

**Governors State University
Faculty Senate
Meeting August 21, 2014
1:00 to 3:00 p.m.
Room B2203**

Minutes

Senators in Attendance:

X	Y. Brown (CAS)				
X	D. Cortese (CAS)*	X	S. Ji (CBPA)	X	Z. Ramamonjariavelo (CHHS)
X	N. Ermasova (CBPA)*	X	E. Johnson (CAS)*		X. She (COE)
X	E. Essex (CHHS)	X	K. Marrar (CAS)	X	A. Tamulis (CAS)*
X	L. Falconnier (CHHS)	X	E. Mengova (CBPA)	X	C. Tymkow (AL/CHHS)
X	X. Gao (CBPA)	X	K. Morris (AL/CAS)	X	S. Wadhwa (CHHS)
X	L. Geller (UL)*	X	R. Muhammad (AL/CAS)*	X	R. Washington (CHHS)*
X	D. Golland (CAS)*		B. Parin (AL/CAS)*	X	B. Winicki (COE)*
X	D. Hechenberger (AL/COE)				

* = Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Guests: E. Maimon, D. Bordelon, A. Vendrely, M. Blagen, D. Rhea, R. Sinclair, L. Levinson, S. Lopez, A. Battle, E. Walsh

1. Call to Order, Introductions, and Agenda Approval:

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m., with quorum, by Faculty Senate President Muhammad. Faculty Senate President asked each attending to introduce herself/himself. Senator Elizabeth Johnson noted that she was the new UPI grievance officer, and she provided contact information. Faculty Senate President Muhammad offered congratulations to the newly-tenured senators. Faculty Senate President Muhammad requested additions to the agenda; Faculty Senate Vice President Cortese stated that the Senate would need to appoint a new parliamentarian. The agenda, with this addition, was approved by unanimous voice vote.

2. *Faculty Senate Executive Committee for AY 14-15:*

Faculty Senate President Muhammad explained the process by which senators from each college select a senator to be a representative to the Executive Committee. She explained the duties of the Executive Committee and the usual meeting time of first Thursdays from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Faculty Senate Secretary Winicki made the motion to delay selection of COE representative to the Executive Committee until September because of the vacancies still to be filled; the motion was seconded by Senator Hechenberger. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

The following are the senators selected by their colleagues to be college representatives to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee:

CAS: Elizabeth Johnson
 CBPA: Natalia Ermasova
 CHHS: Robin Washington
 UL: Linda Geller

3. *Call for Volunteers to Fill Vacancies:*

Faculty Senate President Muhammad reported on the need for three additional senators from COE and for members for some committees, including APRC (4 members), EPC (1 member), and UCC (2 members). She noted that nomination forms would be distributed electronically and via faculty mailboxes. There was a question regarding the time of meetings. Rob Sinclair (chair of APRC spring 2014) stated that APRC previously met just before the Executive Committee on first Thursdays, but the meeting schedule and chair would be decided at the first meeting of AY14-15. Faculty Senate President Muhammad noted that the new class schedule makes the traditional committee meeting times difficult for some faculty members. She also stated that requests for Faculty Senate representatives had been received from the Global Affairs Committee and the Graduate Studies Council.

(GSU President Maimon, Provost Bordelon, and Assoc. Provost Vendrely arrived at 1:45 p.m.)

4. *Administrative Reports:*

GSU President Maimon offered thanks to the faculty for participating in the transformation occurring at GSU, particularly regarding development of the general education program. President Maimon noted that this curriculum is unique and has engendered excitement among students and faculty.

President Maimon described plans for the university-wide *convocation* tomorrow (Aug. 22). The convocation will be a celebration with a procession led by Dual Degree Program students. The freshmen and guests will attend. The Faculty Excellence Awards and the Baysore Award, and the Educator's Legacy Award will be announced. The Educator's Legacy Award is new and is for three area high school teachers based on nominations of students. At the conclusion of the convocation, the ribbon cutting for Prairie Place will take place. President Maimon then responded to a few questions from the senators.

(President Maimon left the meeting at 2:00 p.m.)

Provost Bordelon began her report with *enrollment* data. There are 5,292 students registered, which is about 4% head count increase from last fall; however, student credit hours are 11-12% higher than last fall. There has been an increase in full-time students; 1904 are taking 12 or more credit hours. Provost Bordelon attributed this increase in the availability of classes throughout the day (8:00 a.m. to 10:30 p.m.). President Maimon commented that about 5% of the increase in credit hours is due to freshmen enrollment; the remainder is due largely to transfer students at the undergraduate level.

Provost Bordelon stated that the *Early Start* program is finishing up, and this program has truly engaged students in critical thinking activities in both English and math. Provost Bordelon stated that Early Start students will continue to receive support classes on Fridays. "Success Teams" are being implemented. They will connect students to needed support and monitor the students' progress. This does not follow a traditional remedial model. Associate Provost Vendrely spoke briefly about the planned assessment of the program. There will be follow-up with students and instructors throughout the three semesters of the cohort. Faculty members are encouraged to provide suggestions regarding what learning is occurring, etc. Associate Provost Vendrely stated that National Survey of Study Engagement (NSSE) will be used to monitor engagement, and that will provide a rich source of data.

Provost Bordelon continued her report by noting that it is hoped the final *Vision 2020* document will be ready by next spring; it has been shared with the Board of Trustees already. Regarding *faculty evaluations*, Provost Bordelon stated that College Personnel Committees (CPC) would be established and calls for nominations are being conducted. The University Personnel Committee (UPC) will be formed by September 15. All Unit A faculty members may vote, but only tenured faculty members may serve on these committees. A senator raised some concerns regarding the probability of having all programs represented on CPCs; this might affect program accreditation. In response to a question about *workload assignments*, including research and service reassignment, Provost Bordelon said faculty members should check with their deans. Workload and reassignments should have been approved already by chairs and deans; the Provost's Office only gets "big questions."

Regarding faculty searches, Provost Bordelon reported that there are two CHHS searches and two CBPS searches in process; the goal is to have searches completed by March/April.

Provost Bordelon responded to questions from senators. In response to a question regarding the posting of the final *UPI agreement*, Provost Bordelon stated that the contract cannot be posted until it is signed by President Maimon and the UPI representative. In response to a question regarding the final *freshmen enrollment*, Provost Bordelon stated that there are 221 freshmen; 151 are taking the Early Start program (5 of these elected to do so). Some who had been required to do the Early Start for math took the ALEX assessment and placed out of the Early Start. With regard to *student housing*,

Provost Bordelon reported that there are 222 in housing; Prairie Place's capacity is 290. In response to a question from a senator, Provost Bordelon noted that there is not much information about the demographics of the freshmen class. She noted that it is a very diverse student population. She stated that there are plans to recruit beyond the Chicago metro area next year. Provost Bordelon said she would send more details on freshmen enrollment to Faculty Senate Secretary Winicki (see attached).

(Provost Bordelon left the meeting at 2:28 pm.).

5. *General Education Implementation Task Force: Call for Representatives*

Faculty Senate Vice President Dan Cortese read the resolution on the General Education Implementation Task Force from the May 29 Faculty Senate minutes. He stated representatives from colleges will be selected within the colleges. There is a need to create a permanent structure to monitor the general education curriculum, but it cannot be a Senate standing committee because there will be administration members. A Faculty Senate representative for participating in developing the permanent structure is needed. Dr. David Rhea was attending the Senate meeting. He had been a member of the General Education Task Force and, in the interest of providing continuity, is willing to serve on the new task force as well on a sub-group charged with developing a permanent structure. Senator Golland nominated Faculty Senate Vice President Cortese as representative of Faculty Senate on the sub-group; Senator Brown seconded. Cortese was approved as Faculty Senate representative by unanimous voice vote.

(Associate Provost Vendrely left the meeting at 2:35 p.m.)

6. *May 29, 2014, Senate Minutes:* Senator Golland made the motion to approve the minutes; Senator Wadhwa seconded. New senators, who were not present at the May 29 meeting, abstained. The minutes were approved.
7. *Faculty Senate Parliamentarian:* Senator Hechenberger nominated Senator Golland. Faculty Senate Cortese nominated Senator Morris. Senator Morris agreed to serve as "back up" parliamentarian. Faculty Senate President Muhammad asked for approval of the appointment of Senator Golland as parliamentarian. The appointment was approved, with two "no" votes and abstention of Senator Golland. The remaining votes were "yes."
8. *Faculty Reports:*
- IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee – Faculty Senate Vice President Cortese provided a written report (see attached). He noted that GSU will host IBHE- FAC on October 17.
 - University Curriculum Committee – No report.
 - Academic Program Review Committee -- Dr. Rob Sinclair reported that APRC will meet next week; a chair will be selected during that meeting.
 - Graduate Studies Council –No report.
 - Educational Policy Committee – Senator Tamulis noted that EPC will meet on August 28 and a chair will be selected at that time.

- Bargaining Unit – No report.
- Executive Committee: See above regarding Faculty Senate and committee vacancies.

9. *Announcements:*

Tomorrow, Friday August 22: Convocation and Prairie Place Ribbon Cutting

Next Executive Committee meeting: Thursday, September 4, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., Room TBA

Next full Faculty Senate Meeting: September 18, 2014, 1:00-3:00 p.m., Hall of Honors (or D 1496 if Hall is not ready)

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Winicki
Faculty Senate Secretary

Attached:

Freshmen Enrollment Data
IBHE-FAC Report

GSU Freshmen (a/o 8/21/14)

Applications- 970

Accepted – 418

Enrolled -241

Demographic Information

Person Age	Total	
17	1	
18	100	
19	97	
20	15	
21	6	
22	5	
24	1	
25	7	
28	1	
29	1	
33	1	
34	2	
(blank)	4	
Grand Total	241	
Person Gender		Total
F		157
M		84
Grand Total		241
Person IPEDS Race/Ethnic Description		Total
Asian		5
Black or African American		148
Hispanic		29
Two or More Races		4
Unknown		20
White		35
Grand Total		241
VAR Admit Stat		Total
FAD (direct admit)		81
FEE (Early Start English)		13
FEM (Early Start Math)		30
FES (Early Start English and Math)		117
Grand Total		241

IBHE FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT TO THE FACULTY

DEVRY UNIVERSITY - ADDISON
MAY 16 2014 MEETING
<http://www.ibhe-fac.org/>

Meeting began at 9:04am with an discussion with the Provost and Academic VP of DeVry, where it was discussed how the faculty develop the curriculum, rather than the other way around as may be in many for-profit institutions. Faculty develop a portfolio for tenure and promotion, as it is modeled on other higher education institutions. Questions were asked about the retention and graduation rates, and it is in the 40+% range. Comments were made about the negative image of the proprietary sector, and it was noted by the Provost that there is a need for that sector to do its own policing for quality, and that they would expect for-profits and public/private institutions to all adhere to the same standards for quality, retention, and student debt regulations, not just targeting one sector.

Following lunch, the Caucuses reported: Public institutions considered the pension situation, the income tax extension, the impact of uncertainty in higher education, plans for the June meeting (such as inviting representatives from the gubernatorial candidates), reporting sexual abuse on campus, the impact of lack of financial support of higher education, and preparing a press release. Rep. Cortese was nominated to write a Letter to the Editor press release about considering education as a public good.

Faculty Fellowship Update: There was one strong applicant for the next round for the IBHE Faculty Fellowship. A more general concern is that the timing of applications needs to align with campus sabbatical deadlines. The stipend issue is dependent on the IBHE budget that will not be known at the time of the application deadline.

For those faculty who are interested in researching higher education learning, please consider reviewing the IBHE Faculty Fellows (<http://www.ibhe.org/Fellows/facultyFellows.htm>) website for more information and deadline for applications. **(ACTION REQUIRED BY INTERESTED FACULTY)**

Respectively submitted,

Daniel K. Cortese, Ph.D.
IBHE – FAC Representative
Faculty Senate Vice President

IBHE FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT TO THE FACULTY

NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

June 20 2014 MEETING

<http://www.ibhe-fac.org/>

Meeting convened at 9:02am, where we were introduced to the Provost and the President of NIU. As reported in the IBHE FAC Minutes, “[President of NIU] advocated improvements in vertical and horizontal collaboration. He discussed Common Core and PARCC, which have become important topics for conversation among Illinois university presidents and other educational leaders. He is optimistic that Jim Applegate will lead the IBHE toward vertical collaboration. He and Lisa spoke positively of a recent meeting that was geared toward regional cooperation among 4-year schools, community colleges, K-12 leaders, and business leaders. Universities do not collaborate horizontally as much as they should, particularly across sectors; that puts us at a disadvantage in the political realm. The increases in Medicaid budgets across the country and other budgetary pressures have led to substantial cuts in state-level spending on higher education. If higher education leaders came together, there might be an opportunity to reverse these trends. We have the tools needed to make this a successful state, but we in higher education are vulnerable. Completion rates and quality need to improve.”

In Illinois, university budgets are flat. The attached AASCU Document shows that only in a few states are education budgets faring better year-over-year; Illinois is flat. There is a distinct possibility that budgets will be further cut if the tax increase is not retained; therefore, IBHE FAC council members recommended that state universities should plan to be cautious about spending all they are receiving.

The IBHE-FAC was concerned that that faculty turn down jobs at public universities in the state due to the financial situation. Council members expressed caution on using this claim since it is only anecdotal and there is no way to know who declined jobs here to go elsewhere. The Chair of IBHE noted that studies have indicated that Illinois pensions are less generous than those offered elsewhere, which can have a negative impact on higher education expansion with faculty staffing.

Public 4-year Caucus Report: “The Public 4-year Universities emphasized communication. They discussed how we could communicate more effectively with the public, perhaps through newspapers or other mass media. Maybe we need to send out a quarterly newsletter earmarked for legislators. They discussed communicating the results of reduced funding and how we can disseminate our views about that. One possibility would be setting up a panel discussion at September meeting regarding communication of our work—people who understand social media, a University president, and others. We might want a Q&A format. The group also needs to be sold on itself: what do we on the FAC do and how do we do it? The Executive Committee will work on that and communicate the outcome.”

MOTIONS PASSED

- Student debt – holdover from February meeting: *The FAC urges Congress to restore full bankruptcy protection to all student loans, both private and federally guaranteed, as well as other standard consumer protections.*
- Military learning – revised from proposal at March meeting: *The FAC identifies the need for research into current practices in recognizing military learning for college credit through prior*

learning assessment.

- Teacher Prep – implementation of the edTPA: *The FAC asks the IBHE to urge the Illinois State Board of Education to delay implementation of the edTPA as a high-stakes teacher licensure requirement for two years, to September 2017, thereby enabling all P-20 institutions and their students to be properly prepared for this new assessment.*
- Nontraditional teacher prep: *The FAC asks the IBHE to work with the Executive Director to designate staff analysts to develop review criteria for alternative/nonconventional teacher preparation programs that match the rigor and expectations applied when reviewing conventional teacher preparation programs proposed by colleges and universities in Illinois.*

NEW BUSINESS

IBHE-FAC has been advocating reaching out to the public, including via the media. A Tribute reporter who is willing to attend our meetings; she is also willing to research some issues in connection with our interests such as the current IBHE criteria for reviewing nonconventional teacher education, and the edTPA's too-quick implementation by ISBE. The potential is double-edged; inviting media could also expose some things that look bad, so have to consider risks to benefits.

We discussed becoming more proactive in articulating the importance of higher education and considering how we can best put forth our ideas. IBHE-FAC will identify our hot-button issues after our September panel discussion.

Respectively submitted,

Daniel K. Cortese, Ph.D.
IBHE – FAC Representative
Faculty Senate Vice President