

Governors State University

## OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship

---

Board of Trustees Meetings Materials and Recordings

Board of Trustees

---

6-17-2006

### **Governors State University Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes - June 17, 2006**

Board of Trustees

Follow this and additional works at: [https://opus.govst.edu/bot\\_meetings](https://opus.govst.edu/bot_meetings)

---

**Governors State University**

**Board of Trustees Meeting, June 17, 2005  
Minutes**

The Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, June 17, 2005, in the Hall of Honors at Governors State University.

**Call to Order**

Chair Friefeld called the meeting to order at 9:17 a.m.

**Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken, and the following Trustees were present: Bruce Friefeld, Kristi DeLaurentiis, Jack Beaupre, Lorine Samuels, Kathleen Field Orr, Bill McGee and Student Trustee Joy Farmer.

Also present were: Stuart Fagan, Paul R. Keys, John Tuohy, Jim Britt, Alexis Kennedy, Colleen Rock Cawthon, Michael Wortham, Kathy Miller, Gary Lyon, and Derek Stevenson.

**Executive Session**

Chair Friefeld requested a motion to move into Executive Session. Beaupre moved that the Board convene in Executive Session, as permitted under the "Open Meetings Act," to consider and discuss litigation. DeLaurentiis seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote. The general public was asked to leave the room, and the Trustees went into Executive Session at 9:18 a.m.

The Executive Session adjourned at 9:30 a.m. The general public was invited to return to the meeting.

**New Business:**

**Approval of Minutes:** Chair Friefeld requested a motion for the approval of the minutes of the March 15 and March 18, 2005 Board meetings. Samuels moved that the minutes be approved. DeLaurentiis seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

DeLaurentiis welcomed each faculty member who was a candidate for tenure and introduced them.

**Chair's Report**

Chair Friefeld stated that he was unable to attend the June commencement, but he understood that it was a wonderful ceremony. He reported that, so often the Board has to grapple with the realities of budget, policies, and legislative issues that it is thought of as "the Board" and not as individuals who care about GSU's employees and their careers and the quality of education provided to the students. But, the Trustees do care, as demonstrated by the time each commits to the affairs of the University. The administration, faculty, staff, alumni, students, and Trustees have moved GSU forward so that today GSU is a model for higher education; setting an example for others throughout Illinois. The GSU community always keeps its mission in mind—demonstrably excellent education that meets the demands of the region and is accessible to all, including those traditionally underserved. GSU received approximately \$1.8 million in supplemental funds for FY06. GSU is the smallest public university but received the largest increase. This demonstrates the quality of Dr. Fagan's leadership and the commitment, dedication, and support of the University community. The world is different today, completing K-12 should not be a goal unto itself, and the doors to higher education should not be shut to anyone. If Illinois is to have a strong

economy and be a destination for quality economic development, then it must have an educated workforce, quality schools, and equal opportunity to access higher education. President Fagan has instituted a University-wide focus on quality. He has worked with the faculty to achieve acceptance of a professorial rank system, accreditation has been secured for all academic programs that have national accrediting bodies, and plans for assessment of student academic achievement have been pushed to a successful conclusion. This was all accomplished in the midst of a continuing budget crisis. This was possible because of a President who builds consensus and because of a committed faculty, staff, and administration, who are fully engaged and understand why difficult decisions are made. The Trustees have listened and carried the message to legislative decisions makers. Chair Friefeld and the President gave testimony at House and Senate committee meetings. The Trustees gave testimony at hearings and attended forums sponsored by Speaker Madigan, Senate Majority Leader Halvorson, Representative Dugan, Representative Davis, Representative Miller, Representative Kelly, and Representative McCarthy. Chair Friefeld thanked Trustees DeLaurentiis, Beaupre, and Samuels for attending the forums.

The University will continue to face challenges as it moves to the next level of excellence. The Strategic Plan that will be presented for action today will help GSU meet the challenges that lie ahead. The plan reflects the priorities of the Board—maintaining a high level of academic quality, improved student satisfaction, increased enrollment, building of internal and external partnerships, and an increased focus on fund raising. The Board has confidence in the President, his administrative team, and the entire University community to successfully implement the principles of the plan. Chair Friefeld thanked the Faculty Senate and the Civil Service Senate for meeting with the Trustees and discussing issues of importance. The Trustees who could not attend the Senate retreats will receive a written report, and Chair Friefeld will discuss the issues raised at the retreats with the President.

### **President's Report**

Dr. Fagan reported that the legislature authorized GSU an additional appropriation of \$1.8 million beyond the FY05 allocation because GSU could demonstrate the quality of its academic programs, the significant contributions it makes to the region, and the service it provides to working adults. GSU was recognized for the special role it plays in public higher education by the legislators from this area. Senate Majority Leader Debbie Halvorson; Senate President Emil Jones, Jr.; David Miller, Chair of the Higher Education Appropriations Committee; George Scully; Will Davis; Lisa Dugan; Robin Kelly; and Kevin McCarthy were all effective advocates for GSU and its students. For FY06, the total appropriation for public higher education is essentially flat with 05. Though GSU is the smallest of all the public universities, it received the largest increase both as a percentage and in absolute dollars. That presents both an opportunity and a challenge.

In looking at the IBHE priorities for FY06, the request for additional funding for faculty salary increases did not pass. IBHE, with the goal of increasing accessibility, requested additional funding for MAP. Funding was increased by \$8 million. That springs loose an additional \$3.7 million in federal funding; so the bottom line is that MAP funding is increased by \$11.7 million in the coming fiscal year. The outlook on capital projects is uncertain. The Legislature authorized a number of projects for FY06, including the renovation of GSU science labs. However, there is no money available at this time for bonding, so there is a logjam of approved but unfunded capital projects. Finally, state contributions to SURS for the next two years have been capped at half the figure that SURS said was necessary. Proposed legislation that did not pass is important. The proposal to create a special Inspector General for higher education never came for a vote in the House. However, the appropriation of \$450,000 to fund the office, which was included in the Governor's bill, did pass. The bill to allow Harper College, a community college, to offer a baccalaureate degree, was defeated. The last minute proposal to sell ISAC's

student loan portfolio was defeated. A proposal to require universities to get approval from the state's Ethics Office before naming endowed buildings, chairs, classrooms, etc., did not pass. Some bills that impact higher education did pass. High school graduation requirements were strengthened and more certified math and science teachers will be required. The requirement that student teachers pass content tests before being allowed into the classroom was repealed. The bill gives each university the option of permitting students who have not yet passed the content test to go ahead with their student teaching. At Governors State, unprepared students will not be allowed into the classroom. There was workers compensation legislation that will give CMS the authority to require the universities to help cover any local shortfall that may occur. The legislature took away from SURS the authority to set interest rates for the money purchase option and gave that authority to the state's comptroller, and it did away with the money purchase option for all new employees. The legislature set a ceiling of six percent in salary increases during the last years of an employee's service. The universities will have to make up the difference in pension costs for any increases beyond six percent. It is not clear whether the six percent refers to annual increases or the total increase in the last years of employment. The university presidents will meet with Jim Hacking, the head of SURS, in the near future to get some guidance on these and other issues related to this question.

Classes for the Spring/Summer Trimester started May 9. Headcount is down nearly two percent, but credit hours are up nearly two percent. The increase in graduate programs – credit hours up about 6.5 percent – offsets the drop in undergraduate programs. New marketing initiatives are being planned. The Admission Office will be reorganized, and some of its processes will be re-engineered to improve service and efficiency. There will also be reorganizations in the Business Office and Information Technology Services.

Commencement was held on June 5. Former television reporter Bob Petty received the honorary degree. He is the first GSU alum to receive an honorary degree from his alma mater. Trustee Field Orr spoke at commencement. The next commencement will be February 18, 2006. Mary Frances Berry, former Chair of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission, has been invited to speak. Dr. Edward Hirsch, poet and President of the Guggenheim Foundation, has agreed to speak at commencement in June, 2006.

GSU continues to maintain the highest standards of demonstrable academic quality. A few weeks ago, the business program in the College of Business and Public Administration was re-accredited by the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP) for 10 years. Congratulations to Dean Nowlin and his faculty and staff. The Occupational Therapy program received a grant from the Coleman Foundation to develop an education certificate for physical and occupational therapists. Apart from the importance of this project, this is noteworthy because it is the first significant grant that the College of Health Professions has received from a private foundation. The credit goes to Dean Samson, Professor Robbie O'Shea of Physical Therapy, and Occupational Therapy Chair Beth Cada. In this fiscal year, GSU invested about \$5 million received in grants and contracts. That is impressive, and it is a reflection of the leadership of Provost Keys. The Strategic Planning Committee has completed its work. Times have changed since the current plan was developed nearly five years ago. That plan focused on the need to achieve demonstrable academic quality. GSU has accomplished that. Every academic program at GSU is accredited by a national accrediting body wherever there is one. Now there is a need to establish revenue streams outside of state appropriations. Enrollment needs to increase to grow the income fund. Fund raising both for scholarships and projects needs to increase. There needs to be a focus on grants and earmarks.

Provost Keys has proposed a new grants office, which will be established in the coming fiscal year. The Strategic Planning Committee has done an excellent job. President Fagan thanked Linda Buyer and David Curtis, committee co-chairs, for their hard work. The updated plan the committee has put forth addresses GSU needs and calls for measurable, quantifiable results. The university constituencies were consulted and their input is reflected in the Strategic Priorities document, which was included in the Board agenda packets. President Fagan plans to meet with a group of mayors and city managers to brief them on the strategic priorities, to get additional input, and to take the next steps in strengthening GSU's relationship with the community. There will be a retreat with the deans and senior administrative staff in July, which will be the first step in implementing the plan. A marketing task force will be created to identify ways in which to drive enrollment. This group will look at the needs of the area, which will help determine what kinds of programs to offer; the timing of classes; and the location of classes. The results of this task force will be shared with the Trustees at a future Board meeting. GSU successfully weathered a very difficult period for higher education because it had a plan that helped it stay on course despite the budget cuts.

The legislature broke down the additional \$1.8 million appropriation to GSU as follows. \$500,000 was added to the base budget. \$331,000 was appropriated for the International Trade Center, which is run out of CenterPoint, the small business development center. In the coming fiscal year, the Center will add to its base of clients, deliver up to seven public conferences, and work with local chambers of commerce and other business groups to identify new business opportunities. \$650,000 was appropriated for the creation of the Governors State University Institute for Urban Education. Educators have stated that in recent years, with more families moving from the city to the south suburbs, new students are more aggressive and hostile toward teachers and school personnel. Teachers and staff need information, training, and resources to help them deal with this change in school climate. \$325,000 was appropriated for the Governors State Center for Excellence in Health Professions Education. There is a critical shortage of health care professionals, especially nurses, in the region and throughout the state. The center will address that issue. Three assessment conferences will be held. In one conference, educators from the area will come together to identify areas of need and explore the implications of the No Child Left Behind act for the region. A similar conference with local and regional health care providers will be arranged. In the case of the Small Business Development Center, some leading hands-on academics will be invited to participate in a conference with local business and community leaders to develop strategies that will drive job creation and economic growth in the region. President Fagan thanked the Trustees and everyone in the university community for their support and hard work.

#### **Committee Reports:**

**Executive Committee:** Chair Friefeld reported that the Executive Committee met on May 20. Public Act 93-0839 requires that the Procurement Policy Board review certain procurements prior to the issuance of a contract or purchase order. A purchase order or contract subject to this Public Act cannot be issued by the University until approval has been received or a 30-day review period has expired. In order to comply with Act 93-0839 and allow execution of three contracts by July 1, 2005, the President recommended their approval at the May 20 Finance and Budget Committee meeting. Based on the President's recommendation, the Finance and Budget Committee recommended approval and forwarded the three contracts to the Executive Committee. At the May 20 meeting, the Executive Committee approved **Resolution 05-29:** Approval of Jenzabar, Inc. (CARS) Maintenance Contract, for computer related services maintenance in the amount of \$169,494; **Resolution 05-30:** Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) Real Property Lease, for office and training space in the amount of \$641,689.80; and **Resolution 05-31:**

Approval of GSU-DCFS Subcontract for the Juvenile Protective Association, a subcontract in the amount of \$374,870.

**Academic Program and Policy (APP) Committee:** DeLaurentiis, chair of the committee, presented the committee report to the Board. The committee met on May 23. There was an Executive Session.

**Resolution 05-32: Tenure Recommendations:** Upon the recommendation of the President and the review and concurrence of the Academic Program and Policy Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees awards tenure to the following faculty members: Timothy Gsell, Division of Science; Daniel Nearing, Division of Liberal Arts; Bruce Wilson, Division of Liberal Arts; Christopher Anne Robinson Easley, Division of Management, Marketing, and Public Administration; Jun Zhao, Division of Accounting, Finance, and Management Information Systems; Hugh Crethar, Division of Psychology and Counseling; Renee Nash, Division of Education; Catherine Sori, Division of Psychology and Counseling; Catherine Balthazar, Department of Communication Disorders; Kyusuk Chung, Department of Health Administration; Adelle Sanders, Department of Social Work; and Jie Shen, Department of Health Administration. DeLaurentiis moved to approve Resolution 05-32. Samuels seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Resolution 05-33: New Unit of Instruction:** Upon the recommendation of the President and the review and concurrence of the Academic Program and Policy Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the Request for a New Unit of Instruction: Doctor of Physical Therapy. DeLaurentiis moved to approve Resolution 05-33. McGee seconded the motion. The DPT has been proposed to ensure that GSU continues the physical therapy program, as it moves for professional practice at the doctoral level. The proposal includes a request for differential tuition. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Resolution 05-34: Honorary Degree Recommendations:** Upon the recommendation of the President and the Honorary Degree Committee and the review and concurrence of the Academic Program and Policy Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the addition of the following candidates to the eligibility list for Honorary Degrees: Margaret Burrough, artist, educator, founder, DuSable Museum; Paul Freeman, Ph.D., music director, Chicago Sinfonietta; Garrison Keillor, author, story teller, comedian, performance artist; Barry Mayo, radio programmer, founder, Broadcast Partners; Alan Page, J.D., Justice of Minnesota Supreme Court, former player for Minnesota Vikings; Donna E. Shalala, Ph. D., President of University of Miami, former Secretary of US Health and Human Services; Quentin Young, M.D., physician, host of “Public Affairs” on WBEZ, national healthcare advocate. DeLaurentiis moved to approve Resolution 05-34. Field Orr seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

A number of business programs completed a recent site visit by the Association of Collegiate Business Schools and programs (ACBSP), and as President Fagan stated earlier, received reaccreditation. In committee, it was noted that the BOG BA program is undergoing an external review. The committee was informed that the following faculty members were awarded a Professional Advancement Increase: Robert Donaldson, Frances Kostarelos, Jagan Lingamneni, Soon-Ok Park, June Patton, Steve Shih, Gary Fisk, Tony Labriola, Linda Buyer, Jon Carlson, Linda Proudfit, and Beth Hansen Shaw. DeLaurentiis commended all the faculty for their hard work. In committee, the Trustees also reviewed and discussed the annual listing of academic changes report. Keys presented reports on the Grants Reception and commonalties of accreditation.

**Finance and Budget Committee:** Beaupre, chair of the committee, presented the committee report to the Board. The committee met on May 20. There was no Executive Session. As previously reported by Chair Friefeld, the committee recommended three action items to the Executive Committee for approval, to meet time constraints.

***Resolution 05-35: Approval of Mandatory Fee Increases:*** Upon the recommendation of the President, in accordance with Section V.J.3. of the Board of Trustees Regulations, and the review and concurrence of the Finance and Budget Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the following mandatory fee increases to be effective with the Fall 2005 trimester: Student Activity Fee, increase from \$31 to \$32; Student Center Fee, increase from \$25 to \$26; Career Counseling Fee, increase from \$25 to \$26; Technology Fee, increase from \$25 to \$26; and the Strategic Initiative Fee, increase from \$10 to \$11. The Strategic Initiative Fee is assessed on a per-credit hour basis, for every credit hour for which a student registers. Beaupre moved to approve Resolution 05-35. McGee seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

***Resolution 05-36: Quarterly Finance Report:*** Upon the recommendation of the President, and the review and concurrence of the Finance and Budget Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the March 31, 2005 Finance Report.

***Resolution 05-37: Approval of FY06 Preliminary Operating Budget:*** Upon the recommendation of the President, and the review and concurrence of the Finance and Budget Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the FY06 Preliminary Budget as the basis for operations through September 30, 2005.

***Resolution 05-38: Approval of FY07 Program Priorities Requests:*** Upon the recommendation of the President, and the review and concurrence of the Finance and Budget Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the FY07 Program Priorities Requests. Beaupre stated that finalizing the budget has been delayed until the end of the legislative session; therefore, the operating budget is through the end of September 2005. Beaupre moved to approve Resolutions 05-36, 05-37, and 05-38. Samuels seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Personnel Committee:** Field Orr, chair of the committee, stated that the committee met on May 13, 2005.

***Resolution 05-39: Salary Increase and Performance Evaluation Day for Non-Negotiated Employees:*** Upon the recommendation of the President and the review and concurrence of the Personnel Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves a 3% salary increase, effective July 1, 2005, for non-negotiated administrative, professional and civil service employees on payroll on June 30, 2005 and an additional paid day-off, to be used after July 1, 2005, for non-negotiated administrative, professional and civil service employees, who received an overall rating of “superior” or “generally exceeds expectations” in the FY2005 employee performance evaluation. Field Orr moved to approve Resolution 05-39. Farmer seconded the motion. Field Orr stated that the increase represents the same increase generally given to all organized University employees and the additional day off is a benefit that the Board has been awarding for several years. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

### **Institutional Advancement Report**

Britt distributed copies of the Institutional Advancement Summary Activity Report. Last winter, he had presented to the Board an overall plan of action for developing a stronger and more successful fund-raising effort at the University in the Office of Institutional Advancement. Britt and his staff conducted a successful faculty/staff campaign throughout February and followed that with a successful phonathon campaign. During the month of March, the community campaign began, and a series of meetings with many local companies and businesses are being arranged. This is an ongoing initiative for the University. Britt and the President have made the circuit with all of the members of the University Foundation Board, talking with individual board members about his/her relationship to the Foundation and to GSU. It's been an inspiration to hear Foundation Board members talk about GSU. There is a strong core on the Board around which to build that organization. To date, the total of fund-raising efforts, including all campaigns, is \$176,954.59. The goal set for this year was \$200,000, and Britt hopes to reach it before the end of the fiscal year. The current total is four times the total raised last year. When visits are made to companies and organizations, there are several agenda items, not just financial support. There is discussion of the University as a whole—its mission, programs, faculty, staff, and place in the community. That is critical because GSU needs to build relationships with companies and their executive core. They need to see that the University is making a real contribution that gives an advantage to their companies being located here. In addition, they are asked to share what GSU can do specifically for their companies—what type of continuing education or programs could GSU provide. Institutional Advancement is working with the Admissions Office to follow up with requests for programming.

Institutional Advancement offered a cultivation/solicitation training program to all interested faculty and staff. Britt is working with the Provost and his staff to plan further initiatives to get the deans more involved; the opportunities and vehicles for reaching out have not been presented to them in the past. Britt intends to move toward a more constituency-based fund raising model. In response to a question from Samuels, Britt responded that there is very little information about who employees GSU alumni, and he stated that it is important to have that information. Keys agreed with Britt's comment and added that there is a need to move alumni information back to the Alumni Office. He stated that this is not only an alumni issue, but an accreditation issue as well. The next Foundation Board meeting is scheduled for July 27. Chair Friefeld stated that, in this new fiscal age, the work of the Foundation Board is just as important as the work of the Trustees. He asked that Britt convey the Trustees' admiration to the Foundation Board.

### **Student Senate President's Report**

Derek Stevenson, Vice President of the Student Senate, reported that the installation ceremony for the Senate was held March 2. Those not in attendance will be installed at the next opportunity. Open meetings on the referendum to raise mandatory fees were held March 2 and March 24. The Senate sponsored a successful blood drive on March 29. There were meetings on April 6 and 7, regarding mandatory fees. There will be a student Senate leadership workshop on July 8 for new and continuing Senators. Information about roles and responsibilities will be discussed. There will be a Student Senate officers election on July 15.

Chair Friefeld stated that a Board/Student Senate retreat will be scheduled after the election of officers.

### **Faculty Senate President's Report**

Lyon reported that Diane Dates-Casey requested that the Senate form a committee to investigate best practices in development, implementation, and teaching on-line courses. The Senate feels that this committee could be very useful to the university but also has concerns that it could impinge on academic freedom of faculty members. After careful consideration and much debate, it was voted to



form a Task Force for On-Line Courses. Professor Maribeth Kasik volunteered to chair the task force. Provost Keys requested that the Senate assist him in implementation of a new civility policy at the University. The Senate feels that it is very unfortunate that the development of a civility policy is seen as a necessity, but acknowledges that some people, including Governors State University employees, are not always as civil as polite society would desire. The implementation of civility policies is becoming more commonplace at universities around the country. In the past, the Senate has resisted implementation of such a policy, but a review of the policy as currently proposed indicates that it consists of a series of guidelines that serve to reinforce other policies already implemented. The policy does not contain any punitive language. As such, it may find favor in the Senate. The Senate continues to revise outdated policies and implement new ones as requested. The latest policies to come under review were policies 20 and 62, which together deal with the University's new copyright policies. These policies were recently approved by the Senate, as was policy 35 on emeritus status, which was revised in light of the University's adoption of a rank system, and policy 31 on transfer of undergraduate credits. The Senate notes with pleasure its recommendation of the appointment of Professor Heikki Heino, chair of the Academic Program Review Committee, to the new working group on Institutional Research. The Senate is beginning to investigate whether student self-placement is successful. Dr. Eric Martin will report to the Senate and Executive Committee on self-placement this coming fall. For the past eight years, GSU has had very effective representation on the IBHE faculty advisory committee by Dr. Maribeth Kasik. Dr. Kasik has resigned, and Dr. Rebecca Wojcik will be the new IBHE representative. On behalf of the Senate Executive Committee, Lyon thanked the Board of Trustees for its participation in the annual retreat. The retreat was extremely productive and the turnout was extraordinary. It was a privilege to work with the Trustees.

### **Civil Service Senate President's Report**

Kathy Miller reported that the Civil Service Senate Election was held on April 25, 2005. Elected by ballot were: Blondia Jasper, Mary Jones, Kathy Miller, Renee Rainey, and Crystal Richards. Elected by write in were: Rhonda Jackson, Shawn Jones, Bill Kelly, Scott Smith, Karen Stuenkel and Stephanie Wenzel. All of the senators elected by write in have agreed to accept the office, and there is a full senate. On May 11, the Senate held a bake sale and made a profit of \$160 to be used toward scholarships. The Senate Executive Committee was invited to an annual retreat with the Board of Trustees and administration. Miller thanked the Board and administration for allowing time to share information, raise questions, and seek resolutions. The meeting dealt with important and meaningful issues that face the university and the civil service constituency, both pro and con. Miller commended the Safety Committee and awaits the final safety plan to be implemented. Vice-president John Tuohy and Dr. Gary Lyon agreed to be guest speakers at the next civil service meeting on July 21 which will be a University wide meeting, to discuss the safety plan. The Senate will also discuss the Civility Statement, which was brought before the Coordinating Counsel for discussion and approval.

Upcoming events include the Civil Service Retreat, the Annual BBQ Sale in August, the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Home Demonstration at Work in the fall, the fall the Annual Arts and Crafts Fair, and Civil Service Day in December. With the retirement of Cathy Swatek the civil service employees will vote on June 28 for a new EAC –Representative. The Vice-president of the Senate, Rhonda Jackson, is working with Gail Bradshaw, Director of Human Resources, to staff the polling place for this election.

Miller worked closely with Faculty Senate President, Dr. Lyon, and the GSU chapter of SUAA president, Dr. Addison Woodward, on many issues that face the GSU community. They organized a

campaign to send letters to all legislatures on the subject of possible changes in retirement benefits. Benefit issues will not take a back seat. Miller will continue to keep the constituency informed of these matters and ask for their support and participation. She requested if any important information should become available to administration or to the Board, that they continue to communicate with the senates as in the past. The Senate will continue to work on concerns that affect civil service employees and at the same time promote the positive aspects of GSU.

### **Other Business**

**Resolution 05-41: Amendment to the Board of Trustees Regulations (“Regulations”):** Upon the recommendation of the President, and pursuant to the Regulations, Section I.C., the Regulations are amended to reflect the adoption of a faculty rank system in the faculty collective bargaining agreement for 2002-2006. Field Orr moved to approve Resolution 05-41. Beaupre seconded the motion. Kennedy stated that the proposed amendment was presented for first reading at the March Board meeting and was posted in the University and sent to the three Senates for comments. No comments were received. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

**Resolution 05-42: Strategic Priorities for FY2006-2008:** Upon the recommendation of the President, the Board of Trustees approves and adopts the Governors State University Strategic Priorities for FY2006-2008. Beaupre moved to approve Resolution 05-42. Samuels seconded the motion. The President stated that the Strategic Planning Committee did an excellent job under the leadership of Linda Buyer and David Curtis, Co-Chairs. Curtis reported that various members of the committee met with University groups, and there were four University-wide, open meetings held. All comments were reported back to the committee for discussion. As a result, a few changes were made before finalizing the document. The challenge will be the implementation of the plan. There is a need to establish college/unit priorities, timelines, and evaluation criteria. There will be a series of meetings and workshops to accomplish this. The President added that the committee recommended that a small subgroup remain in place in order to evaluate implementation. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

**Resolution 05-43: Honoring Student Trustee Joy Farmer for Student Trustee Services:** The Board of Trustees formally recognized and commended Joy Farmer for her service as a Student Trustee, serving as a model for all who shall serve after her; for her commitment to the role of Student Trustee as advocate for the students; for her dedication to the University as a whole, providing sound guidance and perspective, and for the spirit of committed governance which she brought to the task. The Board expresses its sincere gratitude for her work. DeLaurentiis moved to approve Resolution 05-43. Field Orr seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Farmer thanked the Trustees and stated that it was an honor to serve with them. She thanked her fellow students for electing her to serve as Student Trustee for two terms. Farmer thanked the Board for being her “silent inspiration,” and she thanked each Board member individually and each of those who sit at the Board table.

### **Information Report**

Jim Howley, Director of Career Services, gave an update on the Office of Career Services. Career Services assists student and alumni with all facets of their careers and offers many services, including individual advising, workshops and programs, resource guides, job postings, credentials files, and career fairs.

**Installation of Student Trustee**

Chair Friefeld requested that Derek Stevenson, Student Senate Vice President, join him in swearing in the new Student Trustee, Dwayne Williams. Williams was sworn in by Friefeld.

**Public Comment Period**

Chair Friefeld stated that HB2580 requires GSU to set aside time at each open Board meeting for employees and members of the public to make comments, subject to reasonable constraints. Comments are limited to three minutes for each person. No one requested to speak.

**Adjournment**

Chair Friefeld requested a motion to adjourn. Samuels moved that the meeting be adjourned. DeLaurentiis seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen Rock Cawthon