

3-18-2010

AY 09-10 Meeting 2010-03-18

Faculty Senate

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**Governors State University
Faculty Senate
Minutes March 18, 2010**

Senators (Present = X):

_____ E. Alozie	_____ S. Gandy	_____ B. Parin
<u>X</u> P. Blobaum	_____ D. Green	<u>X</u> W. Rudloff
<u>X</u> M. Bruce	<u>X</u> H. Heino	_____ A. Sanders
<u>X</u> M. Carrington	<u>X</u> R. James	<u>X</u> A. Shekib
<u>X</u> D. Cepa	_____ T. Kelly	<u>X</u> C. Tymkow
<u>X</u> D. Cortese	_____ J. Klomes	_____ B. Winicki
_____ B. Essex	_____ R. Muhammad	_____ R. Wojcik

Guests: Provost David Curtis, Tony Fontana, Linda Geller, Sandy Gieson, Marsha Katz, Tony Labriola

1. Call to Order and Welcome to Visitors

Heino called the meeting to order at 1:09 pm and welcomed the visitors.

2. Approval of February 2010 Minutes

The Senate did not have a quorum present, so approval of February 2010 minutes was tabled until the next meeting.

3. GSU Faculty Development Steering Committee (Labriola, Bruce, James, Geller)

Labriola, the committee co-chair, distributed written information about the committee, appended to these minutes. The committee began in March 2009 with an appointment memo from President Maimon, and consists of faculty from across the university. The committee developed a vision statement entitled “A Vision for Faculty Renewal, Support, and Engagement at GSU.” The committee, representing all faculty at GSU, has accomplished several goals and is continuing to work on others. Among the goals accomplished was establishing a portal for faculty/staff resources on the GSU website. A second ongoing goal is to collect information on existing faculty development activities. The Faculty Development Steering Committee would like to serve as a clearinghouse for faculty development activities; this function will include developing a calendar of events related to faculty development. A third goal is to have membership in the Chicago Area Faculty Development Network. Labriola recently was elected to the board of this organization. A fourth goal is to create faculty profiles on research. A fifth goal is to canvass faculty needs related to professional growth through means of an on-line survey (draft of survey included in appended materials). Bruce requested feedback from senators on the draft survey by the end of March (e-mail to m-clark@govst.edu).

Committee members then asked for questions and comments from senators. Heino suggested that activities of the Faculty Development Steering Committee and other committees (e.g., Diversity Advisory Council, Meeting of the Minds, Intellectual Life) might lead to a center for faculty development. A Goal of a center for faculty development would be to make these activities sustainable, so that they become part of GSU’s culture. He suggested that some funding would be needed for administrative support for the center. Another senator agreed that a center for faculty development was a good idea, and asked if cues could be assigned for administration of the center by faculty if no full-time staff were assigned. The answer was that the provost would have to create

the cues, perhaps as a result of a budget recommendation. Another senator questioned the lack of membership by senior faculty on the Faculty Development Steering Committee. Labriola replied that membership currently is open to all faculty. He suggested that the committee evolve in the future into separate consultative and working groups. Another senator suggested that the Faculty Development Steering Committee develop something like a speaker bureau for presentations at GSU. Another senator suggested that faculty development awards be offered. Curtis admitted that while the Faculty Development Steering Committee is doing some good work, it received little administrative support from the Provost's office during its first year. He suggested that the new provost will probably be interested in working with the committee.

4. Administration Updates and Reports

President Report

Curtis spoke in President Maimon's absence; therefore, President and Provost Reports are combined below.

Provost Report

Curtis first introduced Sandy Gieson, who is GSU's new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Project Manager.

E/F wing renovations: Curtis reported that President Maimon testified before the IL House Education Committee last week and met with Governor Quinn's chief of staff Monday. On both occasions she emphasized E and F wing renovations.

FY11 budget: Best case scenario is a budget decrease of 6.2%, back to the FY06 level. At PBAC budget hearings in May, each unit will be asked to propose cuts. Maimon wants to protect direct instruction as much as possible.

Enrollment, assessment: Fall '09 enrollment hours overall, undergraduate and graduate compared to Fall '08: up 5.4%, up 11.9% and down 2.3%. Winter '10 enrollment hours overall, undergraduate and graduate compared to Winter '09: up 7%, up 14% and down 1.9%. Winter '10 overall headcount was up by 4.5% compared to Winter '09. Maimon and Curtis will be meeting April 30 with presidents of community colleges to institute a "compact" with community colleges and Chicago City Colleges, which will facilitate "seamless" transfers between these schools and GSU. GSU is finalizing its proposal to HLC to take part in Academy for Assessment of Student Learning. If the application is accepted, the Academy will be in lieu of an HLC focus visit.

GSU marketing work: The administration met with a contractor to improve marketing for GSU. The contractor will make recommendations for improving GSU's website. The website is student-centered now, but also should be faculty- and staff-friendly. The administration also will work with the contractor on improving signage at GSU.

New provost: Allison gradually is becoming more involved in GSU activities; he sat in on the last cabinet meeting *via* telephone. Allison's next visit to GSU will be in April.

During ensuing discussion, a senator suggested that GSU shift more of its current efforts on recruiting undergraduate students to recruiting graduate students. The senators said that the institution is "spreading itself too thin" focusing on undergraduate students, and consequently failing to meet demands of graduate students. Other senators mentioned reports from some graduate students that they are not able to take classes needed to graduate. Curtis emphasized that offering courses when students need them is important. He also said that GSU now should have the lowest tuition compared to other public institutions in the state. A PBAC recommendation is that GSU charge Indiana students the same (in state) tuition as Illinois students. Another senator suggested that increases in undergraduate enrollments at GSU are a result of the poor economy. Curtis reported that GSU is working to maintain international student enrollment. Currently 16

Chinese students are expected to enroll, and GSU is continuing to work with people in India to attract students from that country.

Executive Vice President Report

No report.

5. Faculty Reports

Bargaining Unit

Katz reported that the new contract has been finished. A link to the contract and a summary of major changes are on UPI website. An e-mail containing a link to the UPI website was sent to all faculty today. Faculty will have two weeks to review the contract. A vote on the contract will be held at a UPI/GSU meeting next Thursday, March 25 from 3 to 5 pm. Ballots will be placed in mailboxes of UPI members not present at the meeting. Votes will be counted March 31. Katz said that if the contract is voted down, negotiations will start over. She said that the negotiation team worked hard, and suggested that faculty have the best contract possible in this economic climate. The contract guarantees no furloughs for the first two years, but also includes no pay increases during those two years. The contract includes 2.5% and 3.5% pay increases during the third and fourth years, respectively. According to the new contract, Unit A faculty are not required to teach during the summer term. Extra pay for teaching during summer will begin in 2011. The number of faculty excellence awards offered each year is reduced from one per every ten faculty, to a total of three. Each excellence award recipient will receive \$6,000.

Katz also reported that the bill getting rid of tuition waivers for dependents of faculty and staff is gone. She said that there will be a Rally Day in Springfield on April 21. The Responsible Budget Coalition also will attend the Rally Day. This event will be important in influencing legislation to support higher education.

Educational Policies Committee (EPC)

Policies 14U and 14G (Undergraduate and Graduate Academic Standing), 19U and 19G (Undergraduate and Graduate Readmissions and Special Admissions) and 26 (Grading and Status) have been approved. EPC currently is working on revising Policy 36 (CEEL).

IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee (IBHE FAC)

Shekib distributed a written report from February IBHE FAC meeting (appended to these minutes) prepared from the meeting minutes (no one from GSU attended the meeting). Meeting attendees discussed the state budget deficit and IBHE funding and budget. IBHE has hired a new Director of Academic Affairs. Attendees at this meeting focused on Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success Goal #3, Affordability. As part of this goal, sustainability of MAP funding was discussed. The FAC will meet with members of IBHE on April 6 Harold Washington College in Chicago. Kathleen Brown, Executive Director of the Illinois Education Research Council, discussed work of the council, including a report following cohorts of students and detailing how long it takes students to graduate. Shekib was concerned that Governor Quinn did not follow FAC recommendations for two faculty appointments, but appointed two different people. She suggested that this failure to follow FAC recommendations is a trend. The next IBHE FAC meeting is tonight and tomorrow (March 18 and 19) in Champaign. Former governor Edgar will attend. A topic of discussion will be how education can translate into improving the economy.

University Curriculum Committee (UCC)

No report.

Academic Program Review Committee (APRC)

No report.

Graduate Studies Council

No report.

Executive Committee

Elections: Petitions for nomination to vacant elected and appointed positions on the Faculty Senate and Faculty Senate committees are due in the Provost's office on March 31. Five Unit A faculty signatures are required on each petition for nomination. Heino reported that Wojcik will serve through the end of Spring/Summer trimester on Faculty Senate and APRC. At that time she will become Chair of the Physical Therapy program. Choi has expressed interest in serving on UCC.

Faculty Senate technology update: Blobaum talked to Johnson, coordinator of digital depositories in the GSU library. Johnson will transfer the Senate minutes from the GSU Intranet to GSUVault. The public will have access to the minutes from here, and the Senate could post big documents here instead of distributing them *via* e-mail. Johnson will work out a process for putting current minutes into GSUVault. Carrington should send Senate minutes to Nadler in the library. Blobaum reported that the Faculty Senate website is now updated with the current minutes.

Heino reported that Curtis sent an e-mail to faculty, Provost's Council and division chairs regarding the 2002 Faculty Senate resolution "...that lecturers and adjuncts should not serve as program coordinators, chairs, or deans, including interim positions." His e-mail stated that Senate resolutions such as this one have no standing as university policy. Heino distributed copies of information on a legal case (sent to Executive Committee members) in which the GSU administration used as part of its defense, the 2002 Senate resolution. Heino said that as a result of this action, the resolution is now part of GSU university policy. The resolution of this matter (i.e., standing of the 2002 Senate resolution as GSU university policy) impacts a current issue in the College of Education in which the administration wishes to appoint a lecturer as co-coordinator of a program.

6. New Business

Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) update: Gieson, the new ERP Project Manager for GSU, has had previous experience transitioning to new ERP systems and managing ERP systems. She has been at GSU for a month now, reports to Maimon, and works closely with Curtis and Ejigu. Gieson reported on the progress of transition to a new ERP system at GSU. She said that two potential ERP vendors presented demonstrations last week, and GSU will bring in a two more potential vendors for demonstrations. GSU is planning for implementation of a new system by June or July. Curtis had sent a memo asking the Senate to appoint five faculty members to the ERP Advisory Committee. Faculty appointed by the Senate to this committee are Nguessan (Library), Mohammed (CAS), Chung (CHHS), Zhao (CBPA) and Garrett (COE). The Senate forwarded these names to Gieson. A senator voiced concern that ERP and calendar changes will be occurring at the same time. Gieson replied that these changes happening at the same time should not be a problem.

7. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:54 pm.