

8-20-2009

## AY 09-10 Meeting 2009-08-20

Faculty Senate

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**Governors State University  
Faculty Senate  
Minutes August 20, 2009**

**Senators (Present = X):**

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

**Guests:** President Elaine Maimon, Provost David Curtis, Executive Vice President Gebe Ejigu, Colleen Rock, Becky Wojcik

**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.

**Administration Reports**

**President Report**

Maimon reported that the capital budget was signed. GSU's request for \$22.6 million for the E/F wing renovation is included. The state intends to issue bonds to fund capital projects; of those funds, \$300 million will be for higher education projects. GSU has been strategizing with consultants, who have very good contacts in the Governor's Office and with the Capital Development Board. The consultants were on campus to physically see the science labs. IBHE understands the significance of the E/F wing renovation.

On the operating side, the final budget is basically the same as FY09, and a portion of the budget is one-time stimulus funds. In the past, GSU secured some earmark funds to support certain programs, such as MILE. Those funds were added to GSU's base for FY10. Since the FY10 budget is partially funded by stimulus funds, the administration is planning ahead for FY11. It is likely that GSU will be much more dependent on tuition. Therefore, everyone will need to continue recruitment, retention, and community college outreach efforts. Since there could be as much as a 10% decrease in the operating budget for FY11, the administration is planning in an organized, deliberative way.

One of the serious cuts in the state FY10 budget is the decrease in MAP funding, which is administered by ISAC. MAP is only funded through the end of December. Wojcik, GSU's IBHE FAC representative, noted that GSU has over 800 students who receive MAP, with an approximate total award of \$1.8 million. There is a link to ISAC on the IBHE website. Maimon reported that the university presidents have agreed to wait until students are on campus in the fall, and then they will figure out how to react to the decrease in MAP. The presidents do not want the students to panic and drop out if there are other options for financial aid. The presidents will monitor the situation through their government affairs people, and they may want to

galvanize energies toward Springfield. However, it is a question of what timing would be most effective.

### **Provost Report**

Curtis reported that he met with the calendar implementation group. It is the intent to implement the new academic calendar (two semesters with a summer session) in Fall 2010. The Provost Search Committee will meet for the second time on August 26. The committee will discuss the process, timeline, criteria, etc. It is possible that the off campus (O'Hare) interviews with Provost candidates will be held before the end of December, with on campus interviews held in January. Curtis commended everyone who contributed to the HLC self-study, especially to those who are on the writing team. The self study is in the final stage of review. Curtis encouraged everyone to read the final document, once it is posted.

### **Executive Vice President Report**

Ejigu reported that construction projects are continuing. There is always some inconvenience associated with construction; however, the front entryway is now open. If the weather does not prevent the work from continuing, the drives should be completed before fall classes begin. If the drives are not completed, there is a contingency plan to help people park and get into the building. As a result of an energy-saving contract, there will be continuing electrical and mechanical work done throughout campus. This work should not inconvenience anyone, and there will be no disruptive activity during classes.

Given the state of Illinois' finances and the shortage of revenue flow, GSU has received no reimbursement since the beginning of the fiscal year (approximately \$4 million). Reimbursements usually take 2-4 weeks; however, at the end of last fiscal year, reimbursements were taking up to 90 days. There are a number of indications that the state will continue to be in fiscal trouble. The appropriated budget for FY10 includes federal stimulus funds (approximately 8.5%, \$2.3 million). These are one-time funds. No one has been informed of what the State plans to do to make up for that amount in FY11. It is likely that state revenues will continue to be low. Because of this, the administration feels that the appropriated budget for FY11 will come in short. GSU has to prepare for that. The deans are being consulted about this issue, and there will be an informational meeting with the Civil Service staff on September 2. The administration will strictly enforce the plan the president announced last February, which includes restricting out-of-state travel and having every employment action justified and reviewed with final approval by the president. Major budget units will be asked to reserve 10% of nonpersonnel funds. The unit heads will be asked to hold those funds in reserve until the administration knows what happens in January when the legislature comes back into session. The administration wants to take the necessary steps so that they are not forced into actions that could adversely affect current employees. A Senator questioned whether vacant tenured/tenure track positions would be filled by lecturers or adjuncts. Curtis responded that, for the most part, tenured/tenure track positions that become vacant will be replaced with tenure track faculty. However, there may be exceptions. The president clarified that replacements will not be automatic. All new hires will have to be approved by the president.

Ejigu stressed the significance of the decrease in MAP funding. The university presidents are using their influence to extend the funding through the end of the fiscal year. Wojcik stated that there are approximately 150,000 students, state wide, who receive MAP funds. Ejigu stated that all students who are interested in financial aid complete the FAFSA. Based on that information,

if a student is Pell eligible, he/she is also eligible for MAP. Students receive their financial aid award package for a year, so the reduction will impact the students who were awarded MAP for the entire year.

### **Faculty Reports**

#### **IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee (IBHE FAC)**

Wojcik attended the IBHE FAC meeting on August 11. The committee decided upon four items to focus on for the upcoming year: 1) dissemination of information on campus, 2) restoration of MAP funding, which is an immediate problem, 3) improving retention and graduation rates, and 4) assessment and learning. Wojcik's term expired, but she is willing to attend the September IBHE FAC meeting and introduce the new GSU IBHE FAC representative to everyone. Blobaum will bring the names of faculty who have expressed an interest in being the representative to the September Senate meeting. If anyone else is interested in serving, contact Blobaum.

#### **University Curriculum Committee (UCC)**

Wignall, a member of UCC, reported that IBHE approved the Bachelor of Health Science in Community Health and the Master of Arts in Criminal Justice programs at the August 11 meeting. The criminal justice program is moving toward offering all courses online.

Blobaum noted that John Stoll would like to attend a Senate meeting to discuss the need for student identity verification for online courses. Essex said that the topic was discussed at EPC and suggested that the faculty consider whether there should be a policy about student identity verification. Approximately 22% of GSU class sections are currently offered online.

#### **Academic Program Review Committee (APRC)**

No report.

#### **Educational Policies Committee (EPC)**

Essex, EPC Chair, reported that the committee is discussing how policies should be formatted. Discussion and action regarding Policies 9U & 9G (English proficiency) and Policy 26 (grading) were postponed until the September meeting because there was not a quorum.

#### **Graduate Studies Council**

No report.

#### **Bargaining Unit**

Blobaum distributed the UPI report.

#### **Executive Committee**

The importance of restoring MAP funding was discussed earlier in the meeting.

Blobaum reported that there will be an election of the Senate President and Vice President at the September meeting. Blobaum will contact Heino to see if he wants to continue as Senate Secretary. In response to a question from the Senate, Curtis stated that he will not assign a staff member to be recording secretary for the Senate; however, he will ask his staff to assist the Senate by making copies of materials, helping with the distribution of materials, etc.

Blobaum, on behalf of the Senate, will attend the Provost Search Committee on August 26.

## **Minutes**

Approval of the April, May, June and July minutes was deferred to the next meeting since there was not a quorum.

There was a discussion about the distribution of service CUEs for the Senate. Curtis stated that the CUEs can be assigned to the appropriate persons earlier in the academic year if the Senate requests that. There was confusion as to whether service CUEs were assigned for AY0809 and to whom they were assigned. Curtis asked that the Senate President submit the request to assign AY0809 Senate service CUEs to him, and he will see that the CUEs are assigned to the appropriate persons. The fact that the payment for the Senate service CUEs comes from individual colleges/units, not from a centralized account, was also discussed.

## **Old Business**

### **Resolution regarding Graduate Capstone and Practica**

Discussion was postponed until the September meeting because there was not a quorum.

### **Ratification of April election results**

Discussion was postponed until the September meeting because there was not a quorum.

## **New Business**

### **Appointment of Faculty Senate Representative to Provost Search Committee**

Discussion was postponed until the September meeting because there was not a quorum.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.