

8-21-2003

AY 03-04 Meeting 2003-08-21

Faculty Senate

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Faculty Senate, "AY 03-04 Meeting 2003-08-21" (2003). *Faculty Senate Minutes*. Paper 10.
http://opus.govst.edu/facultysenate_minutes/10

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**Governors State University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes, August 21, 2003**

Senators Present: Michael Dimitroff, Russ Carter, Ralph Bell, Heikki Heino, Dalsang Chung, Winfried Rudloff, Maribeth Kasik, Jay Shen, Catherine Brady

Guests: Paul Keys, Colleen Rock Cawthon, Deborah Holdstein, Emmanuel Alozie, Virginia Eysenbach

Dimitroff called the meeting to order at 1:10 p.m.

Reports

Administration (Keys)

Provost Keys briefed the Senate on a few issues that he will present to the Academic Program and Policy (APP) Committee of the Board. The administration is focused on moving forward with the Strategic Plan. One way to help address the decrease in resources that are needed to move forward would be to use the Strategic Academic Enhancement Fees. Guidelines for the use of the fees were developed, and the President and Keys will present recommendations for initial projects to the Student Senate and the University Budget Committee. The recommendations include: digitizing selected curricula, developing smart classrooms, upgrading the academic computing services (ACS) labs, and funding some new programs which have been recommended by the GSU Budget Committee and approved by IBHE.

The administration is trying to respond to demands for courses for cohorts and program offerings at local community colleges. The intent is for those particular types of programs to be self supporting; therefore, the University is moving forward with them. The College of Business and Public Administration is working closely to develop a four-year degree at KCC, and the Lincoln Way Project with JJC has been successful. Dean John Stoll and Veronica Williams have done an exemplary job at market analysis.

Sondra Estep agreed to head the “Durbin” earmark, Adventures of the American Mind. Four to five smart classrooms and a technical support person position will be funded. The earmark is for a period of three years, with the intention to renew by Durbin. The Graduate Council has begun discussing the possibility of securing earmark money for a doctoral program, maybe a multidisciplinary program. IBHE indicated that they intend to approve the DPT for all programs in Illinois. If that happens, GSU will have a window of opportunity to bring in other programs. Interim Dean Bennett is chairing a subcommittee of the Graduate Council, which is discussing the issue of doctoral programs.

Keys stated that he and Rock Cawthon walked through the FOC a few times and took note of concerns. The Senators added the following concerns/questions:

- filing cabinet/bookshelves; can the faculty members have additional cabinets/bookshelves
- is the metal staircase on the outside of the building grounded

- is it possible to cover the grates on the floor of the bridges (stileto heels, hot beverage spills, etc.)
- CHP is having a cart accessibility issue with one of its faculty members
- there is no “line of sight” with the curved halls (security issue); could mirrors be added
- when will the Sherman entrance be opened

Rock Cawthon stated that she would add these to the list and forward them to PPO for response. The Senate thanked her for her work as the space coordinator for the academic wing. A Senator stated how helpful the FOC Move Bulletins are. Questions were raised about vacated space and the computer lab situation. The Provost responded that PPO is working on vacated space needs. Some of the space will be needed for swing space for the E/F wing renovation. Regarding the computer labs, a decision has been made. There was a meeting with faculty and ITS. Diane Dates Casey distributed the results of the meeting, and one recommendation was to establish an oversight meeting comprised of faculty only, which has been established.

Holdstein informed the Senate that a request to change the full-time graduate student status from 12 credit hours (CHs) to 9 CHs was submitted by the College of Health Professions, but the change will benefit graduate students in all colleges. GSU is the only public university in Illinois, other than U of I, which still requires 12 CHs for full-time graduate student status. The other public universities have changed to 9 CHs. The change would be consistent with federal definitions and would have only positive implications for financial aid. CHP recently secured financial support for disadvantaged students in three programs. The support is for full-time students, as defined by the institution (but not less than 9 CHs). The new grant will cover tuition, fees, and some living expenses. A Senator added that this could be a good recruiting tool and may allow some students to attend who may not have been able to otherwise. The Graduate Council supports the change and presented the information to the Faculty Senate, Student Senate, Deans Council, and Administrative Group for review and discussion. The Education Policies Committee intends to redraft an existing policy to include the revised definition, which will formalize the change.

Dimitroff requested a motion to approve a resolution to support the change in full-time status for graduate students from 12 CHs to 9CHs. Kasik so moved. Carter seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Committee Reports

University Curriculum Committee (UCC) (Muhammad)

There was no report.

IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee (Kasik)

Kasik reported that budget issues were addressed at the August 12 meeting. A copy of an article in the New York Times, *Perils of Cutbacks in Education*, was distributed and discussed at the IBHE meeting. Contact Kasik if you would like a copy of the article.

Education Policies Committee (EPC) (Diers)

There was no report.

Academic Program Review Committee (APRC) (Heino)

There was no report.

University Assessment Committee (UAC) (Wojcik)

There was no report.

Faculty Senate Executive Committee (FSEC) (Dimitroff)

There was no report.

Bargaining Unit (Katz)

Katz reported that representatives from both teams are working on final language for the contract and intend to have it completed soon. Salary increases were approved for FY04. The UPC Conference Room will remain in the third floor administrative area and will be shared with the UPI. The UPI office will be moved next to the UPC Conference Room. There may be a reorganization of the union officers to add a VP of Unit B ASPs and a VP of Unit B Lecturers.

Adjournment

Kasik moved to adjourn the meeting. Carter seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

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