

Faculty Senate
October 20, 2011
1:00 to 3:15 p.m.
Hall of Honors
Minutes

Senators in Attendance:

X	E. Alozie (AL/CAS)	X	W. Henne (CAS)	X	W. Rudloff (CAS)
X	P. Blobaum (UL/DLMD)	X	R. James (AL/CHHS)		A. Shekib (CBPA)
	M. Bruce (CBPA)	X	E. Johnson (CAS)	X	F. Tian (CBPA)
	D. Cepa (CHHS)	X	V. Jones (CAS)	X	C. Tymkow (CHHS)
X	D. Cortese (CAS)	X	T. Kelly (COE)	X	R. Washington (CHHS)
X	E. Essex (CHHS)		J. Klomes (COE)	X	B. Winicki (COE)
X	S. Gandy (COE)	X	M. Marion (AL/COE)		
X	D. Hechenberger (AL/COE)	X	R. Muhammad (AL/CAS)		

Guests: E. Maimon, G. Ejigu, M. Katz, S. Estep, T. Pantuso

Call to order at 1:07 with quorum by Faculty Senate President Muhammad.

1. Administrative Reports*Report by President Maimon:*

President Maimon noted the groundbreaking for construction on E and F wings was held on Tuesday, Oct. 18. She stated that GSU is in a good place with regard to moving forward and that initiatives are aligned with those endorsed by the Complete College Illinois, which met on Wednesday, Oct. 20. This group focuses on addressing the question, How do we achieve the goal of having a better-educated Illinois? Pres. Maimon noted that GSu's plans for admitting first-year students are supported by the research base documented by Complete College (e.g., providing a pathway for high school graduates to obtain a four-year degree while maintaining a commitment to both returning adults and community college transfer students; remedial work for first-year students to be provided in summer-bridge and intensive first-semester programs; cohort group

structures; core approach to general education). In response to a senator's question, Pres. Maimon emphasized that the plan is to admit only full-time, daytime first-year students, and remediation programs determined to be needed by GSU will be mandatory. In response to a question by Katz, Pres. Maimon stated that the summer bridge program is still at a conceptual stage; nothing specific has been developed. In response to a question by Blobaum, Pres. Maimon stated that resources will be pooled in order to support the integration of "native" students, dual enrollment students, and community college students. She noted that this is a unique opportunity, and that the administration will provide resources to support faculty's work on curriculum development aligned with the Illinois Articulation Agreement. Pres. Maimon stated that the Board of Trustees has approved a new Intellectual Property Policy that is more generous to faculty than is typical.

Report by Vice President Ejigu:

V.P. Ejigu stated that work will begin soon on two major construction projects (E & F wings; F wing science labs), which will occur in two phases. He noted that there will be some disruptions beginning in early November, but they will be as restricted as possible. The Faculty Office Building will remain open throughout the construction. V.P. Ejigu stated that a temporary building with four, 40-seat classrooms is already on campus, and classes now held in E wing classrooms will be moved to this temporary building in early November.

V.P. Ejigu reported that the signage project has been completed. The next round of discussions regarding the design of on-campus housing will occur in the next three or four weeks. The goal is a 300-bed facility to open in August, 2014, concurrent with admission of first-year students. V.P. Ejigu closed his report by noting that Pres. Maimon will appoint members of PBAC in the next few weeks. The Faculty Senate President is an ex-officio member of PBAC and current Senator Essex is also a member. Provost Allison will ask the Senate for one or two additional appointments.

2. New Business/Items for Discussion:

- a. *Faculty Development* (James). Senator James provided an overview of the evolution of the Faculty Development Steering Committee and the Faculty and Scholarship and Teaching Center. She noted that Russell Carter had been selected to lead the center, but he had subsequently taken the role of interim administrator in the CHHS. She (James) and A. Labriola, who had led the planning committee, are now leading this effort. Mary Bruce has been elected chair of the Faculty Development Advisory Committee, and nominations are open for CAS, CHHS, and At Large memberships on the committee. A kick-off event is being planned.
- b. *SEI Report* (Estep). Dr. Estep provided a summary of the history of the SEI Committee, which was created by the Faculty Senate a number of years ago (2005?). She noted that Policy 39 regarding SEIs was approved by all reviewing bodies and signed by GSU Pres. S. Fagan, but Pres. Fagan did not post the policy

because the technology for implementing it was not in place. The SEI Committee had recommended a revision that would include a set of core items, as well as individualized items selected by faculty members. Estep stated that the SEI Committee interviewed vendors, but none could provide the desired customization. In 2009, J. Stoll and IT piloted an online version of the current SEI in order to determine response rate. Estep noted that currently, IT has been charged with interviewing vendors for putting all SEIs online. V.P. Ejigu noted that faculty is in control of SEI content. Muhammad noted that the Faculty Senate Executive Committee had briefly discussed a SEI that includes national norms. Estep stated that it is time to revisit Policy 39; the first step might be verification of the approval of this policy in 2005. She noted that this is both a UPI and a Senate issue. Pres. Maimon affirmed that the content of the SEI instrument belongs to the faculty and that faculty members will have the choice of online vs. paper SEIs. Senate Pres. Muhammad listed three actions needed: determine Policy 39 status; Senate must decide direction; Provost Allison meet with SEI Committee.

- c. *Academic Master Plan* (Cortese). Senate V.P. Cortese provided a copy of the final draft of the Academic Master Plan (see attached), which was presented to the Board of Trustees on October 14.
- d. *General Education Task Force* (Muhammad). Senate Pres. Muhammad stated that Provost Allison has asked the Senate to work with CASLO on developing the general education curriculum that needs to be in place for admission of first-year students in fall 2014. Muhammad stated that this would be a task force of the Faculty Senate, but membership would not be restricted to Senators; members would be appointed by the Senate and the Provost. In response to a question by a senator, Muhammad stated that the charge of the task force would be to outline the general education requirements, not to write the curriculum. Muhammad noted that she would ask the Provost's Council to recommend faculty members and call for volunteers to serve on the task force. There was a discussion of why the task force would report to the Faculty Senate rather than the Provost, given the membership. Muhammad cited the principle of faculty control of the curriculum.

Cortese made a motion, seconded by Hechenberger, to support the creation of a General Education Task Force. The Senate, in a voice vote, unanimously endorsed the following statement: "The Faculty Senate will establish a Task Force, comprised of ten members to include Senate appointees, Provost appointees, and volunteers, for the purpose of investigating best practices for general education and making recommendations for GSU general education requirements, in consultation with the appropriate Senate standing committees and other university committees." Muhammad stated that steps to create the General Education Task Force will begin immediately and further discussion will occur in the Senate Executive Committee. A senator noted that the membership should include those with experience working on the Illinois Articulation Agreement requirements (e.g., Lisa Hendrickson).

(2:30 p.m.: Pres. Maimon and V.P. Ejigu excused themselves in order to attend another meeting.)

- e. *Move MA in Reading to Online* (Kelly/Winicki). Kelly expressed concerns of the DOE faculty regarding the mandated conversion of the MA in Reading program to an online degree program. Winicki distributed copies of the statement (see attached) she had made to the Board of Trustees on October 14, 2011. The statement focuses on violation of faculty control of curriculum and damage to GSU's reputation. A senator expressed his concerns about the violation of faculty control of the curriculum. Senate Pres. Muhammad noted that, during the luncheon following the Board of Trustees meeting, Dean Bordelon had expressed some willingness to discuss alternatives; Winicki stated that no response expressing such a willingness had been received from Dean Bordelon. A senator noted that the same series of events had occurred in the Early Childhood program. Another senator stated that the focus of administration is enrollment. Another senator expressed his ongoing concerns regarding a "race to the bottom" with hasty conversion of courses to hybrid and online format without concern about faculty member's ability to do so while maintaining academic quality. A guest affirmed that training and time are needed. Muhammad stated that not only individual courses, but also the program as a whole, would need to be reviewed by UCC if this conversion to online is to take place.

A senator noted that this is an issue that affects the entire GSU community, and another senator stated that the conversion to online without full consultation with faculty has already occurred in the nursing program. With voice vote, the Faculty Senate decided to invite Dean of COE Deborah Bordelon to both the Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting on Nov. 3 and the full Faculty Senate meeting on Nov. 17.

3. **Review of September 15, 2011, Faculty Senate minutes.**

Two edits were suggested, both related to the on admission of freshmen students: (1) the motion was seconded by Cortese; the motion refers to "first-year students" rather than "freshmen." The minutes, with these edits, were approved by unanimous voice vote (see attached).

(2:55 p.m.: Senate President Muhammad excused herself in order to attend another meeting. Senators agreed to extend the meeting to 3:15 p.m., and Senate V.P. Cortese chaired remainder of the meeting.)

4. **Faculty Reports**

- a. *IBHE Faculty Advisory* (Fu-Giles). No report.
- b. *University Curriculum Committee* (Marion). Senator Marion has been delegated by UCC to report to the Senate. She stated that UCC has been reviewing courses, including a set of math syllabi, and that much time is spent sending requests for additional materials. Marion noted that there is really too much work for so few members to accomplish. She also expressed concerns regarding lack of agenda and other matters. A senator noted that Faculty Senate bylaws require the chair of each standing committee be a senator, and Senator Marion is the only senator among current members of UCC. Another senator noted that an exception to this bylaw was

- discussed and approved by the Faculty Senate Executive Committee on October 6. Another senator called for a full Senate decision regarding an exemption. Alozie made the following motion, with second by Blobaum: “No exemption to the Faculty Senate bylaws requirement that the chairs of Senate standing committees (APRC, EPC, UCC) be a senator, if there is a member of the committee who is both a senator and willing to serve as chair.” The motion passed on voice vote with two abstentions. Senate Parliamentarian Blobaum stated that Senate Pres. Muhammad should notify the University Curriculum Committee of this decision.
- c. *Academic Program Review Committee* (Gandy). Gandy reported that two Change in Annual Listing requests (Clinical Mental Health Counselor Certification; Marriage and Family Counselor Certification) have been returned for revisions.
 - d. *Educational Policy Committee* (Essex). Essex reported that EPC members had met with Provost Allison and Colleen Rock to discuss coordination of EPC, Faculty Senate, and administration aspects of the policy approval process. Estep asked about the Senate-approved revision of Policy 16 Graduate Studies and noted that its language is being used to hire adjuncts for supervision of graduate capstone courses. Essex stated that that was not the intent and said language had been added by EPC to prevent such actions.
 - e. *Graduate Studies Council* (Tymkow). Tymkow reported that the Graduate Studies Council had begun work on bylaws, including establishing staggered terms with term limits (maximum of three consecutive terms of two years each). A webpage for Graduate Studies also is being discussed.
 - f. *Executive Committee* (Muhammad). No report due to lack of time.

5. Bargaining Unit (Katz). No report due to lack of time.

6. Other. A guest stated that she recommends Faculty Senate resolutions be compiled and taken to the Board of Trustees for their approval because doing so would make the resolutions enforceable. Cortese stated that the suggestion will be discussed during the Senate Executive Committee meeting on Nov. 3.

Meeting adjourned 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Winicki

Attachments:

September 15, 2011, minutes as approved
AMP
Winicki Statement to Board of Trustees 10/14/11

