

**GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY  
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of the May 9, 2014 Meeting**

**Anibal Taboas, Chair**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees met on Friday, May 9, 2014 in Engbretson Hall at Governors State University. The meeting was called to order at 9:12 a.m. by Committee Chair Anibal Taboas. Also in attendance were Committee members Eileen Durkin, Brian D. Mitchell and Kayla Randolph-Clark, and Trustees Jack Beaupre, Bruce Friefeld, Patrick Ormsby and Lorraine Tyson.

Others present: Elaine P. Maimon, President; Deborah E. Bordelon, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Alexis Kennedy, General Counsel; Karen Kissel, Vice President for Administration and Finance; Will Davis, Vice President for Development; Courtney Sanders, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Marketing; Maureen Kelly, Director of Government and Community Relations; Rashidah J. Muhammad, Faculty Senate President; Laura Owens, Civil Service Senate President; Natasha Dillard, Student Senate Representative; Elizabeth Ruiz, President, GSU University Professionals of Illinois; Angela Latham, Associate Provost; Sandra Mayfield, Associate Provost; Reinhold Hill, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences; Ellen Foster Curtis, Dean, College of Business and Public Administration; Elizabeth Cada, Dean, College of Health and Human Services; Aurelio Valente, Dean of Students; Faculty Senate Representatives David Golland and Shaalein Lopez; and David Dixon, Internal Auditor.

Committee Chair Taboas welcomed Faculty Senate Representatives David Golland and Shaalein Lopez.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**1. Program Accreditation Status Summary – May 2014**

Bordelon reported that the Master's in Health Administration Program completed its accreditation site visit in April by the Commission on Accreditation of Health Management Education (CAHME). The preliminary report was very complimentary of GSU's partnerships in the community and noted they were impressed by the advisory board for this program. A full draft report will be received in December 2014 at which time the University can look for factual errors before the final submittal. Bordelon stated the Family Development Center (FDC) Early Head Start Program was reviewed by a Federal Monitoring team in April and their review was very positive as well. The

evaluators were very impressed with GSU's facilities and teachers. Prior to that visit, in February 2014, the Illinois State Board of Education evaluated the FDC, which went very well. They did recommend, however, that the University offer more professional development opportunities for employees of the FDC. Currently GSU has a grant in which two FDC teachers are learning how to improve the teaching of math skills in early childhood education. The preliminary report showed no findings, and the final report will be available in summer 2014. Bordelon reported that April was a busy month, with the Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs (CACREP) conducting a site visit for the MA and EdD counseling programs. The site team indicated they are going to recommend that the program be reaccredited for the full eight years with no stipulations. She relayed the fact that the CACREP team was very impressed with GSU's students and the agencies it works with, highlighting the high level of preparation students receive before entering the field. Tyson asked for an explanation of the review process for programs that are flagged for program review. Bordelon explained that there are several layers involved in program reviews. For the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) cyclical evaluation an internal review of each program is performed and documentation is submitted to them. If a program does not have a national accrediting body then the University hires outside consultants to review the program. These are examples of two different types of program review processes GSU utilizes, and each year 6-8 programs are up for review. In sum, academic programs are continually reevaluated to ensure they are current and in good standing, and to determine whether any adjustments need to be made.

## **2. Update on Off-Campus Sites**

Bordelon briefly summarized the report which is in the Board Book. Currently there is a BA in Communication program and an MA in Criminal Justice program being held at Triton College; an MA in Political and Justice Studies and an MPA in Public Administration being held at the James Thompson Center in Chicago; an MA in School Counseling at the Naperville Education Center; an MPA program in Public Administration at the Illinois State Police District 5 offices in Lockport; an MA and Bilingual/ESL program in Education and an MA in Multicategorical Special Education program at the Blue Island School District 130 offices; and an MA in Multicategorical Special Education program at the District 109 offices in Bridgeview.

## **3. Provost's Update on Academic Scheduling and Use of Facilities**

Bordelon explained that this fall GSU will be transitioning to a heavier daytime schedule for undergrad (UG) programs as well as some graduate (G) programs. Registration figures demonstrate a huge increase in the number of full-time students registering for the fall semester with 1,046 early registrations, and 556 or 34% of those students registered for 12 hours or more. These figures represent a 22% increase in the number of full-time

students and represent current students, not the incoming freshman. It appears that students are taking advantage of the flexibility in scheduling, with evening and online classes being offered as well. This will have a positive impact on degree completion, and GSU is currently working with the Lumina Foundation to become recognized as a completion institution. In addition the University is striving to utilize its facilities to capacity in order to demonstrate to the State that GSU is truly in need of funding for a multipurpose building. Bordelon thanked the faculty and staff for their hard work in coordinating the numerous courses and classrooms, in particular the Registrar's Office. Tyson commented that these efforts are in line with what the Administration recommended previously, in particular to increase utilization of classroom space.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **1. Approval of Minutes**

Taboas entertained a motion to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2014 Academic Affairs Committee meeting. Beaupre made a motion. Ormsby seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

2. ***Resolution 14—27: Approve to Submit AY2013-2014 Program Review Report to the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE)*** Taboas entertained a motion to approve Resolution 14-27. Durkin made a motion. Randolph-Clark seconded. Bordelon briefly reviewed the report, which is in the Board Book. She pointed out that the two programs flagged for priority review, the MA in Art and the MHA in Health Administration, are flagged due to low enrollment. Several strategies are being utilized to reverse the trend, including reaching out to individuals in the current programs as well as high school instructors. Unfortunately, in primary and secondary schools the arts are often cut when budget cuts occur, so this is an issue too. The last time the MHA degree was accredited the University was asked to include the requirement of the Graduate Record Examination (GRE). That has proven to be a deterrent for some possible applicants. At the next accreditation visit the program might want to look at alternative measures for admission criteria. Bordelon shared that one of the highlights of the program is that GSU is a leader in producing African-American and Latino/a health administrators and that status needs to be maintained. She expressed that there are no concerns about the curriculum of the program; it is strong as are the students graduating. Bordelon noted that the six other programs up for review are in good standing. Ormsby pointed out that the Communication Disorders program has far more applicants than are admitted, and questioned whether the program can be expanded. Bordelon agreed that it is a high demand program and very well regarded, and the University is looking at expanding the program, which involves having the right number of faculty to support it. There being no

further questions or comments Taboas called for a vote. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

3. ***Resolution 14—28: Request for New Unit of Instruction (RNUI) – Bachelor of Arts in Manufacturing Management (BAMM)*** Taboas entertained a motion to approve Resolution 14-28. Durkin made a motion. Randolph-Clark seconded. Bordelon stated the University is very excited to bring this program forward and submit it to IBHE for approval. It is a result of collaboration between the College of Business and Public Administration and Harper College, a community college. The Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree is not easy to transfer into a baccalaureate degree, but through this collaborative effort this program has been developed to provide a pipeline for students with an AAS in a technical field to move onto a BA so they can move into leadership positions. Students from the College of DuPage, Daley College, Prairie State College, Joliet Junior College, and Kankakee Community College are also eligible for this program. The curriculum consists of online, face-to-face and hybrid courses. Taboas stated that he is delighted that the University is going this route, and he would encourage internships and on the job training opportunities. He pledged his full support of the program. Ormsby commented that he is very involved with the Illinois Manufacturing Association and the National Association of Manufacturing, and like Trustee Taboas he would appreciate a detailed list of the courses in the curriculum. Bordelon stated that information would be provided to them, adding that the capstone course for the degree involves internships and field work. There being no further questions or comment, Taboas called for a vote. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Taboas noted there appears to be an overlap of internal and external reviews, as well as accreditation reviews, requiring a lot of effort. He expressed interest in how much effort this entails, and Bordelon agreed to provide that information. Taboas also requested information on standardized testing, including the GRE and ACT, which Bordelon will provide. Taboas inquired if Dr. Muhammad had any comments from the Faculty Senate; she did not.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **Charles Dieringer, community member**

Mr. Dieringer made the following comments: I think the change in format here is impressive. I'd like to comment on Resolution 14-28. My son went to Triton College. We are going to need to train teachers in manufacturing and I don't think we are doing this. We need some crossover. As far as future agenda items, I am involved in creating a water conservation effort and training students to be watershed stewards. I've worked with the University of Illinois for the past 20

years in an effort to understand our water resources. I brought copies of information about the Thorn Creek Basin District to share. Thank you and I think you are doing a great job here.

**Elise Zieman, community member**

Ms. Zieman made the following comments: Chuck is a mentor of mine as I'm also concerned with water conservation. We lost half our home due to flooding. Regarding satellite units why does the University want to build a new multipurpose building? Why not use some of the empty buildings in the south suburbs? You have beautiful grounds here. I'm interested in the biology programs. I understand you are interested in full-time students, but I'm concerned that you will forget about the adult students. Again, I'm very concerned about the water issues in this area and I hope you will get involved.

Committee Chair Taboas requested a motion to adjourn. Durkin made a motion. Mitchell seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting of the Academic Affairs Committee adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Johns Maloney