3-5-2015

AY 14-15 Meeting 2015-03-05

Faculty Senate

Faculty Senate Meeting
March 5, 2015
1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.
Cafeteria Annex

Minutes

Senators in Attendance:

X	Y. Brown (CAS)		D. Hechenberger (AL/COE)	X	V. Person (COE)
X	D. Cortese (CAS)*		S. Ji (CBPA)	X	Z. Ramamonjiarivelo (CHHS)
X	N. Ermasova (CBPA)*	X	E. Johnson (CAS)*	X	X. She (COE)
X	E. Essex (CHHS)		S. Lopez (COE)	X	A. Tamulis (CAS)*
	L. Falconnier (CHHS)	X	K. Marrar (CAS)		C. Tymkow (AL/CHHS)
X	S. Gandy (COE)*	X	E. Mengova (CBPA)	X	S. Wadhwa (CHHS)
X	X. Gao (CBPA)	X	K. Morris (AL/CAS)	X	R. Washington (CHHS)*
X	L. Geller (UL)*	X	R. Muhammad (AL/CAS)*	X	B. Winicki (COE)*
X	D. Golland (CAS)*		B. Parin (AL/CAS)*		

* = Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Guests: D. Bordelon, C. Sexton, A. Vendrely, R. Sinclair, S. Sanderson

1. Call to Order and Agenda:

   Call to order at 1:04 p.m., with quorum, by Faculty Senate President Muhammad. Faculty Senate President Muhammad asked for additions to the agenda. Faculty Senate Secretary Winicki noted that, in addition to January minutes, the February Senate meeting minutes should be reviewed and approved. With this addition, the agenda was approved by unanimous voice vote.

2. Faculty Reports (Part 1):

   Academic Program Review Committee (APRC): Because APRC Chair Rob Sinclair was unable to stay for the entire meeting, he provided his report at the beginning of the meeting. He stated that Institutional Research will provide a report that APRC needs for its annual reviews of programs. He said that it may be possible to include certificate program reviews in this rather than require the long, cyclical review report format.

3. Administrator Updates:

Provost Bordelon reported on *applications and admissions*. She noted that the Persistence rate (fall to spring) is 84%, which exceeds projections. She said that struggling students are and will be getting support from the Academic Resources Center. Support, in addition to Smart Start, will be provided during the academic year (fall and spring semesters) and between semesters (January). With regard to applications for fall 2015 freshmen admission, Provost Bordelon reported the following: 554 applications (vs. 342 at this time last year), 206 admissions (vs. 151 last year); of the 206 admissions, 68 are direct admits, 97 required Smart Start in both English and math, 27 require Smart Start in math, and 14 require Smart Start in English. There are 155 incomplete applications and 154 applications have been denied. Also for fall 2015, there have been 525 undergraduate transfer applications (vs. 519 last year), 464 graduate (MA) applications (vs. 262 last year), and 55 doctoral program applications (vs. 43 last year). Provost Bordelon announced that a Graduate Fair (i.e., open house) will be held on March 7 in E-Lounge. 243 RSVPs have been received. Data will be collected regarding how these potential students heard about GSU and its programs.

There was a discussion of *faculty searches*. Provost Bordelon stated that some searches have been postponed indefinitely, and all colleges have been affected (Public Administration, Health Administration, Special Education, English, and the library). She pointed out the uncertainty of the budget situation. The candidates involved in postponed searches have been notified. In response to a question, Provost Bordelon stated that the criteria for searches include program growth and current number of faculty in the program. Regarding the new programs in the Academic Master Plan, Provost Bordelon said that some programs may not be able to move forward due to the budget. PBAC will make decisions based on projected program enrollment and faculty needs. She stated that covering classes with adjunct faculty is not necessarily the plan. Provost Bordelon stated that there is not a full moratorium on hiring, but we must be very careful regarding needs and projected enrollment. A senator expressed her concerns regarding the indefinitely suspended faculty searches. (This was discussed further later during the meeting, after Administration left.)

Provost Bordelon ended her report with a reminder regarding *commencement* on Saturday, May 16 at the Tinley Park Convention Center. Information about rental of academic regalia will be sent out, and volunteers are needed to serve as marshals.

Associate Provost Vendrely: A *Faculty Workload Report* form has been developed; Assoc. Provost Vendrely distributed copies of an example report. She noted that this will replace the old AOD form. All data are pulled from Colleague, and a one-page report for each faculty member is produced. Each report includes reassigned time, as well as teaching assignments; enrollment in each course can be tracked. Faculty members can use this report for planning purposes and can print hard copy at the end of each semester. There are only two people in each college who are able to enter data. There was a question regarding cross-listed courses (i.e., 4000 and 6000 levels of same course). Assoc. Provost Vendrely stated that it would be up to the faculty member and the chair to decide which of the two is assigned credit. There are guidelines for the timeline on faculty and administration signatures. There was a brief discussion of the timing vis a vis grant and sabbatical proposals.

Associate Provost Sexton: Assoc. Provost Sexton reported on the Digital Catalog, which should be ready by May 1 this year. UCC and APRC have been consulted regarding the timeline; they

have agreed that their workload can be adapted. The plan is to have the catalog available by mid-March each year, which is a month before registration for the fall semester opens; six months later, the addendum should be ready; this is a month prior to the spring semester registration.

Provost Bordelon reported that there is a proposal for *renovating classrooms* previously used by the nursing and physical therapy programs for accommodating up to 48 students. Due to the budget, this might have to wait, but the plan is to have the classrooms ready for fall 2015.

There was a discussion about the planned *trip to Springfield on April 14 by the Social Work Club* and other students. The funding for one bus is coming from the Social Work Club, and the Student Senate is funding a second bus. The Student Senate also agreed to fund additional buses so that the event/trip can be open to all students.

(Provost Bordelon, Assoc. Provost Vendrely, and Assoc. Provost Sexton left meeting at 2:00 p.m.)

4. Discussion Items:

Proposed General Education Council: Faculty Senate President Muhammad noted that part of the charge of the General Education Implementation Task Force was to establish a permanent structure. Faculty Senate Vice President Cortese, who is a member of the Task Force provided a document describing a proposed structure for, the membership of, and the relationship with the Faculty Senate of a proposed General Education Council (see attached). The proposed General Education Council would have a formal relationship with the Faculty Senate. The Provost, the dean of CAS, and the IAI director would be ex officio members. There would be a Director and Associate Director of General Education, who would each have 1/2 time reassigned time. The General Education Council would not be the same as Lower Division Steering Committee, which is administrative in nature; the proposed council would be faculty lead and as faculty-centered as possible. Its charge involves curriculum and assessment charge. (Note: Later during the Senate meeting, Senator Morris provided clarification regarding the Lower Division Steering Committee. She reported that it is a presidential committee, and its purpose is to coordinate administration of the lower division.) There was a discussion of how members would be selected or elected, staggered terms, and whether there would be term limits. It was noted that there should be clarity regarding who appoints the appointed members (i.e., deans of respective colleges). It was suggested that the following language be added: "The Director and Associate Director shall be selected by and from the voting members of the GEC." Faculty Senate Parliamentarian Golland noted that, because non-faculty members of the proposed council are non-voting, it would be possible for the Council to be a Faculty Senate committee. A senator noted that all actions by the GEC would be reviewed by a Faculty Senate committee. Also, there is a questions regarding whether Unit B faculty members would be able to serve if the GEC is a Faculty Senate committee. Cortese stated that he will return the proposal to the General Education Implementation Task Force for clarification in its language and will bring a resolution to the April Faculty Senate meeting. Golland will check on Unit B faculty question.

General Education Implementation Task Force: Faculty Senate President Muhammad and Senator Tamulis reported that there had not been a meeting of the GEITF since the previous Senate meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for March 23.

SEI Task Force: Faculty Senate Vice President Cortese stated that there are concerns about IR Director Krcatovich's email about dropped students getting extra SEI questionnaires. Who is getting the data? How is it being used in evaluation of faculty? There are potential misuses. At this point, Dr. Krcatovich has not answered these questions. Cortese offered a motion that the

Faculty Senate send a request for answers and also state its opinion regarding the proposed SEIs for dropped students ("Clarify the use of these data, require that the reports be stripped of any individual identifiers, and prohibit use as part of individual faculty member's evaluations (i.e., SEIs)"; Golland seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Faculty Searches: There was a discussion of the indefinitely postponed searches that were announced by Provost Bordelon. The process and timing of notifying candidates and search committees was a focus. The Faculty Senate Executive Committee will discuss sending a letter of concern to the Board of Trustees. Discussion of the *composition of search committees* was tabled until the April Faculty Senate meeting.

At 2:57 p.m., Winicki made the motion to extend the meeting by 10 minutes; Golland seconded. The motion was approved by voice vote.

5. Faculty Reports (Part 2):

   IBHE FAC: Faculty Senate Vice President and IBHE FAC Representative Cortese read from the report of the February meeting (see attached).

   Bargaining Unit: E. Johnson reported on UPI election events and timeline. She noted that ballots will be sent to home addresses.

   University Curriculum Committee (UCC): UCC member Golland reported that UCC feels the effects of the digital catalog (see above) on its calendar will be minimal.

   Educational Policies Committee (EPC): EPC Chair Tamulis stated there are no policies ready for Senate review at this time. EPC is working on Policy 9 English Language Proficiency; the proposal for a university policy on FERPA training has been withdrawn by DOE Chair John Cook.

6. Approval of January and February Faculty Senate meeting *minutes*: Muhammad made the motion to approve the minutes; Golland seconded. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

7. Announcements:
   First-Year Symposium: "From Transformation 2014 to Vision 2020: Successes, Challenges, and Next Steps" will be held on March 6; RSVP Penny Perdue.

Meeting Adjourned: 3:14 p.m.

Next Meetings:
   Executive Committee Meeting: April 2, 2015, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Library Conference Room
   Full Senate Meeting: April 16, 2015, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Hall of Honors

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Winicki
Faculty Senate Secretary

Attached:
   Proposed Resolution Regarding General Education Council
   Report from February IBHE FAC

Proposal

General Education Program with a director and governed by the **General Education Council**

I. **Purpose:** Provide guidance and oversight to the General Education program at Governors State University, including: policies and procedures for admissions criteria and placement into Smart Start; determine inclusion of courses in GE curriculum (not individual course approval, UCC continues to do that) and facilitate IAI course approvals; review courses for meeting GE Student Learning Outcomes (SLO); assessment of GE SLO oversight; developing new faculty, especially those teaching First Year Seminar; interaction with support services (peer mentors, student success teams, smart start); facilitate learning communities; support/review initiatives (i.e. small grants, service learning); liaison with Senate, other committees; coordinate GE program assessment.

II. **Representation**: each college, with invested members who participate regularly; include by-laws that encourage attendance; elected positions managed by the College; requirement to report back to constituents; some as ex-officio and not required to attend all meetings. Members include:
   a. Provost or designee (ex-officio)
   b. 1 Faculty member per College-CAS, CBPA, CHHS, Education, library (elected)
   c. 1 Faculty member per Division in CAS (4)-appointed based on role
   d. CAS Dean (ex-officio)
   e. Student affairs/First Year advisor-appointed (ex-officio)
   f. Director of GE or Associate director-represent their college or division-provide report to Faculty Senate
   g. Honors director (ex-officio)
   h. IAI coordinator (ex-officio)

III. **Support:** Provost's office provides support and direction for the group; GE Council reports regularly to the Faculty Senate and the Provost
   a. Program director – associate professor (or full) with faculty appointment and re-assigned credit hours to manage GE
   b. Associate coordinator/director – associate professor with faculty appointment to assist the director and provide continuity as the program grows and changes with re-assigned credit hours for this work

IBHE FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL
REPORT TO THE FACULTY

ROBERT MORRIS UNIVERSITY
FEBRUARY 20 2015 MEETING
http://www.ibhe-fac.org/

Meeting began at 9:00am. At 9:30 am, we received IBHE Staff Liaison Report from Gretchen Lohman of IBHE.   There is no statewide list of Dual Credit courses and they have been regionally based. Oversight, transferability, quality, and consistency issues are concerns. FAC members provided some of their perspectives and specific suggestions. Gretchen suggested that issues with dual credit courses and its transferability are issues that overlap with IBHE advisory groups and could be coordinated.

FYI: Of concern to GSU may be how students who enter cohorts with college credit have their IAI courses count toward the General Education requirements.

Public University Caucuses met at 10:15 am. We discussed messages from University Presidents that are framed in terms of cutting back on faculty professional development expenditures. The caucus members shared concerns with the unintended consequences of playing into Legislators' misconceptions that 1) tenured faculty are a financial burden because once they get tenure, their professional development is subject to higher scrutiny, and 2) faculty are fat-cat elites whose travel is an unnecessary expense that can easily be cut from budgets. Other state universities' presidents put _ALL_ travel—administration and faculty—under a higher level of scrutiny. Our Caucus concluded that we should liaison with the Student Advisory Council, talk to our faculty senates and student government associations, look for states that have good higher education models, and craft talking points for legislators to message consistently their phone lines in support for high funding for higher education.

ACTION: Of concern to GSU is the public communication from Administration. Public University Caucus Members of FAC are encouraging Administration and Faculty to speak in one voice, and to carefully craft a joint message that allocation of funds for faculty professional development are necessary to all levels of faculty, including those who have achieved tenure. As the Public University Caucus notes, some Administrations in the State of Illinois, in their public dissemination of rationales to increase scrutiny of travel, may have inadvertently played into the "politics" of higher education, who may twist Administrators words and argue that faculty are the "fat cats" and "wasteful" in their professional development spending. Public University Caucus recommends that Senates (Faculty, Student, Civil) craft messages with their respective Administrations to show the value of higher education, highlighting the impacts of cuts on student learning outcomes.

Ellie Sullivan, President of UPI spoke to our group at 1:00pm. A long discussion about the state of higher education ensued. Of particular issue was the data that Rauner's proposed cuts would bring—and she

is double checking the final numbers-- funding levels to around 1979 (nearly 40 years back). The consequences for that are dire, and she explicated some of those consequences for us.

Respectively submitted,

Daniel K. Cortese, Ph.D.

IBHE – FAC Representative

Faculty Senate Vice President