

8-21-2008

## AY 08-09 Meeting 2008-08-21

Faculty Senate

Follow this and additional works at: [http://opus.govst.edu/facultysenate\\_minutes](http://opus.govst.edu/facultysenate_minutes)

---

### Recommended Citation

Faculty Senate, "AY 08-09 Meeting 2008-08-21" (2008). *Faculty Senate Minutes*. Paper 66.  
[http://opus.govst.edu/facultysenate\\_minutes/66](http://opus.govst.edu/facultysenate_minutes/66)

This Minutes is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate Minutes by an authorized administrator of OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship. For more information, please contact [opus@govst.edu](mailto:opus@govst.edu).

# GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY

## Faculty Senate Meeting

Minutes August 21, 2008

### Senators (Present = X):

<u>X</u>	E. Alozie	<u>    </u>	T. Kelly	<u>X</u>	L. Proudfit
<u>X</u>	P. Blobaum	<u>X</u>	T. Kim	<u>X</u>	W. Rudloff
<u>X</u>	M. Clark	<u>    </u>	J. Klomes	<u>    </u>	A. Sanders
<u>    </u>	E. Essex	<u>X</u>	N. Lu	<u>X</u>	J. Simon
<u>X</u>	P. Guimond	<u>X</u>	G. Lyon	<u>    </u>	C. Tymkow
<u>X</u>	D. Green	<u>X</u>	C. Mietlicki	<u>X</u>	E. Wignall
<u>X</u>	H. Heino	<u>    </u>	R. Muhammad	<u>X</u>	B. Winicki
<u>    </u>	M. Kasik	<u>    </u>	B. Parin	<u>    </u>	

**Guests:** President Elaine Maimon, Elizabeth Johnson, Colleen Rock, Linda Samson, Joan Vaughan

### 1. Call to Order, Announcements, Introductions – President Blobaum

Call to Order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

### 2. Approval of minutes.

Minutes from June were approved with two corrections; minutes from July were approved as written.

### 3. Faculty Reports

- **UCC (B. Parin)**  
No report.
- **APRC (APRC) (A. Sanders)**  
No report
- **Educational Policies Committee (E. Essex)**  
No report.
- **IBHE (B. Wojcik)**  
No report
- **UAC (B. Wojcik)**  
No report
- **Bargaining Unit (M. Katz)**  
No report

- **Graduate Studies Council (H. Heino)**

The committee is looking at Policy 16, with issues such as qualifications for teaching graduate courses and decision-making on curriculum. The Provost is open to faculty input. The committee is also working of a vision for graduate education, and Provost Hudak is in process of writing a draft for the vision. The Senate liaison to the Graduate Studies Council is D. Green. Another concern is the place of governance, since this council will not become a standing committee of Senate. The Provost is also working on this issue.

- **University Safety Committee Report (G. Lyon)**

- No report.
- Colleen Rock reported on the recent evacuation drill in which most procedures went smoothly. Some “glitches” were found, such as stairwells with doors that locked behind evacuees; finding problems, of course, was one of the purposes of holding the drill. Every stairwell now has a “red emergency phone” which runs on its own generator. Faculty will be instructed to take any student in a wheelchair to the nearest stairwell and call DPS, who will then come with proper equipment to evacuate the student.

- **Executive Committee (P. Blobaum)**

- As of August 20, 2008, “Profiles of Academic Majors” was still not available.
- Runoff election results were distributed, along with an updated list of committee members.
- Discussion was held as to whether IRB should be staffed by vote of Senate. Originally membership was determined in response to an email from the Provost. It was determined that Senate needs to consult with the Provost to see how membership will be handled in the future.
- Senate representative to Board of Trustees committees: we have representatives of Academic Affairs and Human Resources, but there are vacancies coming up for this academic year. H. Heino will volunteer to serve on Academic Affairs committee if Senate appoints him. Senate needs to find out if Yevette Brown, who currently holds this seat, wants to continue. There is a vacancy on the Finance and Budget committee.
- Changes to academic calendar: there has been a task force studying this issue, and they are recommending a 15, 15, 12 week calendar—fall, spring, and summer. Fall will last until Christmas; Spring will include a spring break and end in May. Summer will begin in June and end in August. Questions were raised as to how this arrangement will work with a 10-month faculty contract. Response: the task force was told it will work, but not how. It is also not clear

how programs that need two blocks in the summer will fare. This calendar will be implemented in 2009-2010. Further discussion ensued of a 9-month contract with extra-pay options for summer teaching. This change would constitute a change in working conditions, impact students, and present problems for classes that meet three times a week during the summer.

#### **4. Administration Updates**

- **President's Update (Dr. Maimon)**

President Maimon gave context for Dean Samson's report from the Calendar Options Task Force. Our new Provost was curious about GSU's calendar because it differed from others: summer session begins in April, which precludes many students from other universities from taking classes here. The Trustees have also raised questions as to why there was no spring break, which has been viewed by some as an obstacle for partnerships with community colleges. The Provost appointed a committee to study possible solutions.

- **Dean Samson's report on the Academic Calendar**

Dean Samson distributed three handouts from the Task Force: a narrative "Memorandum," a color-coded membership list, and a three-year roll-out of the proposed changes to the Academic Calendar. The Task Force looked at issues and problems, such as: our current calendar's incompatibility with other universities (semesters starting after Labor Day and at the end of April); difficulties for certain programs obtaining financial aid (Alt. Cert. starts mid-term, which makes students ineligible, although 70% depend on financial aid); and field-based programs having students unsupported by faculty (student teachers are in their practicum while faculty are not on payroll, which raises accreditation issues). The task force did not want to recommend quarter options because a 10-week semester would make every program with accreditation have to go through a huge change process. The task force decided to move the calendar to better match the other schools. The calendar Dean Samson distributed is the final one chosen out of several looked at of several summer semesters options. Having decided that GSU needed 6 weeks together in a sequential block, the task force chose the 12-week summer semester. They were told to choose a calendar OUTSIDE of any negotiated contract, and to disregard issues such as additional faculty contracts and cues. The main goals were enrollment and retention.

Question: Was there discussion of student contact hours, i.e. 45? Answer: Fall and spring have 45, summer can be flexible, according to federal regulations.

President Maimon asked for volunteers to work on the task force in the future. If the new calendar does not work, the start dates can possibly be moved to meet some of the issues raised. Volunteers are needed for the implementation group, which is the next step in the new calendar roll-out process.

**5. Adjournment 3:10**

**Next Senate Meeting is September 18, 2008**

Respectfully submitted  
Connie Mietlicki, Ph.D.

faculty senate 082108