

General Faculty Meeting

May 4, 2023 at 9:30 pm

1. Call to order –Evan Kutzler called the meeting to order at 9:30. He began by announcing several upcoming events on campus.
2. Approval of the minutes of the fall 2023 general faculty meeting

Bryan Smith made a motion to approve the fall 2023 faculty meeting minutes. The motion passed.

3. Brief Reports

- a. President – Neal Weaver

- President Weaver remarked that GSW is in a positive position regarding enrollment and is one of only five USG institutions not getting smaller. Enrollment is up this summer and is trending up in the fall.
- GSW added several new degree programs this year, including ASN and EMBA.
- Recent highlights include the English symposium, study abroad to Bulgaria, new Dean Laughlin, three Peach Belt championship teams, and interim provost Dr. Jill Drake.
- The USG has extended the SAT/ACT waiver for incoming freshmen.
- The library renovation was approved by the legislature.

Questions

- Dr. Gurnack asked for an update on the science building. Dr. Weaver noted that it is our first priority, and that system personnel have visited the building.

- b. Interim Provost – Jill Drake

- Dr. Drake reported that the Faculty Handbook update is nearing completion. QEP is in Phase 2, the writing process. The writing team and implementation team have been selected. The summer contracts template has been created, and the goal is to put them in Dynamic Forms.

4. Standing Committee activity reports

- a. Academic Affairs – Carol Bishop

Dr. Bishop reported that Academic Affairs met three times and had 18 new or revised courses and 12 curriculum changes.

b. Business and Finance – Amber Stovall

Mrs. Stovall reported that the committee met a few times. Their main meeting was for budget hearings. They ranked the requests and made recommendations to Jeff Hall.

c. Faculty Affairs – Brian Smith

Dr. Smith reported that the committee met to discuss tenure and promotion work, and faculty awards. He encouraged the faculty to consider conducting faculty active shooter training next year.

d. Faculty Development – Anish Dave

The committee met once this semester to consider Faculty Development Grants and Faculty instruction grants. They were able to meet each request.

e. Graduate Affairs – Jim Aller

Dr. Aller reported that Graduate Affairs reviewed the applications for graduate professors and made a slight modification to the MBA curriculum to include a requirement for an exit exam.

f. Institutional Review Board – Michael Crosby

Dr. Crosby reported that the IRB reviewed over 30 applications from faculty and students this year.

g. Institutional Effectiveness – Jamie MacLennan

The committee met twice this semester. They created and approved bylaws for the committee. They also reviewed survey results regarding the freshmen experience and perceptions on campus.

h. Instructional Technology – Royce Hackett for Olga Godoy

Royce Hackett reported that the committee met three times this semester. They discussed and approved technology purchases funded out of the student technology fee. They surveyed faculty regarding their technology needs and met with student government to discuss this year's technology fee expenditures and plans for next year.

i. Global Engagement and High Impact Practices – Jennifer Ryer

Dr. Ryer reported that the committee met twice this semester. They revised their charge, funded six HIPP grants, and presented the Taste to the World event.

j. Student Affairs – Jonathan Carter

Jonathan Carter reported that the committee met once during the semester and other times via email. They updated their charge.

k. Faculty Senate – Evan Kutzler

Dr. Kutzler reported that Faculty Senate met nine times face-to-face this year. They created bylaws, made changes to the annual evaluation and post tenure review process, and met with the Provost candidates. Additionally, the Senate was reapportioned to represent the faculty. The Senate recommended that diversity, equity, and inclusion be incorporated into each committee. The officers for the 2023/2024 year are President John LeJeune, Vice-President Amber Stovall, and Secretary Ashley Jones.

6. Ad hoc committee activity reports

a. President Jimmy Carter Leadership Program – no report.

Evan Kutzler noted that the committee has not met in 3 almost years and its continued existence should be evaluated.

b. SACS-QEP Ad Hoc Committee – Jill Drake (was addressed above)

7. USG Faculty Council Report – Elizabeth Gurnack

Dr. Gurnack reported that she attended the USG faculty council meeting in late April. The council met with the USG chief academic officer, chief fiscal officer, chief legal officer, and Chancellor Sonny Perdue.

Topics included upcoming predictions of decreased enrollment, the importance of retention, the upcoming GenEd refresh, the budget, changes to PTR, attempts to remove the AAUP censure on the USG, and strategic tuition increases.

8. New Business

a. Academic Affairs Committee

i. The following curriculum changes from Arts and Sciences were considered as a block upon a motion by Brian Smith and approved as a block upon Anne Jacob's motion.

1. English minor curriculum change
2. Geology in Area D curriculum change
3. WGSS certificate curriculum change
4. Biology BS curriculum change
5. Biology in Area D curriculum change
6. Communications and Emerging Media BA curriculum change

7. Strategic Communication certificate curriculum change
 8. Popular Culture certificate change
 9. Mass Communication certificate curriculum change
 10. Certificate in Digital Media and Technology curriculum change
 11. Political Science BS curriculum change
 12. English BA (online) curriculum change
- ii. The following curriculum changes from Nursing and Health Sciences were considered as a block upon a motion by Benjamin Meador and approved as a block upon Brian Smith's motion.
1. Exercise Physiology Endorsement
 2. Exercise Science Certificate

iii. Academic Policies

The following academic policy change was approved after a motion from Sam Peavy.

1. General Baccalaureate Requirement #7

b. Graduate Affairs

i. Curriculum

Item 1 was approved after a motion by Brian Smith. Item 2 was also approved after a motion from Brian Smith.

1. BUSA 6192 Major Fields Test new course and curriculum change
2. MBA curriculum change

ii. Graduate Faculty Applications

The following graduate faculty applications were considered as a block after Brian Smith's motion and were considered as a block upon Michael Moir's motion.

1. Alexander Yemelyanov (Computing)
2. Manoj Kumar Thapa (Math)
3. Teresa Teasley (Nursing)
4. Michael Alan Crosby (Education)
5. Martha Dodd (Nursing)
6. Paula Bryant (Nursing)

c. Handbook and Statutes Changes

i. Small changes

Small changes to the handbook from the Academic Affairs, Faculty Affairs, and Committee on Institutional Effectiveness committees were considered as a block

upon Benjamin Meador's motion and were approved as a block upon Elizabeth Gurnack's motion. The Faculty Senate's proposed changes to the handbook (including a proposed regular two-year timeline revision schedule) were approved upon a motion from Elizabeth Gurnack. Each vote was unanimous with a vote count of 79.

ii. Significant Changes

1. Post-Tenure Review changes to the handbook (proposed by BOR) were unanimously approved upon Benjamin Meador's motion with a vote count of 79.
2. Standing committee revisions from the Committee on Student Affairs and the Global Engagement and HIP Committee were considered as a block upon a motion from Anne Jacobs and unanimously approved as a block upon a motion from Anne Jacobs. The vote count was 79.

iii. Incomplete changes

1. The Business and Finance committee's changes were incomplete. Brian Smith made a motion to authorize the Faculty Senate to work with GSW administration to make further changes to the Business and Finance section. The motion was unanimously approved with a vote count of 79 upon a motion from Brian Smith.

9. Announcements

10. Adjournment General Faculty Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 10:52.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Bishop, Secretary of Faculty Senate