Georgia Southwestern State University

Faculty Senate Agenda

Friday, October 23rd, 2026, at 10:00 am

Admin 135

Present: Berggren, Carter, Crosby, Hart, Hodges, Kaus, Mallett, McKie, Meador, Nan, Parkinson, Palmer (Ex-Officio)

Absent: MacLennan, Ghosh, Gosa, Russell

Guest: Courtney Ross

1. Call to Order -Jonathan Carter at 10:01 am

a) Approval of Agenda – motion: Meador, second: Nan

2. Minutes

a) September 25th, 2026 – motion: Meador, second: Hart

3. Senate Activity Updates

a) President's Cabinet Meeting Report –Jonathan Carter

- There is continued discussion of adding a second-year experience program
- IT will work with the Office of Accommodations to improve student monitoring during exams and address concerns regarding academic dishonesty.
- Facilities Master Plan meeting on Tuesday, October 27 at 11:00 am
- Dean Search - campus visit dates:
  - Education 11/16-20
  - Art and Science 11/30 12/1 12/2

b) Faculty Evaluation Task Force – Meador

The Evaluation Task Force held a Town Hall last week to gather faculty feedback. Based on the feedback received, minor revisions were suggested and are now under review by the Faculty Affairs Committee.

4. Public Address - none

5. University Updates and Q+A

a) President Kerry Palmer

- President's meeting/BOR at UGA, met new chancellor

- Faculty Listening Sessions – Small group listening sessions are being scheduled with academic departments. A session with Biology faculty has already been held.
- New College Advisory Committees are being established to stay in touch with workforce needs.
- Internal Budget Hearings have begun, and work will continue toward completing the budget process.
- Discussion regarding online and face-to-face instruction, including funding considerations and determining which instructional modalities best meet the needs of GSW students.
- The renovation of existing space is prioritized over building new structures.
- Enrollment cliff and ways to address this issue discussed
    - Credit hour production increased by 4.4% for GSW, driven by graduation program enrollment
    - Increase in 25-year-and-older students starting graduate programs
- Salary Study – Chancellor Fanning indicates that a salary study will be started in January 2027.

b) Provost's Office – Dr. Abbott absent

6. Committee Recommendations

a) Academic Affairs

1) B.A. English motion: Meador, second: Berggren

2) Certificate in Media Production and Culture – motion: Meador, second: Berggren

b) Graduate Affairs

1) M.A. Education – motion: Meador, second: Berggren

2) M.S.N. Nursing – motion: Meador, second: Berggren

c) Faculty Affairs

1) Family Members on Campus Policy –

The Senate proposes the following friendly amendments:

1. Paragraph one, sentence one wording from "regular or prolonged basis" to prolonged or disruptive manner

2. Paragraph two, sentence three change “children must not be in classrooms” to children should not be in classrooms.

3. Paragraph three, sentence two remove “should it become necessary.”

motion: Meador, second: Berggren

7. Announcements

McKie - Special Olympics - volunteers needed

Crosby will attend USG Faculty Council on 11/12-13 - send any questions want addressed

8. Adjourn 11:03 – Carter

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Hart