

GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY

Americus, Georgia

Minutes of the General Faculty Meeting
Wednesday, 25 February 2004 - 11:00 a.m.
Roney 301

1. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Cathy L. Rozmus, Vice-President for Academic Affairs. A quorum of the faculty was present.
2. The minutes of the 3 December 2003 General Faculty Meeting were tabled.
3. Remarks by President Michael L. Hanes
 - a. The “quiet phase” of the capital campaign has garnered \$5.3 million thus far. Pledges are expected to exceed the halfway point in the overall goal by April 22, when the quiet phase ends and the public (i.e., publicized) phase begins with a gala event featuring President and Mrs. Carter. There has been a 17% increase in President’s Circle donors (\$1000 or more). On February 20 there will be a luncheon in recognition of faculty and staff donors.
 - b. Dr. Randy Swing of the Foundations of Excellence was on campus recently. He commented that the spirit of engagement at GSW is good. Furthermore, he commended the faculty for the climate of support for student success.
 - c. Jackson Hall will be rededicated on Thursday, 25 March. Following tours of the renovated facility there will be a program which will include a concert by the combined choirs of GSW, Darton College, and Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College.
 - d. The purchase of the Americus Country Club properties is moving forward and should be finalized by the end of March or early April. All funds for the purchase are coming from the GSW Foundation endowment.
 - e. The endowment (\$25 million) of the GSW Foundation ranks in the top 20% of colleges and universities nationwide. It ranks fourth among public universities in Georgia—after the University of Georgia, Georgia Tech, and Georgia State.
 - f. Work on the Student Success Center is on schedule. Contractors are working Saturdays. Occupancy is scheduled for January 2005.
 - g. The decrease in enrollment at GSW can be attributed mainly to a decrease in the number of graduate students. Undergraduate enrollment has not changed much. In fact, last fall saw the greatest number of freshmen and transfer students in ten years. Furthermore, there have been full enrollments in freshman classes. More students are

taking full loads than when the headcount was higher. Recruitment efforts are focusing on population centers in southwest Georgia, including 2-year institutions. We are hopeful the MBA will attract more graduate students. A graduate enrollment of about 350 is targeted.

- h. Although GSW has followed the Board of Regents mandate that we reduce our Learning Support enrollment to 5%, sister institutions in the area are enrolling up to 25% of their freshman classes in Learning Support courses. GSW has resubmitted its proposal for a University College, which would accept 50-100 students who need remediation and are not yet qualified for regular admission. The recent successful collaborative effort with Darton College indicates that a University College could work very well.
 - i. The Regents Test pass rate for first-time takers with 45 credit hours has been much higher than at sister institutions—more than 85% passed both parts of the test.
 - j. In response to a faculty comment that class schedules have been configured so that it is difficult for advisors to find classes that would give a student a full load, Dr. Hanes urged communication across departmental lines of needs for additional course listings.
4. Remarks by Vice-President for Academic Affairs Cathy L. Rozmus:
- a. Dr. Edward Zlotkowski, with the Foundations of Excellence, will be on campus. Dr. Lisa Cooper passed around a list of the sessions he will be conducting for faculty to indicate which they can attend. He will also address the American Democracy project. Dr. Tom Johnson mentioned that another part of the Foundations of Excellence project is a Penn State survey which all are implored to fill out.
 - b. Thanks to all who participated in Homecoming activities—and for wearing the blue polo shirts last Monday.
5. Committee Reports:
- a. Academic Affairs: None.
 - b. Academic Grievances: None.
 - c. Athletics: None.
 - d. Business & Finance: None.
 - e. Faculty Affairs: None.
 - f. Graduate Council: Dr. Angelia Moore reported that the council is working on a plan for recruitment of graduate students.
 - g. Institutional Research: None.
 - h. Institutional Review Board: None.
 - i. Instructional Technology: None
 - j. Scholarships & Financial Aid: None.

- k. Student Affairs: None.
- l. Task Force on Academic Excellence: Dr. Stefan Dieters said that the committee is looking for ideas for certificate programs.
- m. Task Force on Scholarship: None.
- n. University & Alumni Relations: None.

6. New Business:

The following items were all forwarded from the Faculty Senate with its endorsement:

- a. Change in admission requirements for the Master of Science in Computer Science (applicants who already possess a graduate degree will not be required to take the GRE and will be admitted based upon their graduate GPA (3.0 minimum). Passed.
- b. Deletion of Praxis II as a graduation requirement for the Bachelor of Science in Education. (Passing Praxis II is a Georgia teacher certification requirement. It should not remain a program or graduation requirement.) Passed.
- c. Dr. Ian Brown's application for graduate faculty membership. Passed.

7. Announcements:

- a. There will be a raffle to benefit UNIV 4000.
- b. There is a barbecue plate fund-raiser today for SIFE.
- c. There is a bake sale fund-raiser for the Geology Club today.
- d. Those interested in participating in the Relay for Life should contact Diane Kirkwood or Lynda Lee Purvis.
- e. The Department of Fine Arts annual scholarship exhibition will begin next Monday at 7:00 pm in the library.
- f. Ms. Laurel Robinson is one of 15 U.S. finalists in the biennial Spertus Judaica Prize competition sponsored by the Spertus Museum in Chicago. Her entry is a hanging lamp she designed and then constructed with the assistance of Charles Wells in the Department of Fine Arts, senior Kelly Robertson and sophomore Mike Dalton. Laurel was also a finalist in the 2002 exhibition.
- g. Ms. Lynda Lee Purvis commented that Academic Affairs is implementing a program to contact at-risk students based on mid-term grades. She admonished the faculty to enter mid-term grades.

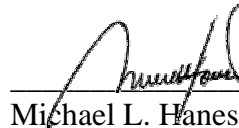
- h. There will be a Chamber Concert tomorrow evening at 8:00 pm in the Fine Arts auditorium, featuring multiple percussionists.
 - i. Dr. Curtis Howell commented that the School of Business needs host families for 24 business students from our sister institution, Lycée Blaise Pascal in Forbach, France. They will be in Americus from March 27 through April 2.
 - j. Dr. Lisa Cooper noted that the National Survey of Student Engagement will soon be administered to virtually all first-year and senior students. She asked the faculty to stress the importance to students of filling out the survey.
 - k. Dr. Burt Carter inquired about the Fall 2003 semester student evaluations. OIIT is currently working on them.
8. The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:



Thomas L. Wheeler, Secretary



Michael L. Hanes, President