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News and Events

April Board Meeting Recap

Friday, April 3 was marked by the year's second full GSU Board of Trustees meeting. The full board meeting was preceded by meetings of the Human Resources and Academic Affairs committees.

Board Chair Lorine Samuels commented on Provost's Hudak's departure from GSU, noting her significant achievements and the fact that she'll still make a difference on campus as a professor of art. Samuels also welcomed Dr. David Curtis into his new role as Professor on Special Assignment. She added that Curtis's significant experience as an HLC reviewer will allow him to be of particular assistance as the university prepares for its November reaccreditation site visit.

Samuels touched base on the current economic situation and how the State budget may affect the university. Stating confidently that she believes GSU remains fiscally sound, she warned that the university must "remain vigilant in making GSU as self-sustaining as possible. From energy saving initiatives to new degree programs and from community outreach to cautious fiscal planning, we are on the right path."

President Maimon echoed Chair Samuels' praise of Provost Hudak's contributions and warm welcome of Dr. Curtis. Maimon noted that Jaime Ferrare of Academic Search, Inc. will be working with the administration and the search committee that will be coordinating the search for a permanent Provost. He will visit campus in May to prepare an updated profile of GSU that will be used in the recruitment process.

Dr. Maimon also reported on her recent legislative budget presentations in Springfield. She expressed guarded optimism in the general assembly's advocacy for higher education and noted that many legislators share a special regard for GSU and the unique challenges we face as an upper division university. GSU's aggressive initiatives -- including new baccalaureate completion centers, dual admission, and specialized community college outreach -- will attract additional students which may,

in turn, help GSU overcome potential shortfalls in state support.

Several resolutions were approved at the meeting including the award of a construction contract for roadway and walkway reconstruction; award of Professor Emeritus status to Karen Peterson, Michael Purdy, and Beth Hansen Shaw; elimination of the Certificate in Reading Specialist program; and approval of a Venue Use Agreement which authorized President Maimon to enter into an intergovernmental agreement with Chicago 2016 for the use of the GSU campus as a venue for shooting during the 2016 Summer Olympics.

The Board also elected the following officers and committee chairs for 2009-10: Trustee Lorine Samuels, Board Chair; Trustee Jack Beaupre, Board Vice Chair and Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee; Trustee Kristi DeLaurentiis, Board Secretary and Chair of the Human Resources Committee; Lois Mayer, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee; and Trustee Bruce Friefeld, Chair of Facilities Committee as well as the Committee on Trusteeship, Governance and Nominations.

Geoff Bates, Director and Curator of the Nathan Manilow Sculpture Park, made a presentation detailing the park's renaissance through renewed focus in three components: organizational, professional, and educational. A new board of directors is providing visionary guidance as the park aims to meet the highest standards of museum curatorial expertise and enhance its participation in the Chicago and national art world. Educational programs and the establishment of a docent group have brought new groups of students, community members, and Midwestern visitors to the park.

Brief reports were also made by the faculty, student, and civil service senate presidents. Kathy Miller, President of the Civil Service Senate, recognized the success of recent Civil Service fundraisers. As a result, she believes that the senate will ask for a reduction in its budget for FY 2010. Faculty Senate President, Paul Blobaum, mentioned that faculty contract negotiations were progressing smoothly. And Carmin Garnica was introduced as the new president of the Student Senate. Garnica spoke cautiously, thanking those in attendance for the opportunity to represent the student body.

