faculty Senate standing committees (Educational Policies Committee, University Curriculum Committee, and the Academic Program Review Committee) fit into the governance structure. Mayfield will inform the Provost of the request for additional information.

Old Business
Blobaum stated that Brady did not send Blobaum the original email survey about the academic and implementation effects of the proposed academic calendar change. The proposed academic calendar was discussed at the September and November meetings. Brady indicated to Blobaum that she did not distribute the survey because the deadline for comment period had closed. The Faculty Senate wants clarification as to why faculty was not given opportunity to participate and whether the new calendar has been approved. If it has bee approved, the Senate would like confirmation of when it will be implemented. The Senate would also like to have access to the data that was used as rationalize the need for the change from the current academic calendar to the new calendar, such as the number of potential additional transfer students from the local community colleges, expected increase in students registered at other universities wanting to take courses as non degree seeking students, and other data used to rationalize the change. Senators agreed that it is impossible to separate the effect on faculty working conditions (governed by union contract) from the academic issues from calendar change.
Minutes
1:15 pm there was quorum. The Senate discussed the November 20, 2008 meeting minutes. Kelly moved to approve the minutes. Bell seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Faculty Reports
University Curriculum Committee (UCC)
Simon (Chair Parin was not present) reported that the UCC continues to review the curricular issues and requests from the programs. Requests that have been returned to the initiators for changes need to be submitted back to the UCC as soon as possible in January. Howell (at-large) and Johnson (COE) resigned from the UCC. Dingbang Xu (at-large) and Nancy Miller (COE) have volunteered to serve. Heino moved to nominate Dingbang Xu to fill the vacant at-large position to complete the term for Howell (2007-09) and to nominate Nancy Miller to fill the vacant COE position to complete the term for Johnson (2007-09). Klomes seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Academic Program Review Committee (APRC)
In the absence of Chair Sanders, Wojcik reported that the committee continues to meet. A Senator asked about the status of the Ed. D. in Counseling. Mayfield responded that the proposal was put on hold until the new COE dean has time to review the proposal. It is Mayfield’s understanding that Dean Bordelon (COE) is reviewing the proposal with Chair Dermer and the faculty. Division of Psychology and Counseling Curriculum Committee and all division faculty meeting has been scheduled. A Senator asked about the status of the Leadership Doctorate. Mayfield responded that that proposal will probably be the next proposal to be discussed.

Graduate Studies Council
Green reported that the council agreed to the composition of the committee, as follows: three faculty representatives from each college (one elected by the college faculty and two appointed by the appropriate dean), three representatives from the Faculty Senate, and three people appointed by the Provost. The terms will be staggered, every two or three years. The deans are requesting nominations for both the elected and appointed positions.

IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee (IBHE FAC)
Wojcik distributed a written report of the IBHE FAC meeting on December 5. Members heard an update on the hiring of the new Deputy Director for Academic Affairs and the development of the Public Agenda. The FAC generally supported the Student Advisory Committee’s Electronic Textbook Initiative, noting that current faculty members do consider the cost of texts before requiring them for class. The FAC adopted a resolution, Freedom of Expression and Student Media on College and University Campuses in Illinois, to be presented at the December IBHE meeting. The FAC heard a detailed presentation about the state’s economy, which is dire, by Mike Baumgartner, Executive Deputy Director, Planning & Budgeting, IBHE. Judy Erwin, Executive Director of IBHE, informed FAC of issues facing IBHE, including the state “report card” results. She suggested that Illinois consider adopting the Achieve/American Diploma Program.

Other Business
There was a discussion of how IBHE classifies certificate programs, the status of the students enrolled in certificate programs, the IBHE reporting requirements for the certificate programs, the criteria used by the IBHE to list certificate programs on the IBHE website (only four of
GSU’s numerous certificate programs are listed), and GSU requirements for review of certificate programs as outlined in Policy 58. Mayfield will look into the questions raised. A Senator stated that Buyer, Director of Institutional Research, has repeatedly stated that the colleges are given credit hour credit for certificate students, even if they are classified as non-degree seeking students. Another Senator stated that the numbers of certificate students are not reflected in the appropriate colleges in the Profiles of Academic Majors. It was suggested that a category be added to the profiles to include that information in the appropriate colleges.

Educational Policies Committee (EPC)
Copies of revised Policy 21, Honors Policy, and a new policy, Volunteer Emergency Worker Policy, were distributed. Klomes moved to recommend revised Policy 21. Rudloff seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. The proposed Volunteer Emergency Worker Policy was discussed and amended as follows: in the last sentence, replace the word “standard” with “academic” and delete the information in parentheses. Klomes moved to approve the new policy, Volunteer Emergency Worker Policy, as amended. Wignall seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. Blobaum informed the Senate that Greg Johnson, Unit A, reference librarian is interested in serving on the EPC. Blobaum moved that Greg Johnson be approved to fill the vacant UL/DLMD position on the EPC to complete the term of 2007-09. Klomes seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

University Safety Committee
There was no report.

Bargaining Unit
On behalf of Katz, Blobaum distributed a brief handout with some survey results. The UPI—Administration team building workshop with a federal mediator will be in January. Negotiations of the new contract are anticipated to begin in early February.

Executive Committee
At the request of the administration, Blobaum, Winicki, and Heino met with Hudak and Ejigu to discuss the resolution passed unanimously in November meeting. Also, the role and responsibilities of permanent (Unit A) and contingent (Unit B) faculty were discussed. Maimon, Hudak, and Ejigu attended the Executive Committee in December to further discuss the resolution. The administration supports and respects the AAUP statement of faculty role in the shared governance as stated in the resolution.

New Business
A Senator questioned why faculty is not involved in the evaluation of administrators (deans and president). Another Senator confirmed that evaluation forms for deans were sent to the faculty this year, though it was done during the summer when most faculty members take their two months off. The faculty was not asked to participate in the evaluation of the president. A Senator asked if the faculty could be included in the next presidential evaluation. Rudloff announced that one of the past Honorary Degree Recipients, Studs Terkel, died recently. Rudloff stated that Terkel was a commentator and an excellent interviewer and well deserved the Honorary Degree.

Adjournment
The meeting adjourned at 3:04 p.m.