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Faculty Senate Minutes

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10-20-2022

### Faculty Senate Minutes, Academic Year 2022-2023, October 20, 2022

Faculty Senate  
*Governors State University*

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**Faculty Senate Meeting  
Minutes**

**October 20, 2022  
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.  
Hall of Honors**

**Senators in Attendance:**

X	Alozie, E.	X	Manprasio, R. (CAS)*	X	Tian, F. (COB/APRC)*
X	Can, A. (COE)		McClure, M. (CHHS)	X	Tweddle, C. (AL/CAS/GE)*
X	Cervantes, S. (AL/COE)	X	Muhammad, R. (AL/CAS)*	X	Tymkow, C. (AL/CHHS)
X	Chen, X. (CAS)	X	Pagone, N. (CAS)	X	Valgoi, M. (AL/COE)*
X	Cipra, A. (COE)	X	Peng, L.-W. (COE)*	X	Vining, J. (CAS/IPC)*
X	Cummings, M. (COE)*		Rekhter, N. (CHHS)	X	Winicki, B. (Emeritus)
X	Day, J. (CHHS)	X	Romanowski, C. (UL)*	X	Wright, L. (COE) *
X	He, T. (COB)	X	Santoro, P. (CAS)		
X	Jang, H. (COB)*	X	Spencer, S. (CHHS)		
	Kerns, T. (Unit B)	X	Stache, L. (CAS)	X	Didion, C. (Parliamentarian)*
	King, L. (CHHS)*	X	Shanahan, J.	X	Walsh, E. (UCC)*

\* = Faculty Senate Executive Committee, Standing Committee Chairs

***Others Present:***

C. Green, B. Schneller, C. Bradford, T. Forde, J. Crowley, P. McGuinness, F. Brave, C. Pustz, D. Swanson, P. West

## I. Call to Order and Approval of Agenda

The meeting was called to order, with quorum, by Faculty Senate President Cummings at 1:02 p.m. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

## II. New Business:

### A. Appointments to Vacancies (p.2)

#### **Action Item: Approval of Vacancy Appointments**

- ✓ Motion made to approve the slate of vacancies. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.
- ✓ New senators (Alozie, Shanahan, & Stache) were welcomed

## III. Presentation:

### A. Interim Dean of Library, Dennis Swanson.

- ✓ Discussed and showcased the new proposed library structure:
  - COE, COH, and COB will have different working areas within the library.
  - There will be new faculty/staff areas.
- ✓ Discussed other happenings:
  - Currently providing space for the social justice legal aid in his office.
  - Have purchased new study desks that are also stationary bikes.
  - Working on getting a Café in the library.
  - Currently removing old materials from the library collection.
  - In the process of adding 10 to 12 volumes of updated materials.
  - Have ordered white boards.

*A few senators expressed concerns regarding the issue of book reserves. President Cummings indicated that another meeting will be scheduled to address this issue.*

### B. Director of Social Justice Initiative, Phyllis West – Presentation available upon request.

- ✓ Conducted a PowerPoint presentation highlighting the initiative's progress thus far:
  - Work plan for Spring and Fall 2022 (Internal -- Beloved Community/SJ experiential learning with GSU students, Legal Clinic, University Partners, Search Committees, DEI Committee; External – Weekly/monthly meetings with community partners; attendance/presentations at violence prevention and social justice symposiums)
  - University partners (CAS, COE, COB, DLMD, and Center for Performing Arts)
  - Legal Team Clinic overview (grant has been written for a legal clinic)
  - Outreach and Marketing Strategy

## III. External Reports

### A. University Administration (Green/Schneller/Bradford/McGuinness)

#### *President Green*

- Exercised a point of privilege addressing the issue of students needing textbooks. She agreed that she does not want the reserved books to go away as they are very necessary for some students. Mentioned that the university recognizes the needs of students and is putting forth efforts to make education assessable for all students (i.e., all freshmen received free laptops).
- Discussed retention stating that the university is widely changing variables in this area and that we are moving in the right direction (i.e., there was a 7% increase over last year). Mentioned the Retention to Graduation committee and stated that she would like to meet with them regarding the work they are doing as the university also had a 4%

graduation rate increase. While there is some improvement, she stated the university needs to revisit the retention and graduation efforts.

- Shared that she was approached by Lobbyist Maureen Kelly regarding the south suburban airport which will be a commercial airport. She is in favor of a third airport, particularly in this area, as it can create thousands of jobs, therefore she plans to fully support this effort.
- Highlighted the winners of the Distinguished Alumni Awards and praised faculty for their fruits of labor in producing excellent recipients.
- Shared that Marquis Parks, student senate president was invited to the White House by Vice President Kamala Harris. VP Harris invited 40 student senate presidents and Mr. Parks stood out. He was the only student who completed a survey prior to the visit. He left a permanent mark and will be invited back.

#### *Provost Schneller*

- Reported various institutional accreditations (i.e., Counseling Program – CACREP; Department of Nursing – ACEN, etc.)
- Discussed several other items
  - Grants (i.e., COB 1<sup>st</sup> Steps, Verizon Innovative Learning Program for Middle Schools – STEAM grant/\$10,000 awarded for training teachers and nurses, etc.)
  - IRB training held Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> - 30 students in attendance. Purpose was to assist with their research efforts.
  - COE and COB held their homecoming receptions
  - Personal Updates --Veronica Hunt and Karen Caesar-Smith are on leave. Gail Rogers will be taking on some of Veronica Hunt's duties. Kevin Smith is retiring from the Veterans Resource Center. They are in the final stages of the interview process for the Assistant Provost position.
  - Announced that Novia Pagone was selected as the co-chair of the IT Strategic Planning Committee.
  - Introduced Dr. Joi Patterson in her new role of Chief Diversity Officer. Dr. Patterson officially began this role October 17<sup>th</sup>.

#### *Bradford*

- Reminded FS to encourage students to take the cyber security training via blackboard.
- He attended the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) and shared their three goals: To close equity gaps, improve the financial future for individuals and institutions and to grow talent for the state.
- Reported that:
  - Different strategies are being investigated to obtain funding.
  - They are asking for a 10% increase in the budget.
  - The capital request includes over \$136,000,000 for new buildings
  - They are asking for release of deferred maintenance projects.

*Pustz also shared that the Hall of Honors is currently being worked on.*

#### *McGuinness*

- Reported:
  - FTPC is up by 3.25%
  - Total credits are up by 2.52%

- The university is operating well. There is an overall 20% increase in new students in every category.
- There are two administrative roles fill by Robert Morley and Rene Gosch.

B. University Professionals of Illinois (Ferran) – not present

C. Student Senate (Parks) – not present

D. Civil Service Senate (Fung)

- Provided definition of civil service
- Stated they are working hard to develop an effective senate.
  - They are working on diversity, team building, breaking barriers, and building trust.
- Suggest faculty senate members visit their website
- They have initiatives such as: employee of the month/year, civil service day, the Eric Nichols scholarship, etc.
- They also hosted the film festival

#### IV. Reports

##### A. Committees

###### 1. Executive

- a. President (Cummings) – His report is in the packet (pp. 3-4), however just an FYI...he plans to report to the Board of Trustees tomorrow.
- b. College Reps (Jang, King, Manprasio, Romanowski, Valgoi)
  - Jang (COB) – November 10<sup>th</sup> they will have a career fair for COB students. Twenty employers will be represented.
  - King (CHHS) – Not present.
  - Manprasio (CAS) – They have five candidates. Interviews will begin in November. Their presentations will be public and on-campus. Additionally, Crystal Harris is working on getting people to vote in the upcoming elections.
  - Romanowski (UL) – No updates.
  - Valgoi (COE) – Clinical Psychology will be hosting their open house tonight at 6:00.

###### 2. University Curriculum (Walsh)

- Discussed changes in the committee – She was elected to replace Catherine Tymkow as chair; Cynthia Romanowski was elected as secretary; Andrius Tamulis was appointed as the representative Gen. Ed. Council; Katherine Carl to the Academic Master Plan Advisory committee; and Luther King and a few others were recruited by President Cummings as members.
- Thanked Tymkow and Romanowski for their leadership and service.
- Reported:
  - Their first meeting was held face-to-face, but others will be virtually moving forward, unless another f-to-f is necessary.
  - They are pairing new members with veteran members for guidance and support.
  - They are moving from Google Docs to the university's One Drive
  - So far, they have approved eight program changes (several involving the counseling program due to CACREP accreditation) and 12 syllabi
- Asked that faculty senate get the word out that training is available and that she or Romanowski should be contacted for more information.

3. Institutional Policies (Vining) – See pp. 5-10)
 

**Action Item: Approval of Policy 26 (Grading and Status Policy)**  
 Changes were addressed during the executive committee meeting (10/6) however a few new minor typos were note. Plan was discussed to send changes to Vining. Motion was made to approve Policy 26 as amended. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Vining also reported good news regarding IP taking steps to decrease the time in getting policies signed.
4. Program Review (Tian) – See report, p. 11, but verbally mentioned the contents of the report. Also reminded faculty senate that APRC (Academic Program Review Committee) currently has eight members, however, will need more next semester.
5. General Education (Tweddle/Cipra) – See report, pp. 12-13  
 Tweddle also invited all to attend upcoming meeting this Wednesday, 10/26 at 1:00 pm. He stated that the topic will be on early college credits (IB, AP, dual enrollment) and its effect on enrollment.
6. Institutional Wellness (Kelly/Lanigan) – See report, p.14  
 Lanigan also reported that they are trying to get a faculty/staff lounge and are meeting with various stakeholders to get their perspective regarding IW in addressing wellness issues. They haven't yet, but are hoping to speak with adjunct faculty as well

#### B. Optional

1. Illinois Board of Higher Education (Harris) – report available upon request
  - The Faculty Advisory Counsel of IBHE met on 9/16 and will meet again tomorrow, 10/21.
  - The council has various working groups (Mental Health, Equity, Student Debt and Affordability, Performance Based Funding, Dual Credit/Online Remote Learning, and Prior Learning Assessment). She is on the Equity Working Group
  - They have various initiatives such as Common Applications, Tutoring, Early Education Consortium, etc. There is also a statewide initiative in place to focus on homelessness.
2. Graduate Studies Council (Muhammad)
  - Update on GA application – the current waiver covers what is needed in the application so there are plans to use that. However, there is a discrepancy between Policy 70 and information on HR's website regarding GA having a 20-hour work week along with working a full-time job. The committee plans to do legal research.

*At 3:00 President Cummings asked for a motion to be made to extend the meeting for 4 additional minutes. Motion was made and approved unanimously.*

- Update of GA council to GA school – There is discussion about having dedicated faculty, however a draft proposal will be sent to all for review soon.
- There is discussion regarding having an orientation for graduate students focusing on their specific programs.

3. Policy Monitoring Committee (Conrad) – Not present.
4. Institutional Review Board (Getsoian/Shawahin) – Not present.
5. Faculty Professional Development (Vujaklija/Lee)  
Lee reported there next FPD meeting will be held 11/4.

V. New Business

A. Approval of Minutes (pp. 15-20)

**Action Item: Approval of September Senate Minutes**

Approval of the September minutes were tabled until the next meeting (11/17)

VI. Old Business:

VII. Adjournment at 3:04 p.m.

Upcoming Dates

- Board of Trustees: October 21, TBA
- Administrative Policies Committee: October 24, 11:00-12:00pm, TBA
- Senate Executive Committee: November 3, 1:00 to 3:00pm, Virtual
- Faculty Senate: November 17, 1:00 to 3:00pm, Hall of Honors

Respectfully submitted,

Leonis S. Wright