

GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY
Americus, Georgia

Minutes of the General Faculty Meeting
Wednesday, November 30, 2005, 11:00 am
Education Center 100

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Cathy Rozmus, Vice President for Academic Affairs. A quorum of the faculty was present.

2. Approval of Minutes of August 10, 2005

The minutes of the August 10, 2005, General Faculty Meeting were unanimously approved.

3. Remarks by the President

- a. Fall enrollment is up 4.5% over last year. We have more undergraduates than we have had in fifteen years. Also, there are more students living in the residence halls than we have had in about fifteen years. FTE is up 5.3% and the average SAT score is 997 for the entering class. The first year retention rate is up 70.6%, an increase of about 5% from last year.
- b. Beginning fall 2006, GSW will have a new program on campus. The Early College program will combine four years of high school and two years of college to complete in a five-year program. All classes will be taken on campus. Five other school districts will be participating. The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is providing grant funds of \$450,000 to begin the Early College. The proposal for the Professional Golf Management program is complete and was submitted in October to PGA for an accreditation review which is in progress.
- c. Fall 2006 is the projected date for the completion of the construction for the new suite style residence halls. The task force began planning three years ago for the new residence halls. A more comprehensive housing study was done and a bond package was completed. Drawings of the new residence halls were shown and explained to the faculty. Two suite style buildings will be constructed by the Carter Library that will house 400 students. Jacob and Prance Halls will be torn down and replaced with apartment style housing that will accommodate 240 upper class students.
- d. Some findings from the faculty survey that was completed last year are:
 1. Faculty reported high levels of satisfaction with colleagues.
 2. Faculty recognized the high level of professionalism of their colleagues.
 3. Faculty valued personal and professional relationships with their colleagues.
 4. There is a significant difference nationally in regard to service learning courses being taught at GSW – 30% vs. 20% nationally.

5. There is a tremendous difference nationally with more GSW faculty members having taught courses on the Internet – 34% vs 14% nationally. Dr. Hanes thanked the faculty for “testing the waters” and teaching online courses.
 - e. GSW has been accepted by the NCAA Peach Belt Conference as a result of a culmination of ten years of work. We will continue in the conference we are affiliated with now and will be leaving at the end of the year to begin competition with the Peach Belt Conference for the next academic year.
 - f. GSW has been working for nine months with the Goizueta Foundation and has received a grant for \$400,000, including \$260,000 for an endowed scholarship supporting Hispanic and Latino students. \$100,000 will support a bilingual admissions counselor and \$33,000 will be for mentors and tutors for Hispanic and Latino students. The retention rate for Hispanic and Latino students is currently about 80% at GSW. This brings the amount raised for scholarship endowments in the capital campaign to nearly one million dollars.
 - g. Our Admissions website was reviewed by an independent agency for functionality according to student-based criteria and was ranked 10th out of 3,000 other colleges and universities in the nation, 5th among all sites for universities in the south, and 5th among all comprehensive masters institutions in the southeast.
 - h. A community-wide, day-long celebration is planned for the opening of the Student Success Center on January 21, 2006. The dedication will take place around 4:30 p.m. or 5:00 p.m. Mark your calendars and plan to participate.
 - i. At the end of October, the Capital Campaign had \$9.7 million. With commitments that have been received the total at the end of the calendar year will be more than \$11.5 million. Dr. Hanes expressed his congratulations on a great semester.
 - j. Everyone was invited to attend the Holiday Open House on December 3, 2005, from 3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. in the private dining room.
4. Remarks by the Vice President for Academic Affairs
 - a. As a result of visits to China, we have eleven graduate students coming in January 2006 to enroll in the School of Computer and Information Sciences program. A similar agreement with the School of Business Administration is in progress. The purpose of the China visit was to strengthen the graduate enrollment at GSW since part of the reason for the budget cuts is due to the decrease in graduate enrollment.
 - b. The Delaware Productivity Study for GSW was distributed and discussed. The data being compared on the study are from fall 2003. This report is broken down by department rather than discipline. Operational definitions for the next faculty activity survey will be posted, If an aspect is not covered, send the items to Dr. Rozmus and she can add them. Advisement information is included in the survey. Dr. Askren asked if the survey would

ever be done annually instead of by semester. In some departments the activities vary each semester. Enrollment numbers are submitted based on the definitions by the University of Delaware.

5. Reports by Committees

There were no committee reports.

6. New Business

A. The following items were all forwarded from the Faculty Senate with their endorsement:

1. BA in English/Professional Writing Option (BA/PWO) – approved
2. PWO Minor – Minor in English/Professional Writing Option – approved
3. BA in English with Teacher Certification – approved
4. BS Chemistry – approved

B. Graduate Faculty Membership Application for Dr. Xiang Fu – approved

C. Requirement to Enter Midterm Grades - endorsed by Faculty Senate

Dr. Rozmus commented that currently there is no statement in the Faculty Handbook stating that midterm or final grades must be entered in Banner. Dr. Laurel Robinson said a concern that was mentioned in the Faculty Senate meeting was that some senior level courses that have projects due at the end of the semester should have “pass” or “fail” at midterm rather than a grade. Dr. Rozmus said that this should be discussed with the Registrar. The requirement that the statement be added to the Faculty Handbook was approved.

7. Announcements

- a. Ms. Lynda Lee Purvis invited everyone to the graduation ceremonies on December 10, 2006, which will be the first one in the new Student Success Center. Breakfast will be served at 8:45 a.m. Honor graduates will be recognized and awards will be given. Line up will be at 10:45 a.m. in the old Storm Dome.
- b. Ms. Purvis introduced Ms. Christina Fu who will be the International Student Advisor and will aid and assist students from other countries.
- c. Ms. Purvis also introduced Mrs. Gail Barksdale who is the First Year Advocate. She has been employed part-time since April and is now full-time beginning fall 2006. Students should be referred to her for assistance or help.
- d. Donja Tripp was introduced as the new Registrar for GSW.

- e. Dr. Sam Peavy asked the faculty to let him know if they planned to march and line up for graduation. He also has the medallions.
8. Adjournment
- A motion was made and seconded to adjourn to attend the luncheon sponsored by the Academic Affairs Office and ARAMARK.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Dawn J. Knapp, Administrative Assistant
to the VPAA

Michael L. Hanes, President