

**GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Minutes of the May 16, 2018 Full Board Meeting

Patrick Ormsby, Chair

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

The Governors State University Board of Trustees meeting for Wednesday, May 16, 2018 was called to order by Chair Patrick Ormsby at 9:11 am. Roll call was taken and Trustees Lorraine Tyson, Bruce Friefeld, Anibal Taboas, Carney Barr, and Linda Coleman were present. Trustees Masah SamForay and Cornelius Griggs were absent. Chair Ormsby introduced Faculty Senate representatives in attendance: Barbara Winicki, Giesela Grumbach, Rashidah Muhammad, Susan Ji, Alice Keane, Lara Stache, and Jelena Radovic-Fanta.

Also in attendance: Elaine P. Maimon, President; Elizabeth Cada, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; W. Paul Bylaska, Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance; Sarah Luke, General Counsel; David Golland, Faculty Senate President; Justin Smith, Student Senate President; Sheryl Jones-Harper, Civil Service Senate President; Will Davis, Vice President for Institutional Advancement and CEO of the GSU Foundation; Aurélio Valente, Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management; Keisha Cowen, Associate Vice President for Marketing and Communications; Penny Perdue, Chief of Administrative Operations and Liaison to the Board; Lydia Morrow-Ruetten, Dean, University Library; Jun Zhao, Dean, College of Business; Shannon Dermer, Interim Dean, College of Education; Catherine Balthazar, Interim Dean, College of Health and Human Services; Colleen Sexton, Associate Provost; Ann Vendrely, Associate Provost; Villalyn Baluga, Associate Vice President for Finance; Sandra Zurawski, Director of Budget and Financial Planning; James McGee, Director of Public Safety; Charles Pustz, Associate Vice President for ITS; Jim Zumerchik, Interim Associate Vice President for Facilities Development Management; Tracy Sullivan, Assistant Vice President of Procurement; Anne Gill, Interim Associate Vice President of Human Resources; Randi Schneider, Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management; Betsy Joseph, Director, Auxiliary Services and University Housing; Zion Banks, Communications Specialist; Charles Nolley, Assistant Vice President for Digital Learning and Media Design; Sondra Estep, UPI Chapter 4100 President; Professors David Rhea, Michael Williams, Ashley Thompson, Jayne Good, Ben Almassi, Leanne Cambic, Jing Zhang, Joseph Day, Ujvala Rajadhyaksha, Xiaobo She, and Maristela Zell; Lori Montalbano, Division Chair, CAS; Staff Members Jennifer Morehead-Farmer, Denise Jones, Heather Penn, Carol Morrison, July Healy, Phyllis Streeter, Gina Ragland, Jessica Butler, and Joseph Kearns; Students Lester Van Moody, Anthony Olszewski, Stephanie Zwartz, and Kendall Wright; Kristoffer Evangelista, Chief

Internal Auditor; Maya Golliday and Todd Waldrop from Mesirow Financial; and James Pritchard from Columbia Capital.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Mr. Patrick Ormsby

Mr. Ormsby made the following remarks: Good morning. This is certainly an exciting time for a university campus as we prepare for commencement in a few days. Following a year of resurgence, we have much to celebrate. Let's start with the students sitting at this table. Justin Smith, who has served for two years as Student Senate President, was one of our first freshmen. Tonight we will hear him speak at the historical baccalaureate cording ceremony celebrating the first graduating class of homegrown freshmen. Then on Saturday he will carry in the "Class of 2018" gonfalon during the morning commencement ceremony where he will also be one of two student speakers. We'll share more about Justin later in this meeting. Our Student Trustee, Linda Coleman, also graduates this weekend, earning her Master of Arts degree in Communication and Training. I'm happy to report that Linda has been reelected to another term as our Student Trustee. Please join me in congratulating Justin and Linda.

There is more good news as today we consider tenure for fifteen gifted, talented faculty members. I look forward to Provost Cada's remarks about these valuable professors, many of whom are with us today and will join us for lunch.

Today we will also approve the preliminary operating budget for FY19. I know I don't have to tell you how important it is that Springfield pass a balanced budget later this month. The Board thanks President Maimon and Maureen Kelly for their constant work to tell GSU's story and advocate not only for this university but all of Illinois higher education. We will hear from Paul Bylaska about plans to handle our many deferred maintenance issues, and will consider two contracts for much needed repairs to the HVAC system in the Family Development Center and the re-roofing of two of our buildings. We will also consider the resolution to approve the contract for underwriting services. I won't pretend to like having to take on debt to address deferred maintenance issues that the state should be funding, but as Trustees it is our obligation to take care of this campus.

It is truly an exciting time on campus, but the day to day work and long term planning continues and seems to have greater urgency as we tackle serious issues with our physical facilities and those affecting our student body. Thank you for being here today. Let's get to work.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sondra Estep, President, UPI Local 4100

Dr. Estep made the following remarks: On October 7, 2016 I stood before you and said GSU has become a hostile work environment. Seven years ago Marcia Katz (former UPI Chapter President) said the same thing. When President Maimon first came to GSU I hoped there would

be open communication, but I am disappointed. Instead there is stifling of intellectual discourse and free speech. Nothing has changed. A spring survey of faculty members shows we are still a hostile work environment. 30-40% report they have been bullied by administrators or witnessed it. Our poll reported 70% of faculty have no confidence in the Administration. Dr. Maimon has indicated this criticism is isolated to a small number. I disagree. The faculty has always embraced change. During the budget impasse the President took a hefty raise and a \$35K annuity, while faculty received an increase of only 0.7%. During this time the administrative team also received raises while 63 people were fired. Faculty have been bullied and seen their voices stifled. The President recently wrote a book about transforming a university, but the last chapter was left out showing GSU's 7.5% graduation rate of the first freshman class, even including August grads. This book should be in the fiction section. Even the library had to buy the book. How will she spin this poor graduation rate? There has been a revolving door of administrators because GSU is just a stepping stone with many staying only a year. The previous provost was a finalist at other institutions after her first year in the office, and continued to search for another job until she finally left this year. This goes to show that people don't want to work for this president.

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

Lorraine Tyson, Chair

Information Items

Report on Purchases \$50,000-\$99,999 for the period February 13, 2018 through April 30, 2018

The report contained one item, for roof repairs. There were no questions.

Budget to Actual Report as of April 30, 2018

Bylaska reported the University is doing well and currently will have an estimated \$4M surplus at the end of the fiscal year. There were no questions.

Deferred Maintenance Five-Year Plan

Bylaska reported the plan provides more context as to what repairs are currently needed as well as anticipated repairs. There were no questions.

Progress Report on Audit Findings

Bylaska reported the University is making progress, adding his staff is working very hard to address each and every finding.

Some discussion was had on how reserves are represented in the Budget to Actual report. It was agreed that further discussion was necessary on how the Board wants this represented going forward. Tyson thanked Bylaska for the progress made in addressing audit findings.

Action Items

Resolution 18—30: Approval of Preliminary Operating Budget for FY19

Bylaska reported the FY19 budget being presented to the Board is based on relatively conservative assumptions including enrollment projections and anticipated state appropriations as outlined by the Governor in his February budget address. Tyson entertained a motion for adoption and inclusion of Resolution 18-30 on the Consent Agenda. Friefeld made a motion. Coleman seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 18—31: Approval of Contract for Family Development Center Heating System Upgrades

Bylaska reported the Administration is recommending authorization for a contract to alleviate the problems in the FDC HVAC system in order to maintain certain necessary parameters given the age of the children. He added that the FDC, under the direction of Carol Morrison, has been very successful in obtaining grand funding to aid with the project. Tyson recommended an upcoming tour of the FDC, which she characterized as very well run and a valuable teaching space. She entertained a motion for adoption and inclusion of Resolution 18-31 on the Consent Agenda. Barr made a motion. Ormsby seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 18—32: Approval of Contract for Energy Management System Technical Support Services

Bylaska reported this is a necessary service in order to monitor and control the University's energy management system centrally. Two proposals were submitted; however, one was deemed not responsive per the Procurement Code and was therefore eliminated from consideration. Tyson entertained a motion for adoption and inclusion of Resolution 18-32 on the Consent Agenda. Friefeld made a motion. Coleman seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 18—33: Approval of Contract for Underwriting Services

Bylaska introduced James Pritchard from Columbia Capital, and Todd Waldrop and Maya Golliday from Mesirow Financial, who will be assisting the University with a bond issue of approximately \$13.8M, perhaps a combination of revenue bonds and certificates of participation. Tyson asked for a brief background of Mesirow Financial, which Mr. Waldrop provided. He added that four individuals, those present today and another gentleman, will be dedicated to GSU's account throughout the process. Tyson asked that given the current status of the State of Illinois, what is the penalty in terms of basis points. Waldrop responded the Illinois penalty fluctuates all the time, and currently is trading at +200, which is at the high end from a credit standpoint. He pointed out that everything is contingent on the election and the budget, adding that any good news could tighten that spread dramatically. He reiterated that his firm monitors the situation closely. Barr referred to the Executive Summary, which referred to an estimated cost, while the resolution does not. He moved to approve the resolution with a revision to include a "not to exceed amount of \$185,000." Taboas seconded. The motion was approved by both a unanimous voice vote and a roll call vote with six ayes and zero nays.

Resolution 18—34: Approval of Contract for Sole Source Award to CBS Radio East

Bylaska reported this is a sole source vendor for the current advertising campaign. Barr asked if there is any evidence the campaign is effective. Bylaska deferred to Keisha Cowen, who explained this is just one buy within a complex matrix of buys. It encompasses seven radio stations, and has been the most successful campaign thus far because the reach and depth of contacts is very high. In addition to radio, the University advertises on many other platforms; however, when this medium began being used there was an immediate increase in the number of people coming to open house events. Barr suggested getting students involved in the work of the Marketing and Communications Department to provide valuable learning experiences and enhance the reach of GSU's advertising and engagement. Ormsby recommended considering this at the August Retreat. Maimon and Cowen agreed. Tyson entertained a motion for adoption and inclusion of Resolution 18-34 on the Consent Agenda. Barr made a motion. Friefeld seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Trustee Tyson left the meeting at 9:53 am.

Resolution 18—35: Approval of Contract for Re-Roofing of Buildings C and E

Ormsby entertained a motion for adoption and inclusion of Resolution 18-35 on the Consent Agenda. Barr made a motion. Friefeld seconded. Bylaska reported the C and E building roofs are most in need of repair/replacement. This is being brought before the Board prior to bonding in an attempt to take advantage of the summer construction period. The University's roofing consultant recommended the not to exceed amount following inspection. Coleman asked about plans to address the remaining roofs that are in dire need of replacement. Bylaska responded they are part of the five-year deferred maintenance plan. Taboas endorsed the approach to deferred maintenance, but requested more information on how these projects will be managed at a future meeting. There being no further questions, the motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Anibal Taboas, Chair

Information Items

Program Accreditation Status Report

Cada presented the report, noting there are no accreditation visits in the near future. There were no questions.

Report on Student Feedback

Cada reported that in response to a Faculty Senate request by Dr. Barbara Winicki, this report was put together by the Office of Institutional Research based on data they have collected. Barr asked Cada to speak to previous complaints about midterm grades. Cada reported there is no policy in place that requires the issuance of midterm grades. Maimon added the awarding of midterm grades is encouraged by peers. Coleman stated one of her greatest concerns is why there is even a debate about providing students with early warning systems that would help them

succeed. Maimon responded that it is not so much a debate but whether this should become part of the faculty union contract, because anything required of faculty would have to be put in their contract. Coleman asked what the drawback is to providing students with an early warning system. Winicki emphasized that a good faculty member will provide constant feedback. However, a faculty member has to be allowed the leeway to provide that feedback in a way that is unique to her or his teaching preferences. So whether that is email, midterm grades, or some other form, that should be their choice. She added that midterm grades are more associated with high school and community colleges and not with university work, and therefore many professors do not conceive of midterm grades as being part of instruction at the university level. She acknowledged that there are professors who do neglect to give feedback early enough for students to improve, but currently it is not clear who those faculty members are. She concluded by stating faculty members are evaluated every year by academic administrators and thus corrective action should be taken. Taboas expressed his concern that some students are being surprised a week before a class ends that they are failing, and urged further discussion to come up with solutions. Friefeld stated the faculty should be respected for the talent they bring to the table, adding that he felt this is no place for the Board to get involved. Coleman agreed that the Board should not get involved with how instruction is handled; however, as Student Trustee she is continuously exposed to how faculty feedback affects students. She encouraged the stakeholders involved to continue to work to rectify the situation. Maimon noted that the “We Hear You” forums have been very beneficial in promoting open dialogue amongst students, faculty, and administrators. Golland pointed out that the General Education Council expects faculty to use Starfish to give midterm grades, at least to students who are in danger. He added he believed faculty feedback should be evaluated as part of the personnel and tenure process.

Presentation on GSU’s 4-year Undergraduate Program

Aurélio Valente and Maristela Zell gave an overview and provided a handout on the unique cohort feature of GSU’s undergraduate program, whereby students remain together for three consecutive semesters and are taught by full-time professors. Zell reported that 2018 is a special year because the first cohort of homegrown students are graduating, and therefore there is now four years of data to work with. Taboas questioned the graduation rate for the first freshman class. Valente reported 33% are still enrolled or are graduating, 31 students will be graduating on Saturday, which is 12.8%. He acknowledged that number needs to improve, which Maimon agreed with. Valente then introduced students Anthony Olszewski and Kendall Wright, who shared their experiences as GSU homegrown students. Maimon congratulated both and thanked them for their contributions to the University.

Action Items

Resolution 18—36: Approval to Submit AY17-18 Program Reviews to the Illinois Board of Higher Education

Taboas entertained a motion for adoption and inclusion on the Consent Agenda of Resolution 18-36. Ormsby made a motion. Friefeld seconded. There were no questions. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 18—37: Approval of Honorary Degree Candidates

Taboas entertained a motion for adoption and inclusion on the Consent Agenda of Resolution 18-37. Friefeld made a motion. Tyson seconded. Cada provided a brief overview of the two candidates, Johnny Britt, Singer, Songwriter, Producer, Musician, and Composer; and Don Jackson, Founder, Chairman, and CEO of Central City Productions, Inc. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

HUMAN RESOURCES

Carney Barr, Vice Chair

Information Items

Report on the Civil Service Merit Board (CSMB)

Barr provided a brief report. He stated the meeting scheduled for next week was canceled due to the lack of a quorum, and that the issue of Administrative Professional (AP) designation was now being pushed back to the September meeting. Barr lauded CSMB Chair, Lyneir Cole, for doing a great job meeting with all the groups involved. Barr said he had questioned the Executive Director of CSMB, Jeff Brownfield, on the topic of Civil Service versus Administrative Professional designation and whether it could lead to litigation. Brownfield assured him it was not something the University should worry about, to which Barr requested he provide that response in writing.

Board Request for Presidential Self-Assessment

Barr reported the Board of Trustees will begin its annual presidential assessment process, as described in the Board's Governing Policies. As a regular part of this process, Dr. Maimon will submit a report on her presidency for the past year to the Board at the annual Board Retreat in August.

Action Items

Resolution 18—38: Award of Tenure

Cada stated it gave her great pleasure to present a sizable number of faculty for tenure this year, fifteen, which represents a very accomplished group. The University is excited about their contributions in scholarship, teaching, and service. Many of these faculty members were hired in 2012, in anticipation of the first freshman class of 2014, and also to serve new programs that were growing in enrollment. Barr asked faculty members in attendance to stand and be recognized, which was met with applause. Tyson made a motion to approve Resolution 18-38. Ormsby seconded. A roll call vote was taken and Ormsby, Tyson, Friefeld, Taboas, and Barr voted aye. There were no nays. The motion passed.

Resolution 18—39: Approval of Salary Increases for Non-Negotiated Employees Effective July 1, 2018

Barr entertained a motion for approval and inclusion on the Consent Agenda of Resolution 18-39. Friefeld made a motion. Ormsby seconded. A roll call vote was taken and Ormsby, Tyson, Friefeld, Taboas, Barr, and Coleman voted aye. There were no nays. The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Ormsby requested a motion to go into Executive Session. Coleman moved that the Governors State University Board of Trustees meet in Executive Session pursuant to Illinois Open Meetings Act Section 2(c)11 to discuss litigation. Tyson seconded. Roll call was taken and Ormsby, Tyson, Friefeld, Taboas, Barr, and Coleman were present. Luke, Maimon, Cada, and Bylaska remained in Executive Session, which commenced at 11:30 am. Open Session resumed at 12:30 pm. Ormsby reported the Board met in Executive Session to discuss litigation, and that no formal action was taken.

President's Report

Dr. Elaine P. Maimon

President Maimon made the following remarks: Let me start with the issues we are highlighting in Springfield, which include the need for emergency repairs, a funding need that is a direct result of the budget impasse. We are making the argument that the State should assume the responsibility for State property. There is a working group in Springfield that we have spoken with and we have informed them that we won't be able to bond if there is not a signed budget by May 31 or thereabouts. The Governor has earmarked \$100M for public university deferred maintenance and we have been lobbying for some of those funds; however, it should be noted that even if we receive some of those funds we will still need to bond.

GSU's mission is to serve those students who have not been traditionally well served—first generation, students of color, returning adults, and veterans. They can be the leaders of the next generation if they only get the chance. GSU's biggest competitor for freshmen is not out-of-state universities, nor community colleges or private colleges. It is nowhere. Our research has shown that if students accepted here don't enroll, they go nowhere. We have followed up with many of these applicants and the major deterrent is financial. For the last three years 34% of the first-year students whom we admitted as fully qualified did not go anywhere at all, which is about 200 students per year according to the National Educational Clearing House. I'm told that we are being quoted all over Springfield on this documented loss of human capital. Illinois must support regional public universities like GSU, where the new student majority goes to school. It costs money to recruit, enroll, and process students that end up going nowhere. We have also informed the General Assembly about GSU's high proportion of students with food and housing insecurities.

Illinois has become nationally famous, or shall we say infamous, on the topic of unpredictable funding for higher education. On June 5, the University of Illinois will host a national

conference, supported by prestigious research organizations and foundations, entitled “Volatility in State Spending for Higher Education.” Senator Pat McGuire, a friend of GSU, was invited to be on a panel at this conference, and he has asked me to join him. My theme on this panel will be resilience. Throughout the budget impasse and this year’s resurgence, with Board leadership, GSU has stayed true to its mission and its values. We implemented our principle that putting students first is not only educationally the right thing to do, but it’s the best business plan. I want to give special thanks to Interim Provost Beth Cada. Her career as an occupational therapist, a healer, has done much to strengthen GSU’s resilience. I want to thank Paul Bylaska, who has agreed to stay for the next academic year as we search for a new Vice President. I also want to thank all of you here for your creativity, your commitment to data-powered change, and to your resilience. 2018 is an historic year in GSU’s almost 50-year history. Today, as we anticipate the graduation of members of our inaugural freshman class, we should take a moment to reflect on GSU’s transformation into a full-service, four-year university. We have applied state of the art research to our educational approaches: high impact practices, learning communities, 15-to-finish, writing across the curriculum, and more. You don’t get instant success. But what we can say is that we are learning from our students, and our faculty is engaged in how we can serve this new majority better. We validated our commitment to only having full-time faculty teach first year students. Today, we are recommending tenure for 15 faculty members who were attracted to GSU as we embarked on our transformation. I would like to offer my personal congratulations to the newly tenured faculty.

Tonight we will honor the first freshmen class with a cording ceremony. In August 2014, they received cords in GSU’s primary colors of black and white. Tonight we will braid those cords with our background colors of gray and orange to signify their four-year undergraduate experience entirely at GSU. As GSU has transformed into a full-service university, we have stayed true to our roots. Our commitment to community college transfer students is nationally recognized. On June 4, campuses from many states, including Florida and California, plan to send representatives to GSU for our guidance in forming community college/university partnerships like ours. We will consult with campuses through the next academic year, culminating in a dissemination institute during the summer of 2019. Our Dual Degree Program is famous.

We continue to be in the forefront of service to veterans, which you heard about at the March meeting, and to returning adults. This Saturday’s Commencement will celebrate the full diversity of our students. The Class of 2018 numbers 1150 graduates and we’re very proud of that. You have before you the story of two of these students, Dreyvon McGray, a traditional-age student who survived a coma, and Terin D’Amico, a middle-aged veteran of the US Air Force. These students, who might never have met if it were not for lunching together in the GSU cafeteria, formed a friendship through their love of science and will march together at Saturday’s graduation. An article about their friendship appeared in the Chicago Tribune and has gone viral on Facebook. Later in the meeting you will pass a resolution honoring another graduate, Student Senate President Justin Smith. I would like to be the first to embarrass Justin by sharing his GSU story. Justin is the youngest of 12 children, and entered GSU in 2014 as a member of our

inaugural freshman class. He was required to enroll in Smart Start, our summer bridge program for writing and math. Through the personal attention he received in our structured undergraduate program, Justin discovered a sense of belonging and empowerment at GSU. In Justin's sophomore year we arranged for him to play a duet with honorary degree recipient Orbert Davis, the conductor and artistic director of the Chicago Jazz Philharmonic. In Justin's junior year he was elected as Student Senate President, and was re-elected in his senior year. He is GSU's Lincoln Laureate, and on May 19 he will complete his four-year journey by walking across the stage to receive his bachelor's degree without a single penny of debt. Justin might have been one of those students to go nowhere, but because of GSU he is going somewhere. In fact, he is going anywhere he wants to go. Thank you to all assembled here who have taught, mentored, and supported Justin, Dreyvon, Terin, and all our students.

Information Items

Report on the Progress of *Strategy 2025*

Cada reported that from March through May a gap analysis was performed on *Vision 2020*. A timeline was developed and the University is on track. She added that the University looks forward to working with the Board on the development and implementation of *Strategy 2025*.

Timetable for Report on Greek Life @ GSU

Valente provided a Power Point presentation. Tyson requested a progress report be presented at the August Board Retreat. Coleman asked that the Committee be broad based, which Valente agreed to. Jones-Harper suggested reaching out to employees that are current members of Greek organizations. Valente responded that contact has been made with national organizations, and that employees will be engaged as well. Coleman encouraged working with faculty who are members of Greek organizations as well. Smith reported that in his recruitment work in area high schools the presence of Greek life has come up quite often. He added he would like Greek life incorporated into *Strategy 2025*.

Report on the National Survey on Food and Housing Insecurity

Valente provided a Power Point presentation. He highlighted the *GSU4U Program*, an initiative which Trustee Coleman played a key part in, which connects students to support services including emotional support, health and wellness, food, clothing, academics and career counseling, and housing. Campus constituents are trained to be aware of the complex social services available to students, and then receive a sticker to display outside their office so students can easily identify them as someone who can help. Coleman commented that this initiative is extremely near and dear to her, as she created it as a capstone for her undergraduate degree. She thanked the many people that work with her on *GSU4U*, citing how deeply it affects the student population.

Report from the Chair on Trustee Leadership Training

Ormsby reported that effective January 1, 2016, Illinois Public Act 99-695 stipulates Public University Board Members undergo four hours of professional development leadership training within two years of their appointment. This training covers topics including public university and

labor law, contract law, ethics, sexual violence on campus, financial oversight and accountability, audits, and fiduciary responsibilities of a member of a governing board. He stated the GSU Board of Trustees is in compliance with the act, as noted on the University's website. This past April, Trustees Griggs, SamForay, and Coleman attended the conference along with President Maimon. Coleman commented that the conference was very enlightening, with information being shared with Trustees and Presidents throughout the United States on a variety of topics. President Maimon was one of the foremost speakers at AGB, and was very well respected and received. There were sessions which were very thought provoking and demonstrated how successful GSU's Board is in their efforts. She went on to say she felt a great sense of accomplishment for how GSU was able to sustain itself throughout the budget impasse, which was a big topic of conversation at the conference. Coleman concluded by stating a common theme across the country, unfortunately, is that states are not investing in their public universities the way they should.

Reports

Dr. David Golland, Faculty Senate President

Dr. Golland made the following remarks: Welcome and thank you. Please allow me to reintroduce someone who should be a familiar face to many of you, Dr. Rashidah Muhammad, former Faculty Senate President, who is sitting in for Dr. Bose today.

This has been a year of great accomplishment for the Faculty Senate. We have instituted regular, transparent reports to faculty, students, and administration, and resumed our role as a full honest broker in university governance. We have forged new partnerships, in particular with the Vice President for Administration and Finance, and amended four existing academic policies, developed one new policy, and passed ten resolutions. It is clear that our colleagues recognize the professionalization of our efforts, with this month our annual elections resulting in an unprecedented 50% voter turnout.

The Faculty Senate Student Scholarship Fund continues to grow by leaps and bounds. Last month officers of the Senate bought a table at the *Bowties & Bling* annual gala, where we were pleased to see Trustee SamForay. We received a substantial gift from Vice President Bylaska and a truly generous matching gift from the Maimons. As of now we have raised nearly \$10,000 and we will award our first two scholarships this fall.

Since the last meeting of the Board, the Senate approved three resolutions, two policy amendments, and one new policy. Faculty Senate Resolution 2017-18 #8 reorganized the Academic Master Plan Committee as a joint committee of the Senate and the Provost's Office. Resolution #9 reorganized and regularized the Policy Monitoring Committee, which evaluates allegations of policy violations and reports to the Senate and the Board of Trustees; and Resolution #10 reorganized and regularized the Faculty Development Committee, which assists the Center for Active Engagement and Scholarship. We updated the policy on students' religious observances to comply with the latest laws in that area, and the policy on academic reorganization to address the concerns of former Provost Bordelon and the union. We approved a

new policy on the use of drones on campus, and also approved a report of the SEI Task Force, a joint group which evaluated the Student Evaluations of Instruction, and recommended changes.

We heard presentations from the Dean of Students on Student Sexual Assault Prevention Training and received reports from the Student Senate and a representative of Unit B Faculty. I attended a Student Senate meeting myself last month, and our Policy Committee chair, Dr. Kim Boland-Prom, attended one this month.

I would like to congratulate the tenure recipients, every single one of whom has been actively engaged in university shared governance, but I would like to especially recognize the five who are members of the Faculty Senate: Drs. Natalia Ermasova, Joong-Won Shin, and Shirley Spencer; Dr. Jayne Goode, Senate Secretary; and Dr. Serena Wadhwa, chair of the Academic Program Review Committee.

Our final meeting of the year is tomorrow at 1:00 pm in the Hall of Honors, and you are welcome to attend. On behalf of the faculty, I thank you for your continued commitment to our university.

Taboas asked Golland to elaborate on his view of the health of the shared governance model. Golland replied that he thought some problems arise here and elsewhere when perhaps one entity thinks it should have more authority, when it doesn't. He stated one must recognize that authority is vested in the Board of Trustees that then flows through their appointment of the university president. Golland stated he felt it is uneven at GSU; however, that it is generally good and generally healthy. He noted that there are places on the faculty side that could use improvement, for example electing the right people to the right position rather than choosing people based on who their favorite is. He concluded by stating overall he thinks it is fairly healthy and strong, but that more work is needed in the area of Student Affairs.

Ms. Sheryl Jones-Harper, Civil Service Senate President

Ms. Jones-Harper made the following remarks: The State University Civil Service System is in the process of conducting financial audits and GSU's was recently concluded. When the report is completed the Senate will work with Human Resources to address any issues. The Employee Advisory Committee was recently installed, and the Human Resources Advisory Committee continues to have ongoing discussions about administrative professional (AP) classifications. Chair Cole of the Merit Board has met with the parties, a discussion that has been going on for years, and I think they have finally come to some sort of resolution on exempt versus non-exempt classifications. It is a question of being able to advance one's career within the Civil Service System (CSS) or having to leave CSS and becoming an AP. It would be nice to be treated as professionals and not common laborers.

Reviewing classifications is an ongoing endeavor. A recent review of clerical and office specialist lines resulted in recommendations that these might be merged, resulting in some title changes. This would not, however, affect years of service for seniority, although it may affect

where one sits on the roster. Salaries for Civil Service employees are set at each institution by Human Resources and the administration, and remain in a range, unlike AP salaries which have more leeway.

At the local level, we are gearing up for elections, with many opportunities available. Terms are staggered at two year intervals. The Civil Service Senate welcomes nominations for the Civil Service Employee of the Month, as well as applications for the education assistance award.

Mr. Justin Smith, Student Senate President

Mr. Smith made the following remarks: I want to give a big thank you to the Board of Trustees, the administration, faculty, and staff. Although we often have different viewpoints, we never take for granted the work that each of us does. The Student Senate would like to honor its graduating seniors, Trauvell Crawford, Stephanie Zwartz, Brian Stone, and Natasha Dillard. These are the people that put in the leg work and I would not be able to lead the Senate without them. Lester Van Moody III is the president-elect of the Student Senate. He has been with us for a few years and we have a nice succession plan.

Game night for students this past semester was a great stress reliever. Approximately 50-60 people attended and it was very enjoyable. The Senate was pleased to honor Sheree Sanderson on the occasion of her retirement, and we welcome our new advisor, Robert Clay. The E-Board is excited to get started. Linda Coleman and I have been part of the *We Hear You* sessions and I would like to go on record that those were a much better structure than Town Halls or the *Chat with the President*. Better conversations were had and we really appreciated them.

Having been the Student Senate President for two years and part of the first freshman class, I would like to give some non-biased brief observations on my time here. GSU is truly an amazing school and has some awesome things happening. We have a lot of unreached potential as an institution. In talking with students across the board, the word on the street outside GSU is that they like the graduate programs, but they would like to see more cyber education programs. There are some concerns about advising, and the undergraduate program could use a little bit more special focus. There seems to be common knowledge at the school about what needs to be done to get to the next level, but everyone needs to step out of their comfort zones in order to implement them. A strategy doesn't mean anything without implementation. The mentorship programs here are great and I would recommend increasing or enhancing them. Diversity and collaboration has also been great. As far as the international experience on campus, I don't think the sense of belonging is quite there yet. One of the biggest setbacks GSU has is an atmosphere of dishonor. I say this respectfully, but I notice this on multiple levels. Honor is a very big thing in my life. Not celebratory, but basic respect towards one another. Honoring the people that came before you; honoring the work people have done; observing faculty and staff and their interactions. There is still a lot of work to do, so I say this out of respect. I'm still feeling uneasy about the conversation on midterm grades. I've been told a university is a people business. Midterm grades are a part of quality control, and I feel it should be mandated. Transformation was a tag line once before, but that is a value that never should go away. We should always be

transforming and evolving. The Student Senate has started to conduct research of its own and will bring that before the Board at future meetings. Trustee Barr, thank you for your comments regarding marketing and integration of students with what is actually going on. And thank you to the entire Board for being student focused. I think GSU is an awesome place, that I really care about, and I want to see it be the best it can be.

Each of the Trustees thanked Mr. Smith for his service to the University, and congratulated him on his graduation.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Minutes - February 22, 2018

Ormsby entertained a motion to approve the Minutes of the February 22, 2018 Budget and Finance Committee Meeting and the Committee on Trusteeship, Governance, and Nominations. Coleman made a motion. Tyson seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Minutes - March 2, 2018:

The Minutes of the Full Board Meeting continue to be under review, and will be brought before the Board at the next appropriate meeting.

Approval of the Consent Agenda

Resolution 18—30: Approval of Preliminary Operating Budget for FY19

Resolution 18—31: Approval of Contract for Family Development Center Heating System Upgrades

Resolution 18—32: Approval of Contract for Energy Management System Technical Support Services

Resolution 18—34: Approval of Contract for Sole Source Award to CBS Radio East

Resolution 18—35: Approval of Contract for Re-Roofing of Buildings C and E

Resolution 18—36: Approval to Submit AY17-18 Program Reviews to IBHE

Resolution 18—37: Approval of Honorary Degree Candidates

Resolution 18—39: Approval of Salary Increases for Non-Negotiated Employees Effective July 1, 2018

Ormsby entertained a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Tyson made a motion. Coleman seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Approval of Items not on the Consent Agenda

Resolution 18—33: Approval of Contract for Underwriting Services

Ormsby entertained a motion to approve Resolution 18-33. Tyson made a motion. Friefeld seconded. A roll call vote was taken and Ormsby, Tyson, Friefeld, Taboas, Barr, and Coleman voted aye. The motion passed.

Resolution 18—38: Award of Tenure

Ormsby entertained a motion to approve Resolution 18-38. Tyson made a motion. Friefeld seconded. A roll call vote was taken and Ormsby, Tyson, Friefeld, Taboas, and Barr voted aye. Student Trustee Coleman is not permitted to vote on matters of tenure. The motion passed.

Resolution 18—40: Release of Executive Session Minutes was tabled as General Counsel Luke continues to review minutes that pre-date her employment with the University.

Resolution 18—41: Honoring the Service of Student Senate President Justin Smith

The resolution was read aloud by Secretary Friefeld:

WHEREAS, The Governors State University Board of Trustees was created on January 1, 1996 by Public Act 89-4 to operate, manage, control, and maintain Governors State University in accordance with the rights, powers, and duties vested by law in the Board; and

WHEREAS, The Board is comprised of eight members, seven of whom are appointed by the Governor of Illinois with the advice and consent of the Senate, and one whom is a Governors State University student selected by their peers; and

WHEREAS, Justin Smith, earning his Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration this month, with a concentration in entrepreneurship, has served two years as Student Senate President; and

WHEREAS, Justin Smith has served the University as a Peer Mentor Coordinator, an Orientation Leader, a member of the Planning and Budget Advisory Council, as Master of Ceremony for Convocation, and as an outstanding representative of the University to the community; and

WHEREAS, Justin Smith has been an active advocate for Governors State University, its students, faculty, and its mission; has spoken before legislative appropriation committees; and has appeared on *Chicago Tonight* to advocate for higher education funding; and

WHEREAS, Justin Smith has shared his musical talents at numerous Governors State University events;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Trustees of Governors State University that Justin Smith be formally recognized and commended for his service as Student Senate President; for his commitment to the role of a student leader as a representative of all students; for his dedication to advocacy for the University as a whole; for providing sound guidance and perspective; and for the spirit of committed governance which he brought to the task.

Ormsby entertained a motion to approve Resolution 18-41. Tyson made a motion. Coleman seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote, and Smith received a standing ovation.

Smith thanked everyone, stating he truly learned a lot by observing and participating in Board meetings, and by the conversations had. He credited the experience as being a huge part of his education in the College of Business, and expressed gratitude for the opportunity.

TRUSTEE COMMENTS

Barr encouraged everyone to read President Maimon's most recent book, *Leading Academic Change: Vision, Strategy, Transformation*. He also asked for continued support of the GSU Foundation. Maimon reported Trustee SamForay recently made a generous gift. Ormsby commented that he was surprised and troubled by the food and housing insecurities here at GSU, and asked how one could contribute to this need. Will Davis answered funds donated to the Foundation could be earmarked for those efforts, to which Ormsby responded it would be good to promulgate this in the community to help garner support. Ormsby concluded by praising Smith for his input regarding strategic planning and the need to execute plans, not just talk about them. In addition he thanked all those who contributed to today's meeting.

Ormsby requested a motion to adjourn. Tyson made a motion. Coleman seconded. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote and the Governors State University Board of Trustees meeting adjourned at 1:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Johns Maloney