

5-21-2009

AY 08-09 Meeting 2009-05-21

Faculty Senate

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**Governors State University
Faculty Senate
Minutes May 21, 2009**

Senators (Present = X):

<input type="checkbox"/> N. Adam	<input type="checkbox"/> H. Heino	<input type="checkbox"/> B. Parin
<input type="checkbox"/> E. Alozie	<input type="checkbox"/> M. Kasik	<input type="checkbox"/> L. Proudfit
<input type="checkbox"/> R. Bell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> T. Kelly	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> W. Rudloff
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> P. Blobaum	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> T. Kim	<input type="checkbox"/> A. Sanders
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> M. Bruce	<input type="checkbox"/> J. Klomes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> J. Simon
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> B. Essex	<input type="checkbox"/> C. Luo	<input type="checkbox"/> E. Wignall
<input type="checkbox"/> S. Gandy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> G. Lyon	<input type="checkbox"/> B. Wilson
<input type="checkbox"/> D. Green	<input type="checkbox"/> R. Muhammad	<input type="checkbox"/> B. Winicki
<input type="checkbox"/> P. Guimond		

Guests: President Elaine Maimon, David Curtis, Executive Vice President Gebe Ejigu, Colleen Rock, and Marsha Katz.

Call to Order

Blobaum called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. The agenda was revised to begin with the information items since there was not a quorum.

Announcement

Blobaum announced that GSU will host the IBHE meeting on June 2, 2009. Maimon stated that there will be a reception on June 1. Faculty members are invited; contact Penny Perdue for details.

Michael Beschloss will be the Honorary Degree recipient and the speaker at commencement on June 6. Beschloss will also present a lecture on Friday, June 5, from 3 to 4:30 p.m., in Sherman Hall on the GSU campus. The lecture is open to the public.

Blobaum encouraged the Senators to complete and submit the forms summarizing professional activity information for the GSU Fact Book that Linda Buyer is preparing.

Administration Reports

President Report

Maimon reported that credit ratings for the states were released, and Illinois is ranked 49. Moody's is retaining GSU's credit rating; that external validation from Moody's is important for GSU. The Senate passed a capital bill with funds allocated to higher education. GSU is still in line for funding for the E & F wing renovations. There is still some uncertainty about when the Governor will sign a capital bill. If the funds are released for the E & F wing renovations, it will be transformational for GSU. On the operating budget side, the Governor's budget request would include a 1% increase for public universities and the addition of supplemental appropriations to the GSU base. Last week, the doomsday budget was announced. The administration will move forward cautiously and optimistically, with the PBAC hearings and discussions even though there is continued uncertainty. Even when the Governor signs the operating budget, the

University will have to be prepared for a rescission. Currently, the state owes GSU approximately \$3.7 million for reimbursements. In response to a question from a Senator, Maimon stated that the hiring freeze is still in place, and there is a process for petitioning to the President to lift the freeze for a particular position. Curtis added that the administration is aware of the problems that can occur if the search process is delayed. Blobaum thanked the President for sharing information about the budget as it becomes available. Maimon confirmed that the administration will not make across-the-board cuts.

Provost Report

David Curtis, Professor on Special Assignment to the President, reported that the next meeting of the Provost Search Committee will be held in late August. There will be an exercise to help the committee review and interpret vita. The committee will also discuss the characteristics that are needed for the GSU Provost. At the last Senate meeting, there was a question raised about how many credit hours a student must take during a summer session (vs. a summer trimester) to receive financial aid. The director of financial aid indicated that a student must take six credit hours to be eligible for financial aid, even during the summer. The Senate asked that Curtis confirm that information. The President approved the Ed.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision degree. The proposal for the new degree must now be approved by IBHE and HLC. The PBAC budget hearings went exceptionally well. There was good discussion on both days. On May 29, the PBAC will meet to discuss the University priorities and how resources should be directed to achieve those priorities. Then a preliminary budget will be prepared.

Executive Vice President Report

Ejigu did not present a report.

Faculty Reports

University Curriculum Committee (UCC)

Simon, a member of UCC, reported that the committee met last week and reviewed some EDAD syllabi. The committee will meet during the summer as needed.

Academic Program Review Committee (APRC)

There was no report.

Educational Policies Committee (EPC)

Essex, EPC Chair, reported that the committee regularly meets the second and fourth Thursdays, 1:00 to 2:30. However, the EPC will only meet as needed during the summer. The policy process document has been revised to reflect the current process. The revised document was posted. Essex asked about the status of the graduate council policies and about the status of policies that were recommended by the Senate, but never received final approval (some of those policies were recommended by the Senate years ago). Essex stressed the need for the administration to review the revised and new policies in a timely manner. Curtis will track down the “missing” policies. In the future, Curtis asked that the Senate President give the recommended policies directly to Curtis, and he will move them through the approval process. Essex asked who the liaison from the Provost’s Office will be and if Dianne Kronika, legal department, could be reinstated as an ex officio member of the committee. Curtis will need to decide who the liaison from the Provost’s

Office will be, and he will look into the possibility of having Kronika reinstated. Blobaum confirmed that the ex officio members are very important for the EPC.

Graduate Studies Council

There was no report.

IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee (IBHE FAC)

There was no report. However, Blobaum stated that Wojcik's term expires at the end of the academic year. If anyone is interested in serving in that position, please let Blobaum know. The term of the appointment is four years. Blobaum will email a copy of the position description to the faculty.

Bargaining Unit

Katz, UPI Chapter President, reported that the 2% pension issue was resolved. However, there are still other issues that need to be closely watched. There was a poor turnout from GSU for the Higher Education Lobby Day on April 22 in Springfield. The administration had offered the use of the bus or van, but the offer was canceled because of low participation. The last negotiation meeting was canceled because Woodard was ill; the meeting before that was not productive because Woodard did not attend. Katz stated that she had another issue to discuss, not in open session. It was agreed to discuss the issue after the meeting adjourned. Curtis cautioned against having closed discussions.

Executive Committee

Blobaum attended the April 24 meeting of the Council of Illinois University Senates at SIU-C. The Chicago State University Senate asked the group to pass a resolution to support their efforts to have a transparent presidential search process. The group determined that it was not appropriate to pass a resolution; however, they all agreed to take the issue to their individual senates for consideration. The GSU Faculty Senate agreed that the letter Blobaum and Winicki sent to the Chicago State University Senate on April 20, 2009 showed sufficient support from the GSU Senate. Blobaum reported that GSU is doing as well as, or better, than the other campuses regarding campus safety. He will invite Sherilyn Poole, Chair of the GSU Emergency Response Team (ERT), to the next Senate meeting for an update on campus safety.

Ralph Bell resigned as a Senator at Large and will be replaced in the fall.

Minutes

Approval of the minutes was deferred to the next meeting since there was not a quorum.

Old Business

Resolution regarding Graduate Capstone and Practica

Discussion was postponed until the June meeting.

New Business**Provost Search Committee Representative**

Blobaum announced that two faculty members, Julia Yang and Larry Levinson, expressed an interest in serving on the Provost Search Committee. Neither are Senators. Curtis stated that the administration would prefer a Senator to represent the Senate on the search committee.

Deferred Annuity Advisory Committee Representative

Blobaum announced that Sandi Estep volunteered to serve on the Deferred Advisory Committee. Since there were no objections, Blobaum will submit her name.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

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