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AY 10-11 Meeting 2011-03-10

Faculty Senate

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Governors State University
Faculty Senate
Minutes March 10, 2011

Senators (Present = X):

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

Guests: Provost Terry Allison, Chip Coldren, Chelsea Haring, Marsha Katz, Fran Kostarelos, Shelly Kumar, Tony Labriola, Steve Shih, Christopher White, Jason Zingsheim

1. Call to Order
Heino called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm, welcomed the visitors and called the roll. He announced that during April, elections for Faculty Senate, standing committees and contract committees will take place.

2. Administration Updates and Reports
Provost Allison distributed a written update to the senators (appended to these minutes). He also reminded senators that today (3/10/11) is the last day to nominate someone for a Faculty Excellence Award. He reported that GSU is seriously considering on-campus student housing that will probably be 300 to 320 beds for single undergraduate and graduate students. Because the Build America Bonds program ended December 31, and because GSU cannot use the state bonds program, student housing will have to be funded through revenue bonds, which will guarantee income to investors from eventual revenue. Allison expects that revenue should begin to cover the building costs by the second or third year of occupation of the housing. A review of potential companies to conduct a feasibility study is occurring now. Heino asked when the target date is for building student housing. Allison replied 2013, but he emphasized that a feasibility study must be conducted first. A senator asked if a sufficient number of GSU students would be interested in living in on-campus housing. Allison replied that the number of full time undergraduate students at GSU is increasing, and these students would be most likely to be interested in housing. In addition, GSU currently has approximately 100 international students. Allison also reported that President Maimon testified on the GSU budget before the Illinois State Senate. The State Senate reacted favorably to the GSU’s strategic plan and Dual Degree initiative.

Allison said that the Committee for Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes (CASLO) will have a “conversation” on GSU undergraduates and writing intensive courses today (3/10/11) at 3:00. Heino asked who the Faculty Senate representative is on CASLO. Allison replied that both Carrington and Blobaum are now members of the committee. Heino requested that a Faculty Senate member of CASLO present a summary of the committee’s activities during future Faculty Senate meetings. Heino: Senate CASLO members can summarize meetings to the Senate in the future. Heino then asked about the recent AAC&U meeting that some members of CASLO attended. Carrington reported that Provost Allison, Assistant Provost Mayfield, Green, Johnsen and she attended the AAU&P meeting on General Education and Assessment March 3 – 5 in Chicago. She said that she and the other CASLO members attending came away with some good ideas.
concerning assessment of general education. Another senator then asked Allison about progress on the E/F wing renovation. Allison replied that GSU currently is communicating with the Capital Development Board. Construction bids are expected to be out by mid to late April. He expects that construction will begin in September.

3. Approval of January Senate meeting minutes
The Senate reviewed the February 2011 minutes. An amendment was made to the Educational Policy Committee (EPC) report, that the committee made the wording change “when classes are in session” in several places that addressed time lines in Policy 5. Shekib made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, and Henne seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote.

4. Faculty Development Affairs update
Labriola reported that the search for a coordinator of the Center for Teaching, Learning and Scholarship is continuing. Two new applicants have been interviewed by Provost Allison and the Faculty Development Steering Committee: Russell Carter and Larry Cross. Carter and Cross, through collaboration, will share the role of coordinator for approximately a year. Cross is particularly interested in working on mentoring of new faculty. Labriola said that the Faculty Development Steering Committee welcomes any feedback on possible objectives for the new Center for Teaching, Learning and Scholarship.

Labriola said that heretofore the Faculty Development Steering Committee will be called the Faculty Development Advisory Council. He distributed new bylaws of the Faculty Development Advisory Council (amended to these minutes) to senators. He said that the new bylaws include minor changes from the bylaws of the Faculty Development Steering Committee. The bylaws also include the change in name of the faculty development center to the Center for Teaching, Learning and Scholarship; and inclusion of Faculty Senate representation on the Advisory Council. Currently James, Gandy and Bruce comprise the Faculty Senate representation on the Advisory Council. Heino asked about the results of the survey concerning faculty development that was administered to GSU faculty several months ago. James replied that the Advisory Council soon will compile and communicate the results to all faculty. Heino then asked if the Center for Teaching, Learning and Scholarship will have dedicated office space. Labriola replied that the Center potentially may share office space with Woodard. Heino asked if the Advisory Council has a website. Labriola replied that it does not currently have a website, but will develop one.

Labriola then announced that all GSU faculty are invited to a presentation sponsored by the Chicago Area Faculty Development Network, entitled “50 Ways to Leave Your Lectern.” The talk will be given by Connie Staley, and is based on her book with the same title. The program will be held at Robert Morris University in Chicago on April 29 from 9:00 am to noon, and is free to GSU faculty (written announcement appended to these minutes).
5. Campus Marketing
Vaughan gave a presentation on recent work on marketing of GSU. She said that GSU has been working with a marketing firm from Peoria. The firm’s marketing evaluation of the university included assessment of internal and external constituents. Marketing questions addressed included “How can we increase enrollment?” and “How do we reach audiences?” The firm said that an effective GSU tagline is an important part of effective marketing. GSU’s current tagline is “Unlimited Opportunity.” The firm proposed a new tagline, “Success By Degrees.” The firm also created some visual marketing tools, including a potential billboard. A senator commented that GSU’s advertisement that runs in theaters is not very good, and asked if GSU will incorporate faculty into its marketing campaign. Vaughan replied that GSU will probably develop faculty video profiles, as well as student stories. She said that the marketing firm found that GSU’s website was not interactive enough. She also said that private universities typically allocate up to 10% of their total budget to advertising. Public universities typically allocate 2 – 3% of their budget, and GSU is currently allocating an even smaller proportion of its budget to advertising. Senators and visitors continued to discuss potential ideas for a GSU marketing campaign. Vaughan said that she will continue to welcome feedback on the marketing campaign.

6. Faculty Reports
IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee (IBHE FAC)
Shekib distributed a written report to senators (appended to these minutes). She reported that the IBHE FAC met with the new Executive Director of IBHE, Don Sevener. He said that Illinois legislators may begin examining faculty salaries and considering elimination of program duplicated across the state to reduce spending. The Executive Committee of the FAC wants IBHE to consider ramifications of capping the pension contribution for faculty at $106,800. This cap potentially will hinder hiring of new faculty. An additional topic for discussion with IBHE was defining credit hours and contact hours for online education. During lunch, IBHE members emphasized the Public Agenda. Also during the meeting, President Maimon gave a presentation on the GSU’s Dual Degree initiative.

Senators then discussed credit hours for online courses. Heino asked if credit hours for online courses should be addressed by the CUE Guidelines committee. Shekib replied that GSU probably should be proactive concerning this issue. Others added that the issue also should be addressed by academic programs, and should be discussed during course renumbering. Labriola said that literature is available on contact and credit hours for online education, including guidelines. He added that if GSU is not proactive about addressing the issue, for-profit schools are likely to take students away from GSU.

University Curriculum Committee (UCC)
Winicki reported during UCC’s meeting two weeks ago it worked on forms for course renumbering, and on the proposal for the MAT in Urban Education. The committee still has questions for Karen Peterson about this proposal.
Academic Program Review Committee (APRC)
Gandy reported that APRC approved the “Master of Science in Nursing: Family Nurse Practitioner Focus and Family Nurse Practitioner Certificate,” and is continuing to work on program reviews. The MPA program and BA and MA programs in Public Administration are in good standing. However, CBPA is running programs in Entrepreneurship that have not been approved. APRC has returned the new MFA proposal for the second time, and also has returned proposals for BA and MA in Accounting. APRC also has received a short report for the Doctoral program in Physical Therapy.

Educational Policy Committee (EPC)
Essex reported that EPC has finished its revision of the Withdrawal Policy (Policy 6), and will present its revisions to the Faculty Senate during its next meeting. She said that EPC has begun working on Policy 16, the Graduate Studies Policy. Policy 59, Full-Time Status for Graduate Students, has been put on hold. Labriola asked what the current Policy 59 states. Essex replied that the policy is unclear, because it does not address full time status during the new summer session. Senators then discuss the Graduate Studies Council’s definition of a full time doctoral load as six hours. Apparently the rationale for this definition of a full load is that many students require a course load of six hours to qualify for financial aid.

Graduate Studies Council
Winicki reported that during the last Graduate Studies Council meeting, Mayfield discussed concerns about clarifying the difference between master’s and doctoral degrees in Policy 16. Cortese added that during the meeting, Graduate Studies Council members clarified differences in breadth and depth of knowledge required for masters vs. doctoral degrees. This clarification seemed to address Mayfield’s concerns. Also during the meeting, Karen Peterson answered questions about the MAT in Urban Teaching.

7. Academic Master Plan
Cortese reported that a “public square” was held on March 31 to discuss the Academic Master Plan. Cortese also said that he brought the suggestion from senators and the Faculty Senate Executive Committee, that strengthening current programs be included in the Master Plan, to the Academic Master Plan Committee. A senator asked if the current draft of the Academic Master Plan is a plan or a “wish list.” Cortese replied that the committee currently is only listing potential new programs that have been discussed within the colleges. A senator said that priorities for new programs seem to be lacking, and Cortese replied that priorities will be developed soon. The Master Plan will be developed for a ten year timeline. Along with considering suggested new programs from colleges, the committee is comparing GSU’s current program offerings with those of other comparable institutions, and identifying “gaps (programs other institutions have that GSU lacks). The current draft of the Academic Master Plan was presented to the BOT Academic Affairs Committee, and it will be presented to the full BOT tomorrow morning (3/11/11). Several senators voiced concerns over the progress of the Academic Master Plan. One concern was that new programs may be initiated without sufficient scrutiny.
8. **Course Renumbering update**

Muhammad reported that the Course Renumbering committee met on Tuesday (3/8/11). She emphasized that all courses must be renumbered. Academic programs should submit one of three forms for each change: only a change in course number (first form), a change in number and course name (second form) or changes in addition to change in number and course name (third form). Muhammad said that the committee also discussed renumbering some courses as lower division courses. This particular course renumbering may require a change in GSU policy on number of upper division course credits required for graduation, and may result in students taking more credits to graduate. Cortese added that Hendrickson has sent the committee a list of all GSU course, names and numbers, which the committee will distribute to all program chairs. Hendrickson soon will send a list to the committee of courses that potentially may be renumbered as lower division courses. Heino asked if, as a result of renumbering, prerequisite course numbers will be lower than numbers for the courses requiring the prerequisites. Muhammad replied that that is one of the goals of course renumbering.

9. **Bargaining Unit**

Katz reported that during the last House of Delegates meeting, a speaker justified the social benefits of colleges and universities. She also reported that the GSU administration has proposed increasing the parking, walkway and infrastructure fee by 78%. The GSU union will present this proposal to faculty, and will ask for feedback. The union also will probably administer a survey to faculty asking about the proposal. Katz also reported that a sanction hearing is ongoing, and two additional sanction hearings may be pending. Senators and visitors then discussed recent union-related events in Wisconsin.

10. **New Business**

Coldren and Kostarelos voiced a concern with Heino’s recent commencement address. They alleged that he took parts of the speech, unacknowledged, from other sources—an allegation, that, if substantiated would constitute plagiarism. They distributed copies of the address, with passages alleged as plagiarized highlighted (appended to these minutes). Coldren said that he could find no evidence, however, that GSU holds faculty to the same standards concerning plagiarism that its students must meet. Heino responded that he had “internalized” all of the ideas and wording included in the address, and did not plagiarize material. After discussion among senators, Rudloff made a motion that the issue be included on the agenda for the next Senate meeting. Alozie seconded the motion. The motion passed by voice vote. A senator suggested that the individuals who raised the concern (Coldren and Kostarelos) attend the next Senate meeting.

11. **Adjournment**

Cortese made a motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 3:16.