

Georgia Southwestern State University General Faculty Meeting – Minutes (Unapproved)

Drake, Johnston, A Stovall, MacLennan, Carter, Bryan, B. Smith, Argo, Robinson, Berggren, Bragg, Megginson, Peavy, Gurnack, Hodges, LeJeune, Nichols, Shiller, Kostov, Long, Gosa, Hasbreck (?). Mulleuns-Forman, Swords, Dykes, Teasley, Pfeiffer, Bivins, Bachhofer, Ouzts, Snider, Slocumb, M. Smith, Harvey, Sexton, Watson, Stanley, Mellingsen, Davis, Dahlgren, Cho, Laughlin, Sha, Meader, Martin, Amarachintha, Thepa, Gugg, Brown, Taylor, Hart, Jones, Mallett, Cheokas, Iordanova, Iordanov, Pritchett, Wu, Amic (?), Fisk, Orton Grissett, Kaus, Dearmin, J. Stovall, Waldrip, Jacobs, Moir, Ryer, Yeung, Parkinson, Cotter, Palmer, Godoy, Merritt, Eearly, Bidwell

Friday, December 6, 2024 at 3:00 p.m.

Nursing Auditorium

1. Call to Order (310 PM)

- a. Approval of Agenda Laughlin moves to approve. Robinson seconds. Passes unanimously.

2. Approval of Minutes

- a. August 7, 2024 Smith moves to approve, Bryant seconds passes unanimously.
- b. May 3, 2024 Smith moves to approve, Bryant seconds, passes unanimously.

3. Brief Reports

- a. President Michelle Johnston
 - i. Thanks for the holiday party and warm welcome.
 - ii. Thanks for your creativity and dedication to campus
 - iii. Commencement: 587 degrees granted at winter ceremony.
 - iv. BOR meeting:
 - 1. GSW recognized 4th semester in row for largest percentage increase in sector (8.6).
 - 2. New award Percentage increase in 6-year graduation rate. We were top in the system. 7.9 percentage point increase.
 - v. New budget process. Designed to be community wide.
 - 1. 17 Budget hearings. Doing work to determine priorities within our strategic plan (and revise our strategic and master plans)
 - a. 8 million in new requests: 4.4. million in short term. We anticipate 1.5 new state appropriations.
 - i. Some additional tuition and fundraising could

help with that.

2. Feb 25th is meeting with the USG

vi. Facilities

1. Griffin Bell on target for early April
2. Library is in process – Likely in the fall semester.
3. Science building – in the design phase

vii. 13 Program presentations: regarding the ASPIRE process.

1. Programs presenting goals and plans.
2. Very excited about the future and plans.
3. My job to work with ideal and realistic standards that make sense for us (rather than just arbitrary number).

viii. SACSCOC meetings this week

1. It is the meeting where they make our final decision. Meeting is on Tuesday, will communicate after the meeting.

ix. New Dean of Nursing and Health Sciences. Dr. Courtney Ross, joins in mid-January.

1. Thanks Dr. Teasley for her service in leading that college.

x. Leadership retreat for Monday Dec 16th.

1. Morning: emergencies workshop.
2. Afternoon: NISS will be briefing on our engagement.

xi. Planning open fora (after not meeting goal for this semester).

xii. Questions:

1. Do we get any money with USG awards?
 - a. Budgeting process means that good numbers does equal better budgets.

b. Provost Jill Drake

- i. Thanks for to Dr. Johnston for her great work and changes to the culture.
- ii. Broad themes of the semester: appreciative of commitment to continuous improvement.
- iii. Celebrations. Weddings. Children. Record Giving for day of giving, which is based on support for our work
 1. 51st in universities in the south for the US News
 2. Great events and volunteering.
 3. Lots of publications and presentations. Outsized impact for our size
 4. New hires across colleges and great moves around campus.
 - a. Judy Orton Grisette in Experiential learning.

- iv. NISS: System level effort to help us improve.
 - 1. First cohort to work with them in the system
 - 2. Get 125k of professional development
 - 3. Diagnostic and playbook phase.
 - a. Recommendations in the spring.
 - b. Dr. Davis is Co-project lead.
- v. ASPIRE
 - 1. Inspires higher creativity and accountability.
- vi. HAIL
 - 1. SACSSOS really likes our QEP (Applauded us)
 - 2. Administration and SACSOS are impressed with our commitment to the QEP.
 - 3. 17 stand alone course, 1 cluster, 2 blocs, and 1 hail program (Communication and Emerging Media). Nursing to come.
- vii. GIFTS – Record number of faculty to participate in this program. Getting us good feedback.
- viii. Post tenure review. Annual evaluations
 - 1. Leadership training with Dr. Jenkins.
 - 2. Faculty evaluation training for the Deans on the 17th
 - a. Video available on request
 - 3. Looking at handbook language – clarity and transparency
 - a. Senate will work on this
- ix. Record enrollment
 - 1. So much overload and part time. Thank you for supporting our growth.
- x. Self-evaluations are due January 10th.
- xi. Graduation – please be involved.

4. Standing Committee Activity Reports

- a. Academic Affairs – Brian Smith
 - i. 5 meetings
 - ii. Subcommittees met
 - iii. Covered all range of changes and advised administration
 - iv. Minuets posted early spring
 - v. Plant for spring: redoing bylaws to process more in line with practice
- b. Business and Finance – John Stovall
 - i. See Dr. Johnston's notes
 - ii. Committee excited by the process

- iii. Met twice
 - iv. Budget numbers coming over break, will meet to prep for the Feb 25th meeting.
- c. Faculty Affairs – Robert Bennett (Benjamin)
 - i. Met 3 times
 - ii. Working in probationary credit language that got sent back
 - iii. Considering academic dishonesty policy language
- d. Faculty Development – Manoj Thapa
 - i. Met 1 in person and lots of email
 - ii. Reviewed 29 FDG, 32k in request. Most were well done
 - iii. Needs some additional clarity for the form.
 - iv. Remember limits on meal allowance caps
 - v. Bryan Davis – issue with expenses will not be paid more 60 days after the event. Is there a way around this? Asking the committee work through this.
- e. Global Engagement and High Impact Practices – Anish Dave
 - i. Delivered by Iordanova
 - ii. Met 3 times in person.
 - iii. Worked on HIP grants and study abroad
- f. Graduate Affairs – Thelma Sexton
 - i. 3 meetings planned. Midterm meeting canceled for lack of a topics.
 - ii. Work reflected in this meeting's agenda
- g. Institutional Effectiveness – Michele McKie
 - i. Met on Oct 24th. Two subgroups
 - 1. Assessment review
 - 2. Strategic plan taskforce
- h. Institutional Review Board – Joseph Comeau
 - i. Delivered by Grissett
 - ii. Met 1 time, reviewed 4 applications
- i. Instructional Technology – Sai Mukkavilli
 - i. Delivered by Fisk
 - ii. Met twice
 - iii. Discussed issues of tech training and infrastructure
 - 1. Key issues
 - 2. Standards of credential security
 - 3. Shift to VIOP is in progress. Saves a lot of money. Plan is early next semester. Training is forthcoming
- j. QEP – Jennifer Ryer

- i. Delivered by Dahlgren
 - ii. Met approx. 6 times
 - iii. 3 events for all of campus, plus one specifically for COBAC
 - iv. Lots of approved materials. 21 HAIL courses
- k. Student Affairs – Sally Merritt
 - i. Met 3 times
 - ii. Faculty concerns about student conduct and electronic communication. Making recommendations about language changes
 - iii. Remind faculty they can use syllabus can include classroom expectations and resources are updated.
 - iv. Updated the wellness and mental health areas.
 - v. New BOR policy that we responded to
- l. Faculty Senate – Jamie MacLennan
 - i. Met monthly
 - ii. Voted on the business that you see
 - iii. Ad hoc transition committee to work with Dr. Johnston.
 - iv. USG faculty council: met 3 times. Lot of talk about LPP and faculty evaluation
 - 1. LPP – Dr. Spirou – Ultimately the decision is at the institutional level. Institutions may be asked, and justify a refusal.
 - a. Senate is working to clarify the process here.
 - 2. Evaluations – Doesn't seem to think evaluations are inflated. There isn't a goal here.
 - a. Wants institutional clarity and consistency.
 - 3. If you are interested in serving in this role, let Dr. MacLennan know.
 - v. Shared governance matters. We need to be part of it. Especially with our receptive administration.

5. New Business

- a) **Academic Affairs Carter moves to consider items 1,4,5,7,8,9,10,11 as a block, Davis seconds. Approved unanimously.**
 - a. **Davis moves to approve block. Smith seconds Passes unanimously**
 - i. Bachelor of Integrated Studies – Curriculum Change (amends curriculum sheet to say integrated studies). Passed as part of Block
 - ii. Proposal for a New Program (certificate) – Project Management Davis moves to approve, Carter seconds. Passes unanimously
 - iii. Withdrawal Policy, Bryant moves to approve Jacobs Seconds.
 - Clarification offered that is just a recommendation.**
 - Motion to approve withdrawn. Smith moved to recommend, Gurnack seconded.

Recommendation approved unanimously.

iv. BSED Special Education - Curriculum change - Passed as part of Block

v. Wildlife Biology - Certificate revision - Passed as part of Block

vi. Research Applications and Methods – New certificate. Smith moves to Approve. Gurnack seconds. Passes unanimously

vii. B.S. Chemistry - Curriculum change - Passed as part of Block

viii. BFA Art – Curriculum change - Passed as part of Block

ix. BFA Art – Curriculum Change (Integrative Studies Track) - Passed as part of Block

x. B.S. Information Technology – Curriculum change - Passed as part of Block

xi. Institutional Priority - Class deletion (THEA 1110) - Passed as part of Block

xii. Proposal to remove foreign language requirement – Bryant moves to approve, Smith seconds.

All vote to approve accept, Davis, Robinson, Iordanov, Iordanova, and Gugg.

b) Graduate Affairs

a. Carter moves to consider all graduate affairs items as a block, Jacobs seconds. Motion passes

b. Carter moves to accept the block, Iordanova seconds. Block passes unanimously

i. M.Ed. Middle Grades Language Arts – Deactivation Bloc carter, Nellie) (passes unanimously)

ii. M.Ed. Middle Grades Mathematics – Deactivation

6. Additional Concerns

a. Iordanova – Taste of the world. Please reach out to get more participate etc. Can also apply for hip grants to make it go.

7. Announcements

a. Study abroad to china over the summer promote as an option

b. Undergraduate research symposium April 18th

c. Opening night Rylander show ELF.

d. Feb 5th Superbowl in nursing

8. Adjourn 4:28