

Governors State University

## OPUS Open Portal to University Scholarship

---

Board of Trustees Meetings Materials and Recordings

Board of Trustees

---

10-2-2009

### **Governors State University Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Committee Meeting Minutes - October 2, 2009**

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  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of the Friday, October 2, 2009 Meeting**

**Lois Mayer, Chair**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees met on Friday, October 2, 2009 in the William D. McGee Hall of Honors. The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Samuels at 8:51 a.m. Trustees Lois Mayer, Jack Beaupre, Kristi DeLaurentiis, Bruce Friefeld and Student Trustee Bryce Johnsen were in attendance. Former Trustee Kathleen Field Orr was in attendance for a tribute to her service to the Board.

Others present: Elaine Maimon, President; Gebe Ejigu, Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff; David Curtis, Interim Provost; Alexis Kennedy, General Counsel; Joan Vaughan, Vice President of Institutional Advancement; Paul Blobaum, Faculty Senate President; Kathleen Miller, Civil Service Senate President; Sandra Mayfield, Assistant Provost; Linda Samson, Dean of the College of Health and Human Services; Eric Martin, Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences; Ellen Foster Curtis, Dean of the College of Business and Public Administration; Deborah Bordelon, Dean of the College of Education; and David Dixon, Internal Auditor.

Board Chair Samuels welcomed Former Trustee Kathleen Field Orr, stating it was needless to say that everyone misses her. She commended Field Orr for being an exceptional advocate and enthusiastic supporter of GSU. Her contributions to the Board and GSU are invaluable. In Field Orr's honor *Resolution 08-50: Honoring the Service of Trustee Kathleen Field Orr* was passed. DeLaurentiis read the resolution aloud, and a framed copy was presented to Field Orr. A Standard Chair engraved with the GSU logo and Field Orr's name was also presented to her. Field Orr thanked everyone for the honors, stating she greatly enjoyed her time of service to the GSU Community. Maimon offered a personal thank you to Field Orr for agreeing to stay on the Board well past the expiration of her term in order to provide guidance to many important initiatives, foremost of which was the creation of the Board of Trustees Facilities Committee, which she chaired. Her efforts made the Board and the University take a very close look at the facilities and institute corrective measures. Today the campus is safer, healthier, and more beautiful. In addition, thanks to Field Orr's efforts, the 2010-2011 Academic Year will begin operating on a semester calendar, in line with GSU's feeder institutions. On behalf of the Board Samuels extended warm wishes and continued success to Field Orr before her departure.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**Approval of Minutes**

Committee Chair Mayer entertained a motion to accept the minutes of the June 12, 2009 Academic Affairs Committee meeting. Friefeld made a motion. DeLaurentiis seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

## **INFORMATION ITEMS AND FORMAL REPORTS**

### **Higher Learning Commission Accreditation Continuation Update**

Curtis presented. The Board previously received copies of the HLC Self Study document. Curtis expressed the document is one the University can be very proud of; one that takes an honest and critical look at GSU. Scores of people need to be thanked, but he did single out Dr. Eric Martin and Dr. Ann Vendrely, the Co-Chairs of the HLC Accreditation Continuation Committee, who have done an exhaustive job of overseeing the entire process. Curtis explained that when the HLC Site Team visits campus on November 16-18 they will meet with constituents from across the University and within the community. He believes the University is well prepared for the visit. He did point out that a few minor errors were found after the printing of the book. Corrections were made as an addendum and forwarded to the University as well as the HLC Site Team. Samuels commended Curtis and the HLC Accreditation Continuation Committee for an excellent job.

### **Report on Program Accreditation Status and Academic Program Changes**

Curtis brought to the Board's attention that a Quality Assurance Report submitted to the Association of Business Schools (ACBSP) in February 2009 has been addressed, and all notes and conditions were recently removed. Full accreditation has been received, and the next quality Assurance Report is not due until February 15, 2011. Curtis congratulated Dean Foster Curtis and the CBPA for their efforts.

DeLaurentiis questioned Curtis about the decision to suspend enrollment in the undergraduate Management Information Systems (MIS) program. Curtis replied that there are only three students in the program. They continue to work toward their degrees. In the meantime the University has put a plan in place to ensure the needs of those students are met.

Curtis pointed out that the request to the IBHE for an Ed.D. program in Counseling was not included in the HLC Self Study because there was every expectation the IBHE would not have responded by the time of the site visit, and the HLC can only consider a program after the IBHE review. The approval process for doctoral programs can be very lengthy, however Drs. Bordelon and Dermer put together a first class proposal, and it has moved through the system very quickly. The IBHE stated it was an excellent proposal, they have no additional questions, and it will be presented to their Board. Curtis stated he called the chair of the Higher Learning Commission to explain what happened, and asked whether the HLC team could look at it while they were here for the site visit. They stated they would be happy to, but the University would need authorization from the HLC staff. Curtis talked to GSU's HLC consultant, who agreed that the HLC can review this particular doctoral program primarily on the basis of the information that GSU submitted to IBHE. The team will insert in their report words to the effect that this is a solid program and the HLC is confident the University knows what it is doing. Ordinarily a team from HLC would have to come back to the University for a focus visit, however in this case since the program is being considered it will be submitted to a reader's panel for consideration.

### **Report on Excellence Awards**

Curtis stated 19 faculty members were awarded Excellence Awards this year. Chair Samuels and Trustee Mayer were in attendance for the presentation of awards, and both expressed it was very uplifting. Samuels added that the brief summary of each recipient included in the Board Book really only touches the surface of what these fine faculty have done.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### ***Resolution 10-02: Honorary Degree Nominations***

Curtis explained that the Honorary Degree Candidate Committee has met and deliberated, and presented four candidates to President Maimon for consideration. Maimon agreed with the recommendations.

Samuels made a motion to approve the resolution. Johnsen seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. Maimon clarified that the list of candidates located in the Board Book includes candidates that have been considered as well as the names of those that have recently been awarded the honorary degree.

**PREVIEW OF FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

No specific requests were made.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

No requests for public comment were made.

Mayer entertained a motion to adjourn. DeLaurentiis made a motion. Friefeld seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The Academic Affairs Committee meeting adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Johns Maloney