

**GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the December 5, 2014 Meeting

Anibal Taboas, Chair

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees met on Friday, December 5, 2014 in Engbretson Hall at Governors State University. The meeting was called to order at 10:57 am by Committee Vice Chair Eileen Durkin. Also in attendance were Committee members Anibal Taboas and Brian D. Mitchell, and Trustees Jack Beaupre, Bruce Friefeld, Patrick Ormsby and Lorraine Tyson. Student Trustee Jeremy Joyce was absent.

Others present: Elaine P. Maimon, President; Deborah E. Bordelon, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Gebeyehu Ejigu, Executive Vice President and Chief of Staff; Alexis Kennedy, General Counsel; Karen Kissel, Vice President for Administration and Finance; Will Davis, Vice President for Development; Maureen Kelly, Director of Governmental and Community Relations; Rashidah J. Muhammad, Faculty Senate President; Sheryl Jones-Harper, Civil Service Senate President; Colleen Sexton, Associate Provost; Ann Vendrely, Associate Provost; Reinhold Hill, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Ellen Foster Curtis, Dean, College of Business and Public Administration; Andrea Evans, Dean, College of Education; Aurelio Valente, Interim Vice President for Student Affairs; David Golland, Faculty Senate Representative; David Meadows, Executive Vice President Designee; and David Dixon, Internal Auditor.

STUDY SESSION ON ACCREDITATION

Provost Bordelon provided a Power Point presentation. She explained that Governors State University maintains full comprehensive regional accreditation through the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools in addition to professional/specialized accreditation for specific programs. The accreditation process involves three major activities, 1) a self-study using standards or criteria of an accrediting organization; 2) a peer review involving a site visit to determine if the University is meeting standards or criterion for a particular discipline; and 3) a decision or judgment by the accrediting body. Possible results can be 1) accredited with no conditions; 2) accredited with conditions that need to be addressed; or 3) not accredited. Oversight of the accrediting bodies is conducted by the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA), the U.S. Department of Education (USDE), and the National

Advisory Committee on Institutional Quality and Integrity (NACIQI). Beaupre commented that the presentation was the best explanation of accreditation he had heard in his nearly 15 years on the GSU Board of Trustees, and thanked Provost Bordelon.

INFORMATION ITEMS

GSU Program Accreditation Status Summary – December 2014

Bordelon reported the National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD) visited campus in November and it went very well. The University should receive their report approximately three months from the time of the visit, at which time factual findings will be responded to. The response will then go to the NASAD Board for approval, and subsequently be shared with this Board. Bordelon pointed out that it can take almost a year to get a final report. The Accreditation Council for Business School Programs (ACBSP) will be on campus this spring, as well as the Council on Social Work Education (CSWE).

Academic Master Plan

This ongoing report is located in the Board book. Bordelon stated she would continue to work with the Office of Institutional Research to continually update it.

IBHE Cyclical Program Reviews for Academic Year 2014-2015

The report is located in the Board book. There were no questions or comments.

Dual Degree Program (DDP)

Roshaunda Ross, Director of the DDP, was introduced, and Bordelon provided a Power Point presentation. She reported the program has received unprecedented recognition this past semester. Bordelon explained the DDP is a unique partnership between GSU and community college partner colleges and requires that students be enrolled full-time, in good academic standing, and have earned 12-45 credit hours. Most recently efforts with the City Colleges of Chicago have been expanded in order to enroll more students in the program. Currently \$351,000 is being invested annually into the program, now partially funded by the Kresge Grant; however GSU is prepared to fund the program when this grant runs its course, as well as apply for more grants. She noted that the partner community colleges do not contribute to the salaries or benefits of the DDP personnel; however they do provide space on their campuses for GSU staff to meet with students. DDP Transfer Specialists, who are out in the field Monday through Friday, provide personalized advising to students and give presentations at partner schools. In addition there is a DDP newsletter. The specialists' daily interactions with students are closely tracked. Bordelon also provided an overview of enrollment in the DDP by community college partner.

Durkin asked whether the transfer specialist positions are funded by the Kresge Grant. Bordelon replied 33% of transfer specialist's salaries are covered by the Kresge Grant, and the University

covers the rest. Maimon explained that as time goes on GSU assumes more of the cost of the DDP. An extension of the grant next year will help, but GSU is funding the majority of it. She added that the business plan is an extraordinarily sustainable and scalable model, and that increasing enrollment year after year has been instrumental in helping to fund the DDP. Tyson asked for clarification on the percentage of community college students that are full-time, and thus how big is the pool of recruits. Ross responded that 40% of community college students attend full-time. Bordelon explained that DDP students need to complete their associate's degree in five semesters, as well as the baccalaureate degree when they come to GSU. The goal is to have these students complete their degrees in a timely fashion so they don't get lost. Maimon added that effective research has shown students taking 15 credits per semester, considered full-time, are more likely to succeed because they have a coherent approach toward completing a degree. Therefore the DDP plan actually provides an incentive for students to finish in a timely fashion.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Minutes – October 10, 2014

Durkin requested a motion to approve the minutes of the October 10, 2014 Academic Affairs Committee meeting. Taboas made a motion. Mitchell seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 15—17: Approval of Honorary Degree Candidates

Durkin requested a motion to approve Resolution 15-17. Mitchell made a motion. Taboas seconded. Maimon asked the Board to add these two distinguished individuals, Karen Meyer, educator, reporter, and disabilities advocate; and Laura Caldwell, writer, attorney and educator to the list of candidates. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Trustee Durkin publicly commended Trustee Taboas for attending and participating in today's meetings even though he is not feeling well.

Durkin requested a motion to adjourn. Mitchell made a motion. Taboas seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. The Academic Affairs Committee of the Governors State University Board of Trustees adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Johns Maloney