

11-20-2003

AY 03-04 Meeting 2003-11-20

Faculty Senate

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**Governors State University
Faculty Senate Meeting
Minutes, November 20, 2003**

Senators (Present = x):

<u> X </u> M. Leverage	<u> </u> Z. Malik	<u> </u> J. Shen
<u> X </u> M. Dimitroff	<u> X </u> R. Muhammad	<u> X </u> A. Sanders
<u> </u> M. Kasik	<u> X </u> W. Rudloff	<u> </u> G. Wilson
<u> </u> J. Lingamneni	<u> </u> B. Wilson	<u> </u> M. Graf
<u> X </u> G. Garrett	<u> </u> E. Alozie	<u> X </u> L. Proudfit
<u> </u> D. Chung	<u> X </u> G. Lyon	<u> X </u> J. Klomes
<u> X </u> H. Heino	<u> X </u> C. Tymkow	<u> X </u> B. Hansen-Shaw
<u> X </u> G. Cook	<u> </u> C. Brady	<u> X </u> N. Shlaes

Guests: Paul Keys, Colleen Rock Cawthon, Marsha Katz

Dimitroff called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Report

Administration (Keys)

Keys thanked the Faculty Senate representatives for their participation in the Board retreat. It was an excellent retreat that brought out issues, good, amicable discussions. A similar retreat is scheduled with the Student Senate.

Keys informed the Senate that because of the projected state budget shortfalls, the Board requested that the administration move forward with the program prioritization/reorganization/elimination process. Keys discussed a proposed process and timeline for Program Prioritization/Reorganization/Elimination with the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. Based on recommendations from the Executive Committee, the proposed process and timeline were revised. The Provost will send a memo to the APRC, the UCC, and the deans requesting that they begin the process. The first step will be that the APRC, UCC, and deans list specific criteria, such as program cost, program enrollment, and enrollment trends, for each program. By December 12, the initial review will be completed and the data presented to the Provost and to the programs. The Provost will share the data with the Faculty Senate for discussion at its December meeting. If there are recommendations for program elimination that include the layoff of an employee, those recommendations will be sent to the Academic Program Elimination Review Committee (APERC). The APERC will submit recommendations to the Provost by January 23. All recommendations and data will be forwarded to the President by January 30. Final recommendations will be forwarded to the Academic Program and Policy (APP) Committee of the Board and then to the full Board. Dimitroff stated that the administration was very responsive to the concerns and recommendations raised by the Executive Committee. Keys added that the process is just beginning. No decisions have been made.

Keys also informed the Senate that he met with the Student Senate to discuss their proposal of adding a second commencement ceremony. The Student Senate would like to have another ceremony in

December (or January), as well as the ceremony in June. The Student Senate has proposed that the graduation application fee be raised to cover the cost of the second ceremony. It was recommended that the cookie/punch reception immediately following the ceremony be replaced by an event on campus or by expanding the graduates' on-campus picnic.

Keys distributed copies of his remarks from Convocation. Given the state budget cuts, GSU will have to look at different ways to generate revenue, without relying so heavily on state funding. BPA is working collaboratively with Kankakee Community College to offer a program that will "pay for itself." COE is looking into the possibility of offering new cohorts using a similar cost/benefit analysis. A Senate guest cautioned that the administration be careful when using a cost/benefit type model so that there is no lowering of standards. Keys added that the University is moving forward with grant and earmark submissions. A Vice President of Development should be hired soon. A Senator commented that it is difficult to move forward with grant writing when there is no infrastructure in place to support that activity. Keys responded that MariEllen Leverence has been working to keep the faculty informed of grant opportunities. He also reminded the Senate about the revised indirect cost formula.

Approval of Minutes

Cook moved to approve the minutes of the October 16, 2003 meeting. Lyon seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Reports

University Curriculum Committee (UCC) (Muhammad)

Muhammad distributed the UCC report and stated that UCC is no longer accepting submissions for the AY 04-05 catalog. UCC will continue to review items previously submitted, which were returned by UCC. The UCC updated the Brief Syllabus Format and submitted the changes to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee for approval. The UL/CELCS/SAS seat on the UCC is still vacant. If anyone is interested in serving, contact Muhammad.

IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee (IBHE FAC) (Kasik)

Kasik could not attend, but reported to Dimitroff by e-mail that the IBHE FAC is in the process of preparing a paper to be presented at the December IBHE meeting. Instead of the entire FAC meeting with Kaplan in December, a small delegation and the FAC Chair will meet with him to address the concerns of the faculty.

Academic Program Review Committee (APRC) (Lingamneni)

There was no report.

University Assessment Committee (UAC) (Wojcik)

Hansen Shaw distributed the October and November UAC reports. She reported that UAC held its annual retreat. Committee members provided consultation and feedback to the program assessment coordinators.

The program report on assessment of student learning was submitted to NCA and accepted with no further reports required. NCA noted that “At GSU, assessment has become an institutional priority, a way of life.”

The committee continues to explore various quality improvement programs related to institutional accreditation by NCA and current assessment practices at other institutions.

Educational Policies Committee (EPC) (Blobaum)

Tymkow, a member of EPC, reported that the committee is reviewing proposed changes to the SEI policy.

Bargaining Unit (Katz)

Katz reported that the union and administration are still finalizing the language for the contract. There will be an academic wing Holiday Party, co-hosted by the UPI and the Provost’s Office, on Tuesday, December 2, 3:00-5:00 p.m. There will be an open meeting in the afternoon of December 4 to discuss sick leave buyout. The union continues to work on legislative issues. John Murphy is meeting with some faculty members to train them how to meet with legislators. There will be a faculty lobbying day in March or April in Springfield. Specific information will be forthcoming. Katz commented that she attended the legislative session where President Fagan spoke. His message regarding the budget cuts was that GSU is “past the fat and down to the bone.” Bruce Friefeld, BOT Chair, goes to Springfield every time Fagan goes.

Executive Committee (Dimitroff)

A Senator commented that the Executive Committee appreciated that the Provost listened to their concerns and comments regarding the proposed program prioritization/reorganization/elimination process and timeline and actually made changes based on their recommendations. In committee, Dora Smith presented the proposed AY04-05 calendar. The committee made specific recommendations to her regarding the calendar.

In the Board/Senate Retreat, the Senate was asked to prepare a statement regarding faculty productivity for the President before he attends the IBHE meeting scheduled for December 8 and 9. The administration feels it is important that everyone be “on the same page” and give the same message regarding that issue.

The Executive Committee will continue to review the bylaws.

Other Business

MariEllen Leverage declined the nomination for Vice President (October meeting). Gary Lyon declined the nomination for Secretary (October meeting). Dimitroff requested nominations for vice president. Leverage nominated Gary Lyon for vice president. Proudfit seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. The nominations for vice president were closed. Lyon was approved as the 03-05 Faculty Senate Vice President by unanimous acclamation.

Dimitroff requested nominations for secretary. Hansen Shaw nominated Nancy Shlaes for secretary. Leverage seconded the nomination. There were no other nominations. The nominations for secretary were closed. Shlaes was approved as the 03-05 Faculty Senate Secretary by unanimous acclamation.

Dimitroff stated that H. Heino would like to sit on the Senate again. Since his position was not filled after his resignation, Dimitroff requested a motion to reinstate Heino. Leverage moved to reinstate Heino as a BPA Senator. Lyon seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

A Senator asked Dimitroff if Lingamneni had formally resigned from the Senate after he walked out of the last meeting stating that he wanted nothing further to do with the Senate. Dimitroff responded that he had not received a formal resignation from Lingamneni. It was suggested that Dimitroff contact Lingamneni, and any other Senator in a similar situation, to confirm his status.

The issue of lack of attendance at Senate meetings was raised. It was recommended that the Executive Committee send an e-mail to the Senators asking that they inform the committee if they are not able to attend a meeting. A Senator also suggested that it would be helpful if the minutes would contain a list of all Senators, indicating those who are in attendance.

Faculty productivity was discussed. Dimitroff requested that Rudloff distribute an e-mail he had composed and sent to Dimitroff to all faculty members. Comments by the Senate included:

- Need to defend the model that we have.
- Should not accept the notion that faculty are not productive.
- There is a misconception by the government about higher education and what professors do.
- Need to educate the Governor.
- Need to show that faculty has political power/influence.
- If the faculty does not come up with something concrete on productivity, someone else will.
- With productivity reviews, everyone is “painted with the same brush.”
- If the university system is seen as a cash cow by the state, taking money from it becomes a goal.

It was determined that the Executive Committee would prepare the statement/talking points for the President at the next Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting on December 4. It was suggested that Jeff Slovak, Maribeth Kasik, Catherine Tymkow and Catherine Brady of CHP, as well as other interested faculty members, attend that meeting.

A Senator raised the issue that faculty “lose” two holidays with the current trimester schedule since the Thursday holiday for Thanksgiving is added at the beginning of the term, and the Monday holiday for Labor Day is added at the end of the term. Another Senator stated that she appreciates having all class sessions per term, and she feels that there are many professors who want all 15 sessions per term.

Adjournment

Lyon moved to adjourn. Garrett seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.