

5-18-2017

## AY 16-17 Meeting, 2017-05-18

Faculty Senate

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## Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

**May 18, 2017  
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.  
Hall of Honors**

### Senators in Attendance:

X	P. Blobaum (AL/UL)	X	J. Goode* (CAS)	X	X. She (COE)
X	M. Carrington* (CAS)		G. Howell (COE)	X	J. Shin (CAS)
	X. Chen (CAS)	X	J. Klomes* (COE)	X	S. Spencer (CHHS)
	D. Cortese (CAS)	X	E. Mengova (COB)	X	A. Tamulis* (CAS)
	N. Ermasova (CAS)	X	P. Mohanty* (COB)	X	C. Tymkow (AL/CHHS)
X	E. Essex (CHHS)	X	R. Muhammad* (AL/CAS)		S. Wadhwa (CHHS)
X	L. Falconnier (CHHS)		B. Parin* (AL/CAS)	X	S. Wagner (AL/COB)
X	L. Geller* (UL)	X	Z. Ramamonjiarivelo* (CHHS)	X	B. Winicki* (COE)
X	D. Golland* (CAS)		G. Sargut (COB)		

\* = Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Standing Committee Chairs

**Others Present:** D. Bordelon, S. Cervantes, S. Estep, E. Maimon, C. Sexton, A. Vendrely

1. *Call to Order:* The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m., with quorum, by Faculty Senate President Winicki.
2. *Administrative Updates:*
  - o *Welcome to President Maimon– President Maimon* discussed the importance of transparency regarding GSU's budget; a recent GSU Town Hall meeting was held during which the budget was discussed. Essex asked a question about the Voluntary Retirement Program (VRP), regarding HR information on the GSU Portal that the program would be available on a first-come-first-served basis. Maimon replied that there is no maximum or minimum number of early retirements planned. Senators also discussed possible adjustments to timing of early retirements. There may be an issue about retiring mid-month vs. the end of the month. Tymkow asked about a statement in the VRP fact sheet that not everyone who desires will be able to retire early, if there is operational need for his/her employment. Wagner asked a question about GSU changing to a delayed pay schedule that will involve skipping a pay period. He questioned the claim that the skipping of a pay period will have no long-term effect on income, especially for people in the Tier 2 retirement classification. Maimon replied that an analysis of this potential problem can be done. She advised that faculty talk to HR about this. Wagner suggested that payments for the offered loan be spread out more, and was told that GSU will be working with UPI to get this

done. Blobaum asked if GSU retirement contributions twice a month will continue; Maimon replied “yes.”

- *Summer and fall 2017 enrollment; fall 2017 freshmen applications*— *Provost Bordelon* reported that the Summer 2017 enrollment is down from last year’s summer enrollment. She stipulated that the census date is June 1, and the census may not count students in classes that begin late in the term. Summer head count is 2575, compared to 2917 last summer. Summer SCHs are 15653, compared to 18475 last summer. She reported, however, that Fall 2017 enrollment is up 2.5%, with 2,059 head count, compared to 2,007 this time last year. Fall SCHs are 18888, compared to 19152 this time last year. She also said that GSU is encouraging new students to begin classes during the summer term. She reported that GSU currently has received 986 Freshmen applications, compared to 946 this time last year. Of the total number of applications, 408 have been admitted. She added that many of the applications are incomplete. Of the 408 freshmen admitted, 83 have confirmed that they are enrolling at GSU, compared to 133 this time last year. The total number of admitted students include 88 direct admits, 210 Smart Start students in math and English, 60 Smart Start students in math and 50 Smart Start students in English. This time last year, a total of 438 admitted students included 91 direct admits, 242 Smart Start students in math and English, 74 Smart Start students in math and 31 Smart Start students in English.
- *Spring 2017 SEI response rate; comparison vs. Spring 2016*— *Bordelon* stipulated that currently there are still some grades not submitted for Spring term, but reported that the response rate for Spring SEIs is 43%, compared to 44% and 39% response rates to on-line SEIs over the last two years. *Wagner* asked about lower response rates for on-line SEIs; he was concerned that lower response rates may decrease validity of results. *Bordelon* replied that they are trying to link SEIs to Blackboard—a change that may increase response rates. *Cervantes* said faculty have recently had problems with SEIs that originated with the vendor; *Golland* concurred.
- *Effects of multiple student surveys on the quality and quantity of SEI responses*— *Associate Provost Vendrely* reported that response rates were low for recently administered SmartEval student satisfaction surveys. Due to the low response rates, only aggregate results will be analyzed. She added that final results of this survey will be available by Fall 2017. *Winicki* stated that conducting the SmartEval survey at the same time that students were completing SEIs might have been poor timing. *Essex* said she found out about the SmartEval surveys from students, and suggested that faculty should have been notified of the surveys.
- *Planning for VRP, protection of academic program integrity in AY 2017-2018*— *Winicki* said that she is worried about the integrity of some academic programs after a potentially sizable proportion of their faculty retire early. *Bordelon* replied that they will know by July 10 how many faculty have volunteered to retire early.
- *Academic program elimination/restructuring: Policy Monitoring Committee report on Policy 1; timing of decision re: COE*— The Policy Monitoring Committee reported that Policy 1 (Academic Reorganization Policy) was not followed when recent decisions were made concerning reorganization or elimination of the College of Education. *Bordelon* stated that Policy 1 was approved in 1978, is not up to date, and should be revised. *Winicki* replied that the policy should still be in effect. *Bordelon* stated that we will know something about restructuring of COE by June 30. Any restructuring will involve a yearlong transition period. *Golland* suggested that during that year, follow Policy 1.
- *Lower Division Steering Committee, membership and relation to General Education Council*— *Winicki* asked about membership in the Lower Division Steering Committee, and the committee’s relationship to the General Education Council. *Bordelon* replied that membership in the committee includes David Rhea, the Registrar (Chris Huang), someone from the Financial Aid office, someone from student housing, someone from Enrollment, someone from the business office, and Dean Marak. She added that the committee addresses student housing and student payment structure and debt issues. She said that there is some overlap of this committee with the General Education Council with Rhea and Marak. *Winicki* asked what committee is making decisions on conditional admissions and Smart Start. *Bordelon* said she will reply with an answer soon.

- *Reduction of Faculty Senate budget line from \$10K to \$6K; access to funds*– PBAC recently cut the Faculty Senate budget line. Winicki said that the Faculty Senate will need access to funds soon for a planned retreat.

Bordelon reminded senators that tonight is the doctoral hooding ceremony, in the Center for Performing Arts.

3. *Review and approval of April 2017 Faculty Senate minutes*– Golland made a motion to approve the April 2017 minutes; Tamulis seconded. The motion passed with one abstention.
4. *Announcements:*
  - *Newly-tenured senators and members of Faculty Senate standing committees*– Newly-tenured senators are David Golland, Pam Mohanty and Zo Ramamonjirivelo. New members of Faculty Senate standing committees are Dr. Ellie Walsh on UCC, Mr. Josh Sopiarcz on EPC and Dr. Debbie James on the General Education Council.
  - *Election results and remaining vacancies (Call for volunteers in early August)* – Faculty Senate At Large representatives: Kim Boland-Prom, Rashidah Muhammad, Barbara Winicki. UCC CAS representative: Ellie Walsh. IRB CAS representative: Pam Guimond. Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Faculty Senate representative: Giesela Grumbach.
5. *Faculty Senate Action and Discussion Items:*
  - *Report on Board of Trustees meeting, May 12* – Winicki reported that during the May 12 Board of Trustees meeting, faculty were approved for tenure. Winicki’s Faculty Senate report mentioned the Policy 1 violation. After her report, the BoT Chair asked President Maimon to report to the Board on the Policy 1 violation. The Board approved a resolution for President Maimon to act on the APERC recommendations and COE reorganization. The Board also approved the voluntary retirement program and centralized student advising. Senators discussed the conditions under which COE reorganization will occur.
  - *Report on PBAC meetings, May 10, 11, 16* – Golland reported that all academic units were asked to cut 3% of their budgets, and all colleges except CHHS made the 3% cut. He also said that Valente mentioned closing the GSU pool, and that there was much “pushback” over closing the pool. Wagner mentioned the unfairness of differential tuition not coming back to COB. Winicki said that the university does not want to pay for what is needed to maintain accreditation. Wagner added that centralizing resources has an impact on programs, because faculty are doing more administrative work. He added that this additional burden on faculty may affect the quality of education at GSU.
  - *Faculty Senate retreat on the University’s mission: 2 hour-lunch meeting; possible dates: August 14, 21, 23, 24, 25*– Golland eliminated the August 14 as a possible date, so the retreat will be scheduled near the end of August.
  - *Faculty Senate Bylaws, proposed change in Educational Policies Committee title*– Tamulis said that the administration is concerned about the slow speed of changes to policies. Faculty discussed a change to the Faculty Senate Bylaws to “Article VII, Section 3, changing the name of the Educational Policies Committee to the Institutional Policies Committee. Wagner made a motion to approve the changes; Ermasova seconded. The motion passed by a 2/3 majority, with 12 yeases, 1 no, and 5 abstentions.

Golland made a motion to extend the Faculty Senate meeting by 20 minutes; Muhammad seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

- *Proposed policy revisions (Tamulis): Proposed change (terms from 2 to 3 years) in Policy 53 IRB; Network policy (PBAC IT committee)*– Tamulis reported that in January, the federal government passed new regulations that removed certain categories of scholarship from the jurisdiction of IRB. Consequently, the EPC made changes to Policy 53 to align with the new

