**Georgia Southwestern State University**

**Faculty Senate Agenda**

Thursday, February 13th, 2025 at 3:30pm

Nursing 106

Present: MacLennan, Jacobs, Wynn, Mukkavilli, Easom, Abbot, McKie, Mulleins-Foreman, Johnston, Stovall, Smith, Kaus, Brown, Tu, Le Jeune

Guests: Laughlin, Ross, Dahlgren, Whitley Hall

1. **Call to Order 334 PM**
   1. Approval of Agenda
      1. Jacobs moves to approve. Carter Seconds. Approved Unanimously,
2. **Minutes**
   1. November 20, 2024, lesiia, carter.
3. Easom moved to approve, Jacob Second
4. Clarified that the deleted program was Video Game Music.
5. Approved Unanimously
6. **Senate Activity Updates**
   1. President’s Cabinet Meeting Report (1/21)
      1. Virtual training for deans and evaluator training in January.
      2. ASPIRE meetings next month. Drs. Abbot and Johnston meeting March 6th.
      3. Welcome Dr. Ross
      4. Science building is in process.
      5. Modifying new student orientation to meet with faculty and meet major options.
      6. Undergraduate Research Symposium on Friday April 18th. Proposals due March 14.
      7. Investiture March 28th at 10am. Faculty are asked to be part of the procession. There will be events all week.
   2. report: UGS faculty council meeting
      1. Faculty Evaluations – is discussion of how to evaluate clinical activities. Also discussion of administrator evaluation.
      2. Concern about ICE. Not interfere or hinder. Can direct to public safety.
      3. Funding freezes concerns. Wait for now
      4. AI-Policies. Need for institutional policies.
   3. Report: Transition committee meeting
      1. Interim provost process discussed and search.
         1. Discussed makeup and process of committee
         2. Clarified that it is an advisory role. President will make final decision.
      2. Discussed how to frame conversations that balance liberal arts goals with career reediness.
   4. Update on Action Items Sent to Committees
      * 1. Faculty Affairs
           1. Probationary Credit Policy – still waiting on
           2. USG Core Values Statement

They don’t want to vote on.

MacLennan will ask them to address

1. **Public Address**
   1. **None.**
2. **University Updates and Q+A**
   1. President Michelle Johnston
      1. Updates on the provost position
         1. Dr. Abbot serving while also serving as dean. Thanks to other folks in college for supporting this dual role.
         2. Wanted internal interim from either Deans and Dr. Davis. Any of these people who were interested in the position full time were excluded from the interim role.
            1. Two interested in interim. Talked about vision and needs to determine the bet fit. Johnston selected Dr. Abbot
         3. The search process has started under the direction of Dr. Cheokas. 16 members across all colleges and areas.
            1. Bufkin Baker is the search firm selected. Working to build a strong pool
            2. Want strategic thinker, innovative, consensus builder, integrity, collaborative, and expects excellence.
            3. Want someone has experience for campuses in relation to our issues.
            4. Candidates want more confidentiality deeper in the process.
            5. Is a search team, not a selection committee. Analyze the strengths and weakness of candidates and can label non-viable candidates. Not asking for rankings or a specific recommendation.
            6. Is a fast timeline, but doable. If going too fast, we will slow it down.
            7. Question: Do we have a vision for the whole office, particularly the many roles of Dr. Davis?: New provost will distribute the roles of Dr. Davis according to their vision.
      2. Budget
         1. Governor fully funded growth request from the formula.
         2. Also 16.1 million for the science building
         3. Request options are larger than budget increases. $2.1 million in requests and $1.7 in availability (before required costs). We are allocating based on need. E.g. additional QEP need. 44% of surplus will be in personnel. 21 in operating (e.g. custodial contract). 14 is equipment.
         4. Budget hearing on Feb 25
         5. State appropriations in April or May BOR meeting
      3. Strategic plan. Work starts mid semester. Will start at mission statement. Work into next fall
      4. NISS is working with data from us. In 3-4 weeks should have first draft of the report
      5. Table talks this Friday. 1PM in person and 3PM online
      6. Discussion of Handbook revisions at the request of the senate president
      7. We will be figuring out the best way to talk about the professional futures of our students.
         1. Possible frame of faculty wellness as a key part of this frame.
         2. Question about survey about career ready competencies.
   2. Interim Provost Rachel Abbott
      1. Dr. Milledge left. Posting a new position. Director of Professional and Experiential Learning Opportunities. Add more explicit career development to that office.
      2. Enrollment up 6.5 YTD.
      3. Retention fall to spring is up 5% YTD and 9% in University college.
      4. ASPRIE. Working on it with Dr. Davis. Dr. Cheokas is leading list on LPPs. Not discussing 3 cycle programs at the meeting. That will be discussed at a later date. Meeting will cover comprehensive program reviews. Look at risk or newly below the threshold. 3 programs discussed.
      5. NISS. Next step is campus stakeholder interviewers. Hope to have the playbook in April.
      6. Discussion on LPP issues.
3. **Committee Recommendations** 
   1. **Academic Affairs**
      * 1. B.A. in Art – Program Deactivation. Jacobs moves to approve, Wynn Seconds.
        2. All approve except Le Jeune and Brown.
        3. ,
   2. **Graduate Affairs**
      * 1. Withdrawal Policy.
           1. Carter moves to return to the committee to clarify the specific policy recommendations, Le Jeune seconds. Unanimously approved.
        2. Nursing policy – Double Counting Courses
           1. Le Jeune moves to approve and Stovall seconds. Passes with unanimous support.
        3. Double Canes Program
           1. -Jacobs moves to approve, Le Jeune seconds.
           2. Passes with unanimous support.
4. **Senate Discussion Items / Future Action Items**
   1. Senate Handbook revisions.
      1. Carter moves to approve, Le Jeune seconds. Passes unanimously
   2. MacLennan moves to remove the word “equity” from the bylaws. Mulleins-Foreman seconds.
   3. Le Jeune offers a friendly amendment to replace with “inclusivity.” MacLennan accepts.
      1. Motion needs 2/3 as a bylaws revision
      2. Fails
      3. Voting For: for Smith, Le Jeune, Stovall, Wynn, Eaton, Mulleins-Foreman, Tu, Mukkavilli
      4. Voting Against: Carter, Kaus, McKie, Jacobs, Brown.
5. MacLennan calls for an ad hoc Bylaws sub-committee – Le Jeune, Carter, Smith, Kaus, Mulleins-Foreman
6. **Announcements**
7. **Adjourn at 5:50 PM**

**Submitted by Jonathan Carter**