

2-18-2010

AY 09-10 Meeting 2010-02-18

Faculty Senate

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**Governors State University
Faculty Senate
Minutes February 18, 2010**

Senators (Present = X):

<u> </u> E. Alozie	<u> X </u> S. Gandy	<u> X </u> B. Parin
<u> X </u> P. Blobaum	<u> </u> D. Green	<u> X </u> W. Rudloff
<u> X </u> M. Bruce	<u> X </u> H. Heino	<u> </u> A. Sanders
<u> X </u> M. Carrington	<u> </u> R. James	<u> X </u> A. Shekib
<u> </u> D. Cepa	<u> X </u> T. Kelly	<u> X </u> C. Tymkow
<u> X </u> D. Cortese	<u> X </u> J. Klomes	<u> X </u> B. Winicki
<u> X </u> B. Essex	<u> X </u> R. Muhammad	<u> X </u> R. Wojcik

Guests: President Elaine Maimon, Provost David Curtis, Associate Provost Peggy Woodard, Tony Fontana, Pat Robey, Colleen Rock-Cawthon, Robin Sweeney, Christopher White, Jason Zingsheim

1. Call to Order and Welcome to Visitors

Heino called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm and welcomed the visitors.

2. Approval of January 2010 Minutes

Senators read and discussed approval of January minutes. Heino reminded senators and the secretary that minutes of meetings will be distributed to senators at least 48 hours before each Senate meeting. Heino proposed an amendment to be added to the first paragraph under item 5-Faculty Forum, to read, “As part of academic freedom, faculty must have control over academic curricula; the scholarship process; faculty hiring, promotion and tenure; admission standards and graduation requirements.” Wojcik proposed that the word “good” be deleted from the second line of the APRC report. Wojcik moved that the minutes be approved as amended, and Cortese seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as amended.

3. Administration Updates and Reports

President Report

Maimon reported that the new provost, Allison, is on campus today (February 18) and February 19. He will return to GSU in April and some time during May or June to attend the PBAC meeting. He will officially begin as provost of GSU in July.

Maimon said that GSU received \$500,000 from the state for architectural plan updates for the E and F wing renovation. GSU also has received a competitive grant of close to \$5 million in stimulus money from the U.S. Department of Labor to create, with community partners, “recession-proof” jobs in health care. GSU also is working on securing a \$200,000 earmark through Senator Jackson for the Family Development Center.

Maimon said that in fiscal year 2011 GSU should expect a minimum 6-7% decrease from 2010 in state funding. The presidents of all public four-year universities in Illinois, and GSU, sent a letter to Governor Quinn and Comptroller Hynes requesting that state appropriation payments to universities be made on a reliable schedule. In addition, the presidents suggested that new revenue streams are needed to fund universities.

Maimon stressed innovative thinking and flexibility at GSU. She said that GSU has the opportunity to be a leader of change, that “communication is key to change,” and that “this is a time for focus and unity.” She said that she would be available for questions or comments during the Senate meeting or later.

Provost Report

Curtis reported that the forum on excellence in teaching on February 17 went well. He will work with the forum participants to “keep the conversation going.” Curtis said that a great deal of uncertainty, confusion and inaccurate information exists about the new semester calendar, partly because the new faculty contract is still being negotiated while GSU prepares to transition to semesters.

Woodard then discussed details of the new semester calendar. She said that GSU’s changing to a semester calendar was under the purview of the administration, but anything impacting faculty work load would be negotiated as part of the faculty contract. She reported that the administration and the faculty negotiating team will meet February 19, and may finish negotiations during the meeting. Points covered concerning the semester calendar are as follows:

- The new calendar will consist of 15-week fall and spring semesters and an 11-week summer session.
- Faculty will teach 24-27 cues during fall and spring, but may negotiate with their chair and dean to teach 24-27 cues over three terms if desired.
- If a faculty member teaches 24-27 cues during fall and spring, (s)he will be paid through an extra contract to teach in summer. Summer pay is being negotiated.
- There will be no overload pay in summer.
- No Unit A faculty will be forced to teach in summer.

Executive Vice President Report

No report.

4. Diversity Advisory Council (Zingsheim, Sweeney, Rock-Cawthon)

Zingsheim reported that the Diversity Advisory Council is made up of faculty from every college. The Council is dedicated to promoting a climate of respect and to supporting diversity at GSU. He said that the Council will establish a centralized location to disseminate information on diversity activities at GSU, and to promote diversity. A website should be up by the first week in March. Zingsheim asked the senators to comment on how the Diversity Advisory Council can support and assist faculty in supporting diversity, and asked for any questions or feedback. Sweeney said that the Council wants to disseminate information about what faculty are doing with respect to diversity. Rock-Cawthon said that they plan to set up a “diversity filter” in the GSU events calendar, so diversity-related events will appear on the events calendar on the Diversity Advisory Council web site. A senator observed that many kinds of diversity exist, including scholarly diversity. Another senator asked about expected outcomes from the Diversity Advisory Council. Zingsheim replied that outcomes will include 1) education of faculty staff and students on diversity issues; 2) GSU will be able to demonstrate what it’s doing to reach diversity goals, and will be able to show improvement over time; and 3) increase in diversity at GSU. Senators discussed potential long term sustainability of the Council. Zingsheim suggested that the Diversity Advisory Council might eventually become a standing Senate committee. Heino said that the Council can make a proposal to the Senate. A senator asked the Diversity Advisory Council representatives what the Senate can

do to ensure success of the Council. Heino said that the Executive Committee can discuss this subject.

5. Faculty Reports

Bargaining Unit

No report.

Educational Policies Committee (EPC)

Essex reported that Policy 26, which the Senate approved in September, has gone to the Provost office, university counsel, back to the Provost office, and back to EPC. Changes made to the policy include renaming the policy “Grading and Status Policy,” adding a purpose, adding headings and changing “CR” grading option to “CO” grading option. Senators proposed several amendments to the policy. Amendments are shown (using “track changes” in Word) on the policy appended to these minutes. Blobaum made a motion to approve the policy as amended, and Wojcik seconded the motion. The policy was approved as amended.

IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee (IBHE FAC)

Fontana reported on the January 22 meeting which was at GSU. A written report of the meeting is appended to these minutes. Fontana said that the delegates attending the meeting were very impressed by GSU’s hospitality. At the meeting the delegates continued to discuss the four goals identified in the Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success. They concentrated on the first two goals: 1) increase educational attainment and 2) ensure affordability. In addition, delegates discussed HB 174, which will raise revenue by at least \$5 billion to fund education, health care, human services and public safety. This revenue should increase state funding for higher education by more than 40% over 2010 funding, and will allow adequate funding for SURS and health insurance. Fontana said that bill is not likely to pass during this session. The next meeting is in Champaign, and Governor Edgar may attend the meeting.

University Curriculum Committee (UCC)

Parin reported that early in February the UCC mailbox was full, so some items e-mailed to UCC might not have been received between February 1 and February 8. She requested that anyone who has not received a reply from UCC on material sent during this time period please resend the material. Parin also reported that UCC has finished reviewing the new catalog material.

Academic Program Review Committee (APRC)

Gandy reported that APRC currently is reviewing three new proposals. APRC also is communicating with UCC to work toward proposals being received at the same time by both committees. Senators and Curtis discussed resolving this issue. Curtis, Parin, Gandy and Stanley will meet March 1 to address the problem.

Graduate Studies Council

No report.

Executive Committee

Vacancies: Heino reported that UCC has two vacancies—one from UL/DLMD and one at large position. Heino asked Blobaum to nominate someone for the UL/DLMD position. Heino nominated Desfriches Doria for the at large position. The nomination was seconded, and Desfriches Doria was elected to the at large position by unanimous voice vote of the senators. Heino reported that EPC has one at large position vacant. Xu and Robey have expressed their

willingness to fill the vacancy. Robey made a brief statement concerning her qualifications and willingness to serve in the position; Xu was not present. Blobaum nominated Robey for the EPC at large position, and Mohammed seconded the nomination. Robey was elected by unanimous voice vote of the senators. Heino reported that the Senate has one at large position vacant. He recommended that an election for this position be tabled.

6. Academic Calendar Implementation Plan

Senators discussed with administrators the academic calendar implementation plan. Senators' concerns included 1) whether the increased number of courses during fall and spring semesters will be met with sufficient student demand, 2) whether faculty will be able to fulfill their 24-27 cue teaching obligation during fall and spring with a simultaneous emphasis on larger class sizes, 3) students will take longer to complete programs, 4) some accredited programs must teach part of the curriculum in summer, over a fixed (may be 12 or 15 weeks) period of time, 5) some faculty will want vacation time during fall or spring, rather than summer term and 6) whether faculty are required to be on campus at all times that they are on contract, but classes are not in session. Administrators stressed that the calendar will be flexible, and will require transition time.

7. New Business

No new business.

6. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

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