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Governors State University Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes - June 9, 2008

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**GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Minutes of the Monday, June 9, 2008 Meeting**

Lois Mayer, Chair

Call to Order

The Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Committee met on June 9, 2008 in the William D. McGee Hall of Honors. Chair Mayer called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. Trustees Samuels, Beaupre, DeLaurentiis, Friefeld and Green was present.

Others present: Dr. Elaine Maimon, President; Gebe Ejigu, Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff; Jane Rhoades Hudak, Provost; Alexis Kennedy, General Counsel; Joan Vaughan, Vice President of Institutional Advancement; Dean Eric Martin, CAS; Dean Linda Samson, CHHS; Dean Diane Dates Casey, University Library; John Stoll, Vice-Provost; Sandra Mayfield, Assistant Provost; Paul Blobaum, Faculty Senate President; Kathleen Miller, Civil Service Senate President; Adam Taylor, Student Senate President; and David Dixon, Internal Auditor.

Action Items

Mayer entertained a motion to accept the Minutes of the April 18, 2008 Academic Affairs Committee. Samuels made a motion. Green seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 08-40: Internal Restructuring Plan

Hudak presented. We are requesting the restructuring of the administrative functions for all of GSU's technology services in an effort to better serve the faculty, staff, and students. Currently the University's computing resources are dispersed throughout the University, and this model has proven to be very inefficient. To meet this technology imperative President Maimon has proposed a restructuring of certain administrative functions, bringing all technology resources under the Office of the Provost in order to manage our resources more efficiently. John Stoll, currently the Dean of University College, will be appointed to the position of Vice Provost. He will oversee Information Technology Services, Online Teaching and Extended Learning, Digital Learning and Media Design, Academic Computing, and all staff presently providing technology support in the College of Business, the Library, and the College of Education. This restructuring will require no additional resources; however there will be staff reassignments. University College and The School of Interdisciplinary Learning (SIDL) will be transferred to the College of Arts and Sciences, reporting to Dean Eric Martin. The position of Dean of University College will be eliminated. The School of Interdisciplinary Learning will continue to have a Director, Michele McMaster. Advisors currently working in SIDL will be reassigned.

Mayer asked for questions or discussion. Having none she entertained a motion to place Resolution 08-40 on the Consent Agenda for approval. Friefeld made a motion. DeLaurentiis seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Information Items and Reports Received

1. Program Accreditation Status May 2008
Hudak presented. All programs are in good standing. However we have requested temporary suspension of the Bachelor of Science in Management Information Systems (MIS) due to low enrollment. New students are no longer being admitted to the program. Friefeld questioned when the next review was due as IBHE met just last week. Hudak explained it had been submitted last month. Mayfield reported that if the Board approves this suspension it will go to the IBHE. DeLaurentiis asked whether the recommendation was to review and reorganize the program, or completely eliminate it. Hudak responded the plan was to completely eliminate the BS in MIS due to very low enrollment. "Temporary Suspension" is an IBHE term indicating such.
2. IBHE Program Review Update
Hudak presented. A schedule of the IBHE Academic Program Review was provided. Those programs flagged for priority review were noted. The annual listing of program changes was provided. No questions were asked.
3. Annual Program and Administrative Unit Changes
Hudak presented. We are requesting renaming of the College of Health Professions to the College of Health and Human Services, which is felt to more accurately reflect the scope of the college. There are no fiscal or accreditation implications. DeLaurentiis asked if national standards were looked into in terms of competitiveness in these fields. Hudak stated the name change will make us more competitive as it is more descriptive.
4. Reasonable and Moderate Extension Requests (RAMERs)
Hudak presented. A summary was provided. The Bachelor of Arts will be renamed The Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) in anticipation of going for further accreditation. The Division of Science is offering a new certificate at a higher level, Mathematics in Secondary Education. No questions were asked.
5. Update on Internationalization of Campus
Hudak discussed a PowerPoint presentation previously given by Peggy Woodard on our efforts at internationalizing the GSU campus. The Provost's Office continues to work on this initiative. We are doing a comprehensive survey of faculty and staff that will be administered in early fall to assess the breadth of what is going on. We currently have an active Mutual Agreement of Understanding (MOU) in China and another one in Australia, and we are currently pulling all this information together. Samuels asked when a full report will be ready and Hudak reported one will be provided at the October Board of Trustees meeting. Samuels was interested in recommendations on how to better serve these students.
6. Report on Community College Affiliations and Recruitment Efforts
Hudak provided a listing of articulation agreements with local community colleges. Maimon, Hudak, and Martin have been to Prairie State College and

Moraine Valley Community College, and are working on developing a more proactive relationship with Joliet Junior College. Provost Hudak is scheduling meetings with Provosts at other local community colleges. A new coordinator of transfer activities has been appointed, Jose Reyes, and he is actively working with the community colleges. Dean Poole stated that Reyes has hosted groups from Morton College and the City Colleges of Chicago, consisting of 20-25 students, to meet with pertinent GSU groups, tour the campus, and become familiar with our offerings. He has several invitations out to other community colleges. Ejigu added that we recently sponsored a meeting of community college advisors and our advisors and we will continue to hold such events in the future. He reiterated that community college transfer students are imperative to GSU's success. Hudak stated we are making a dedicated effort to recruit honor students from community colleges. She also cited that the direction President Maimon has instilled, focusing on the needs of underserved community college students, is an objective we are dedicated to fulfilling. Hudak will update the Board as these initiatives progress. No questions were asked.

7. Update on Calendar Options Task Force Hudak stated the final report is due in July 2008, and will be reported on at the August Retreat.

Maimon added that a resolution will be brought to the Friday, June 13 meeting on the proposed name change for the College of Health Professions.

Public Comment

Consistent with Public Act 91-0715 and reasonable constraints determined by the Board of Trustees, at each regular or special meeting of the Board or its committees that is open to the public, members of the public may request a brief time on the approved agenda of the meeting to address the Board on relevant matters within its jurisdiction.

Michele McMaster, Director of the School of Interdisciplinary Learning, addressed the Board. She stated she was concerned about the reorganization of the School of Interdisciplinary Learning, which was renamed just two years ago. She stated the University Community received a memo from President Maimon dated May 9, 2008, outlining that 75% of the staff would be reassigned, while McMaster and one assistant would be reassigned to the College of Arts and Sciences. This would result in her being demoted from Director to Program Coordinator, and the Division would be reduced to an Academic Program. She stated to dismantle the program is a serious concern for four reasons: 1) It is the largest undergrad program in the University with approximately 1500 students; 2) She has numerous testimonials from students supporting the program, many of whom we have worked with to keep engaged when they may have to stop out due to life events; 3) This appears to mark the end of a program that has been a hallmark of the University for 36 years (previously call the Board of Governors (BOG) Program, and it would be the first BOG program in Illinois to be discontinued; and 4) She feels the School of Interdisciplinary Learning most closely represents the mission of the University, serving the underserved. McMaster stated she had not been consulted by the Administration regarding the reorganization of the program, and has not been asked how she feels about the changes. She pointed out that Northeastern Illinois University is using

our program as a model in their efforts to modernize their BOG program, so why discontinue it? In closing McMaster said, "If it ain't broke, don't fix it."

Bill Craig, Vice President of University Professionals of Illinois, addressed the Board. He read a statement from Marsha Katz, President of the University Professionals of Illinois, addressing two issues. 1) The Labor Management Committee is meeting to work out language for the Clinical Doctoral Programs. Unfortunately this is a little late in the process, but we will try hard to develop language that is fair to the faculty and will allow them to be compensated and evaluated fairly as all other bargaining unit members. 2) Reorganization of the School of Interdisciplinary Learning (SIDL), which appears to be happening rather quickly and without input from those involved. We are unhappy with the proposed changes. If the academic program is to continue then the work of the staff needs to continue to be academic. If their priorities shift to a centralized advising and recruiting center then their ability to help SIDL students is seriously jeopardized. It is our belief that the academic advisors cannot adequately support students in SIDL and do advising and recruiting of community college students at the same time.

Mayer asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the Public Comment statements. There were none.

Mayer entertained a Motion to Adjourn. Green made a motion. Samuels seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan M. Johns