11-18-2010

AY 10-11 Meeting 2010-11-18

Faculty Senate

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Governors State University  
Faculty Senate  
Minutes November 18, 2010

Senators (Present = X):  
X E. Alozie  
X B. Essex  
X C. Mejta  
X A. Andrews  
X S. Gandy  
X R. Muhammad  
X P. Blobaum  
X H. Heino  
X B. Parin  
X M. Bruce  
X W. Henne  
X W. Rudloff  
X M. Carrington  
X R. James  
X A. Shekib  
X D. Cepa  
X T. Kelly  
X C. Tymkow  
X D. Cortese  
X J. Klomes  
X B. Winicki

Guests: Executive Vice President Gebe Ejigu, Associate Provost Peggy Woodard, Chip Coldren, David Corcoran, Karen D’Arcy, Ellen Foster-Curtis, Susan Gaffney, Marsha Katz, Michael Larson, Margaret Neumann, Steve Shih, Joan Vaughn, Jane Wells, Bill Wilkinson, Addison Woodward

1. Call to Order  
Heino called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm, called the roll, and welcomed the visitors.

2. Administration Updates and Reports  
Woodard presented reports from the President and Provost. President Maimon has announced that the Capital Development Board has agreed to waive and/or expedite several procedures to accelerate the process of the E/F renovation. Construction is expected to begin in early 2011. Provost Allison currently is attending the HLC Assessment Academy. He would like for senators to read the IBHE finance report. Woodard reported that the CAS Dean search committee has selected three finalists for the position. Finalists will be on campus for interviews during the week of December 6 – 9. She also reported that the Director of Institutional Research search committee expects to conduct interviews either during mid December or early next year. Woodard said that several colleges have selected members for the Global Affairs Committee. The committee also needs two Faculty Senate representatives.

Ejigu reported that over 100 people on 21 teams are working on the ERP project. Work on the project started around the first of July and since then people have been training to use the system, working on installing the system, and performing other tasks. A “parallel run” of the payroll module (running the present and new systems simultaneously) will begin January 1, and will continue for two months. In addition, many functions of the new system, including the university portal, are expected to “go live” beginning January 1. The ERP Advisory Council will meet on December 2, during which the university portal will be demonstrated for feedback.

Ejigu also reported that the E/F renovation project is progressing, with close to 100% of the design phase completed. Work on construction of research labs also is progressing. Current renovation of the university entrance will establish a one-stop student service area that will include admission, financial aid, student accounts and general advising. This renovation should be completed before the beginning of Spring semester. In addition, work on new signage will begin soon, and Ejigu hopes that this project will be completed by the end of January.
3. Approval of October Senate meeting minutes
The Senate reviewed the October 2010 minutes. Blobaum made a motion that minutes be approved as written, and Muhammad seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

4. SUAA presentation
Wells and Woodward talked about the State Universities Annuitants Association (SUAA). Wells said that SUAA has 15,000 members, representing all community college and state university employees. The organization is recruiting new members. Dues can be paid in the form of deductions from an employee’s SURS or GSU paycheck. Woodward said that this is a very scary time for the State Universities Retirement System (SURS). SURS sold 8% of its assets this year, and the state is considering making payments to the retirement systems through borrowing money. Due to missed payments by the state, pension systems are in deep trouble. Senators discussed the financial state of Illinois.

5. GSU Foundation fundraising
Vaughn reported that the GSU Foundation is running an annual campaign called the Campus Community Campaign. Jackie Small (x2188) is heading the campaign, and Vaughn (x4977) is helping with coordination. Money raised through the campaign largely supports student scholarships. Vaughn said that money raised through last year’s campaign funded $60,000 in student scholarships this semester, and the campaign funds are expected to fund another $17,000 in scholarships next semester. Vaughn encouraged donations to the campaign from faculty and staff; donations can be made through payroll deductions. Donors may specify how or where their donation is spent if they wish. Vaughn asked for questions from senators, and distributed donation forms. A senator asked what the percentage participation by faculty and staff in the campaign has been. Vaughn replied that past participation has been approximately 60% of faculty and staff.

6. EPC report
Essex reported on revisions that EPC has made to Policy 36, Credit through Evaluation of Prior Experiential Learning (CEEL, appended to these minutes). The current version of the policy was approved in 1984, and is now out of date. For example, the university-wide CEEL Review Committee referenced in the current policy no longer exists. The EPC revision of the policy specifies that evaluation of experiential learning will be done through the academic program for which the credit is sought, and credit for experiential learning will be approved by program faculty. In addition, the EPC substantially changed the “Graduate Level” section of the policy. A senator asked if approval of experiential learning credit by program faculty means approval by all faculty in the program. Essex and other senators agreed that specific faculty involved in approval will be left for programs to designate. Senators then discussed several other issues associated with the revised policy, including timelines associated with portfolios, whether credit for experiential learning can be used only for selective courses, and whether the 5% stipulation for undergraduate credit hours should be retained in the revised policy. Neither the current nor the revised policy mention timelines associated with portfolio materials submitted by students. Essex said that according to the revised policy, students must submit a detailed portfolio documenting experiential learning. She said that portfolios most often will document recent experience. Also neither the current nor the revised policy specifies that credit for experiential learning may be applied only to selective courses. Credit, therefore, may be applied to required as well as selective courses. Senators agreed to leave the 5% stipulation for undergraduate credit hours in the revised policy, because 1) the 5% stipulation may have originated from a requirement external to the university, and 2) the stipulation never has functioned as a “stopgap” for number of undergraduate credit hours awarded. Blobaum
made a motion to approve the CEEL policy as revised by EPC. Shekib seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

7. Faculty Senate meeting schedule for AY 2010/2011
Heino announced that the Executive Committee will meet on January 13 before Spring semester starts, and the Faculty Senate will meet on January 20. The Faculty Senate and Executive Committee will follow their regular schedule for meetings during March. Neither Faculty Senate nor the Executive Committee will meet during June and July.

8. Faculty Reports
IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee (IBHE FAC)
The November meeting of the IBHE FAC was at Illinois State University (written report appended to these minutes). During his address to meeting attendees, President Bowman of ISU discussed the state of higher education in Illinois and the United States. Then meeting attendees had a panel discussion on the topics of remediation and articulation. Articulation includes horizontal (across institutions of a similar level) and vertical (between different levels of education). Articulation efforts at educational institutions generally are working, but remediation is a problem. The state wants to eliminate remediation courses at the college level within five years, but currently, approximately 35% of students take remediation courses. Now the preferred terminology for remediation is “differentiation” or “intervention.” A senator said that use of these terms for remediation is incorrect, and asked if the new terminology can be addressed. Shekib replied that she will address the topic during the December IBHE FAC meeting. During its discussion of remediation, the panel suggested that computer literacy and global awareness be included in basic skills addressed in remediation. Next meeting of the IBHE FAC will be in Springfield. Governor Quinn has been invited to the meeting.

During a discussion following the IBHE FAC report, Heino said that the Faculty Senate will request statistical information from the Orientation and Directed Self-Placement program at GSU. Woodard said that such a request can be made through Kelly McCarthy in the Academic Research Center.

University Curriculum Committee (UCC)
No report.

Academic Program Review Committee (APRC)
Gandy distributed a table of actions taken by APRC on proposals during Fall 2010 (appended to these minutes). A late proposal for Nursing Forensics was approved. APRC is waiting for revisions from five proposals, including a proposal for Nursing Informatics and proposals for an Entrepreneurial graduate specialization and for Bachelors in Entrepreneurship. All proposals that APRC has considered during Fall 2010 are for programs meant to begin during the 2011 academic term.
Graduate Studies Council
Carrington reported on progress made toward disarticulation of Policy 16, the Graduate Studies Policy. During its last meeting, the Graduate Studies Council worked on making what is intended to be separate new policies concerning graduate education consistent with each other.

Executive Committee
HLC Assessment Academy: Assessment Academy is going on today. People who attended the Academy (members of the Committee of Assessment of Student Learning) will present a summary during the December Executive Committee meeting.
Course renumbering: Muhammad, a Faculty Senate representative in the Course Renumbering Committee, reported that members of the committee have met with personnel from Admissions and the Registrar’s office. The committee has a meeting with marketing personnel scheduled for December 1. The Course Renumbering Committee is planning to host a faculty forum in January, during which members of the committee will present their findings. Muhammad recommended that senators discuss potential course renumbering issues with faculty in their schools and programs. The Course Renumbering Committee will report to the Executive Committee during its December meeting. A senator said that the committee seemed to be speaking to everyone at GSU except faculty, and asked who will be doing the work of course renumbering within programs. Muhammad replied that individual programs will decide who will work on course renumbering. She also said that the committee’s function will be information gathering from different constituents within the university. Information gathering from faculty will occur during the faculty forum. She requested that faculty communicate issues to faculty representatives on the committee before December, and said that she would relay the senator’s concerns to Samson and Provost Allison.
CUE guidelines update: Winicki reported that the CUE Guidelines Committee has not met since the last Faculty Senate meeting, but is scheduled to meet Monday, November 29. Two to three program coordinators from each college have been invited to the meeting to share information on their workloads and other issues related to CUE guidelines.
Presidential evaluation update: Atwell will present his report on the President’s comprehensive evaluation to the Human Resources subcommittee of the Board of Trustees on December 3. During the subcommittee meeting, he will present both a written and an oral report. Ejigu said that Atwell used a nonspecific, Association of Governing Boards (AGB) - recommended process for his assessment and reporting, but that his hiring for this presidential assessment was specific to GSU. Heino announced that two AGB publications are available in the library: State of the Presidency in U.S. Higher Education and Survey of Higher Education Governance. He then asked for questions and comments. Senators discussed the presidential assessment.

Blobaum and Rudloff volunteered to serve as Faculty Senate representatives on the Global Affairs Committee. Shekib made a motion to appoint Blobaum and Rudloff to the Global Affairs Committee. Muhammad seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote. Heino said that appointment of Faculty Senate representatives to the Assessment of Student Learning will occur during the December Executive Committee meeting.
**Bargaining Unit**
Katz reported that she has filed a class action grievance concerning funding for faculty travel. The grievance charges that Allison imposed priorities for funding that are inconsistent with the faculty bargaining agreement. On the minima issue, she is waiting for a proposal from Slovak. She also reported that she and Woodard will meet with faculty during January to answer questions about changes effective in the new bargaining agreement.

9. **Student Senate**
Corcoran reported that the Student Senate met yesterday (11/17/10) with President Maimon and Executive Vice President Ejigu. They discussed a student email policy, orientation for students, and new signage. He also reported that the Student Senate has changed its procedure for voting for Student Senate President and has changed its bylaws to reflect the change in procedure. The election now involves a campaign. An electronic election for Student Senate President will occur during the third week in February. Faculty senators and visitors discussed the student email policy. Ejigu said that GSU administrators tabled the student email policy. GSU students wrote a proposed student email policy, which went to EPC and was forwarded to Stoll. A concern of the students was lack of email storage capacity at GSU. Heino said that this issue must be addressed soon, and said that he appreciates the active role the Student Senate has taken during discussion of a student email policy. Ejigu said that ITS is exploring the possibility of using the new GSU portal (part of the new ERP) to address the email storage capacity issue. They are considering increasing storage capacity tenfold.

10. **Adjournment**
The meeting adjourned at 3:04.