

Georgia Southwestern State University

Faculty Senate Meeting

Monday, February 19, 2024 at 4:00 p.m.

GSW Nursing Building, Room 106

Summary of Action -- Unapproved

Members in Attendance (14): John LeJeune (President), Amber Stovall (Vice President), Ashley Jones (Secretary), Ian Brown, Leisa Easom, Michael Crosby, Michelle Dykes, Chadwick Gugg, Anne Jacobs, Sai Mukkavilli, Thelma Sexton, Sondra Smith, Anh-Hue Tu, Keaton Wynn,

Ex-Officio Members in Attendance (1): President Neal Weaver

1. Call to Order- 4:00 p.m. by John LeJeune

a) Approval of Agenda

Keaton Wynn motions to approve; second by Thelma Sexton. Unanimous approval.

2. Approval of Minutes

a) November 30, 2023 – Michael Crosby motions to approve; Anne Jacobs second; No discussion; Unanimous approval

-Welcome Leisa Easom to Faculty Senate!

3. Senate Activity Updates

a) Academic Affairs – Midterm and Withdrawal Issue Submitted

-Feb. 16th: packet submitted to Academic Affairs committee; addressing issue of # of withdrawals allowed and Midterm grade reporting.

-Requested response from Academic Affairs Committee by March 28th

b) Academic Reorganization Examination Committee – Update

-Update: Committee formed to address Townhall questions/charge.

-Dr. Weaver will respect recommendations from committee.

-G17 committee + Low Producing Program subcommittee

-Main group of 17 is split in two:

-Provost and Deans is one side: Financial and Structure questions, Logistic questions;

-Other half is Academic Programs subcommittee: Senate President + Faculty cohort: Is it academically beneficial for 3 or 4 colleges?; How can we improve where we need to improve? Where is GSW within USG performing and what are some examples to help us make a recommendation.

-G17 plan will be reformulated once all come together

-Plan will go to LPP subcommittee for feedback from those programs.

-Concrete plan/recommendation due by the end of Spring Break.

c) Mental Health Response Training – Update and Thanks

- Thanks to Paula Bryant for offering the 7.5 hour training.
- Can offer 1 full day training if folks are interested.

4. Public Address (None)

5. University Updates and Q+A

a) President Dr. Neal Weaver

- Thanks for working on the reorganization committee and the amount of work being put toward that.
 - GA Legislature in session: passed supplemental budget with \$66 million being put back in. About ~\$180,000 back to GSW. Working on next fiscal year budget including pay increases.
 - Continue to work for science building funding. Looking for support at legislation level.
 - Budget hearing last week with chancellor and leadership: pleased with GSW. Hoping it will help mitigate \$1 million budget cut next year. Will find out in April.
 - ASPIRE meeting: Meeting scheduled March 11th to discuss LPP. Presidents don't believe that every LPP will or even can be cut. What are they serious about is the question to figure out.
 - 110 potential students on campus Saturday Feb. 17th for Preview Day.
 - # of accepted applications for Fall is already higher than the end of 22-23 academic year
 - MATCH program: seniors in GA, informed about which schools at which they would be accepted. Many of the accepted are under prepared. We need to be prepared for students that are less prepared. We might see a retention rate issue across the state.
 - Nursing Initial accreditation this week.
 - SACSCOC: first week of March is the visit.
 - AACSB: March 10-12 accreditation visit.
 - Griffin Bell Conference Center has final approval for construction. March 1st: Asbestos removal. March 23: demolition of building
 - Fuller House Build: Plains, GA: April 2024
 - Library Renovation: \$5 million, 3.9 working budget. Air handlers is 2.5 million. Working with system to try and get more money for help.
- Q&A:
- Fuller House in Plains: How has word gotten to the students? Only been sent to faculty so far.
 - Beefing up UNIV 1000 to help with unprepared students? Unsure yet, just finally getting numbers from this.

b) Provost Dr. Jill Drake - Not in attendance

6. Senate Discussion Items / Action Items

a) Faculty Senate Survey – Subcommittee Updates

- Administration: No movement so far. Clarify what is the process of deactivation. What does reactivation entail? Language needs to go to handbook. *Urgent*
- Admin: Faculty FAQ from FYE. FYE is open to this, and a survey will be coming out.
- Academic Affairs: attempted to schedule a meeting with Krista Smith. Hopefully more later.
- Faculty Affairs: Faculty development grants is on the agenda. Will be setting up meeting to clarify process before next meeting. We got summer contracts!
- Student Affairs: Had a meeting with Dr. Boren. Not much come of it yet. Will follow-up.
- Other Concerns: A Faculty Senate email account should be created to keep a record of correspondence with the Senate and provide faculty with a direct link.

b) Faculty Senate Bylaws Reexamination Sub-Committee Creation

- Need to redraft parts of bylaws.
 - Adjusting to however the university will look next year.
 - Clarify relationship between faculty senate and its committees.
 - Clarify timelines for when senators and officers assume positions.
 - Clarify charge of Senate and make sure it is in line with USG.
- Volunteers: John Lejeune volunteers. Keaton Wynn. Michael Crosby. Anne Jacobs.

c) Senate Surveys

i. AI Training and AI Ethics

- Survey coming. What should Gary talk about? Teaching with Technology teaching circle.

ii. FYE

- Survey coming

7. Committee Recommendations

a) Academic Affairs

- Ashley Jones moves to consider all as a block, Michelle Dykes seconds. Unanimous approval
- Anne Jacobs motions to approve the block, Michelle Dykes seconds. No discussion. Unanimous approval.

- i. **New Certificate:** Pre-Law (History/Political Science)
- ii. **Deactivations:** PSYC 3380, PSYC 3331, PSYC 3340, PSYC 4414, PSYC 4411
- iii. **Curriculum Change:** American Studies Certificate (English)
- iv. **Curriculum Change:** Music/Comm removal of concentrations
- v. **Certificate Deactivation:** Composing Video Game Music
- vi. **Core Impacts:** Curriculum Sheet
- vii. **Core Impacts:** University Learning Outcomes
- viii. **Revision of CPR Process**

8. Announcements

-**Sai Mukkavilli:** Teaching Circle on Mental Health Response—how many Teaching Circle credits should be awarded for a 7.5 hour training? Advised to contact Dr. Drake.

9. Adjourn

-Motion by Anne Jacobs, second by Michael Crosby. Unanimous approval. Adjourned at 5:08.