

**Minutes  
Faculty Senate Meeting  
Friday, January 26, 2018  
11:00 A.M. – 12:50 P.M.**

**Third World Studies Conference Room – Second Floor of Library**

**Attendance: Robert Bennett, Ian Brown, Paula Bryant, Catalina Casaru, Chadwick Gugg, Elizabeth Gurnack, Mark Laughlin, Jamie MacLennan, Laurel Robinson, Brian Smith, John Wilson**

**Ex Officio: Interim VPAA Lynda Lee Purvis, President Neal Weaver**

**Guests: Mr. Royce Hackett, Mr. W. Cody King**

**Guest: Royce Hackett**

1. Minutes from previous (Nov. 10, 2017) meeting approved.
2. Updates from President Neal Weaver and Open Discussion
  - Stephen Snyder has accepted the role of Special Assistant to the President and will be focusing on government relations, alumni, and annual funds.
  - Tristram Aldridge has taken on the role of Interim Vice President for Student Affairs.
  - Chelsea Collins has agreed to become Director of Marketing and Communications.
  - Legislative session has begun. Governor released his budget and there is good news for higher education. The governor in budget proposal provided all of the funding the regents requested for system growth. About 51 million dollars of additional funding for higher education tied to enrollment growth. Important for GSW. The bad news is that the system requested around 7 million dollars to fund healthcare increases and retirement changes, and the governor provided no money for that. It is expected that healthcare coverage will increase, which means the money may have to come from the operational budget. The Academic Resource Center remodeling was included in the chancellor's budget request to the governor as a part of a capital funding for a small cap project. This project was not funded in the governor's proposal, which was expected. GSW is currently working with local senators and representatives to try and get that project funding back into the program. Also, the rate of teacher retirement paid into the system is expected to increase, which may create budget ramifications for GSW.
  - The enrollment summit had over fifty participants across campus, including faculty and staff and students. Five issues jumped out during this event:
    1. Preview Day and Storm Day: Popular topic of discussion. General consensus was negative regarding the way things are going. Input and thoughts were collected and changes are expected to be made to make those days and activities more impactful.
    2. Data Analysis: Significant issues and comments came up. There is a lack of data in areas to make informed decisions and it needs to be addressed.

3. Class schedule: The idea that the Mon.-Thur. class schedule is not the best thing for the institution. What is best was not clearly defined, but there was across the campus support for the evaluation of what the class schedule should look like. The interim VPAA will work with the deans to come up with a new model that can be discussed and implemented to help drive enrollment, engage students in a more effective way, and improve the teaching quality GSW can provide to the students.
  4. Connecting students with academics: GSW does not have a strong co-curricular connection with what it is doing with student activities and student programming and connecting that to what happens in the classroom and developing ways for students to extend their learning from the classroom into their other campus activities. As an institution, GSW needs to do a better job providing those activities. With the opportunity to hire a new Student Affairs Vice President, this will become part of that discussion and what they'll be expected to coordinate.
  5. Supporting student success: Issues that arose included concerns that counseling services are not adequate to handle a student body that is GSW's size. Also, advising is undefined and difficult for students and faculty and staff to understand the process and who's doing what. Tutoring is not as widespread as GSW would like. Other concerns were that career services, internships, a lot of things that GSW should do to support GSW was not necessarily where GSW wanted it to be.
    - Momentum Year Summit will be coming up soon. This is a system summit. GSW has 3 committees working on the Momentum Year project right now to design a program that works for the institution. Their ideas will be taken to the summit where national experts will look at those concepts and help GSW get it to where it wants to be.
    - Employee appreciation program ideas were discussed.
    - Educational Leadership Fund (ELF) grant and High Impact Practice Opportunity (HIPO) grant applications will be rolling out in the next week or two. Deadline submission will be April 15<sup>th</sup>. \$35,000 available through the HIPO grants, \$100,000 for ELF grants. These grants are through the GSW Foundation and the board members will be involved in the process of selecting and working with us.
3. Inclusiveness on Campus
    - This topic was discussed and will be ongoing. The topic was religious affiliation as reflected in the strategic plan and a discussion between the Faculty Senate and the President occurred and the discussion is ongoing.
  4. Credit hours recognized by the University – Catalina Casaru
    - This topic was discussed and will be ongoing.
  5. Update on Provost Search – John Wilson
    - The telephone interview round has concluded and four Provost candidates will be brought on campus to present in the near future, hopefully in mid-February. Faculty Senate is encouraged to reach out to all faculty members and let them know how important it is to attend these candidates' presentations. Their input from these

presentations will greatly help the Provost Search Committee determine the right candidate for GSW.

6. Other Business

7. Meeting adjourned at 12:50 p.m.