

Georgia Southwestern State University
Americus, Georgia

Minutes of the General Faculty Meeting
Friday, November 30, 2007 – 11:00 A.M.
Student Success Center, Room 2417

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. William Tietjen. A quorum of the faculty was present.

2. Approval of Minutes of May 2, 2007

The minutes of the May 2, 2007, General Faculty meeting were unanimously approved.

3. Remarks by the President

Dr. Blanchard has enjoyed the opportunity to work with Dr. Tietjen. He also appreciates the hard work of the Faculty Senate and is looking forward to working with them next spring. The TAG (Transfer Admission Guarantee) agreements are important to future enrollment. Transfer students could represent over one-half of the 250 additional students expected next fall. One advantage in focusing on transfer students is that they will be juniors and seniors and will be taking upper level classes which do not normally have as many students enrolled as the lower level classes. A result of more students means that more money will be received from the state. We need to do a better job of recruiting and retaining international students. The international program has been reorganized with Lynda Lee Purvis as director and Philip Szmedra will be heading the study abroad program. Dr. Blanchard thanked everyone for their support and all that they do and wished everyone happy holidays.

4. Remarks by the Vice President for Business and Finance

Cody King gave updates for the 2008 and 2009 budgets. There have been two large expenses - property insurance and utility costs. Property insurance has been reevaluated at \$100,000. As a result of consumption and a rate hike of 10%, utility costs were \$100,000. The costs have been covered with funds allocated for unfilled faculty positions. He encouraged everyone to look at their current budgets and operating expenses which are for the remainder of the academic year. In regard to the 2009 budget, Mr. King was allowed to request up to 5% of last year's budget and has done so. Faculty funds have been requested for a professor in history, nursing, education and for instructional technology. A presentation will be made to the Board of Regents in February.

5. Remarks by the Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Tietjen stated that enrollment is important in being able to fund more faculty positions. Retention is another aspect that is crucial. Students are far more than customers. It behooves each of us to be kind and to assist them in being productive. An increase in enrollment leads to an increase in space and seats. The deans are working hard to meet the challenges. Dr. Tietjen appreciates the work of Arvind Shah, Stephanie Harvey and Chu Chu Wu for their participation on the Distinguished Professor Grant awards committee. Funding is important and applications for grants are important. Sam Peavy was asked to explain the STEM grant initiative. Dr. Peavy said that the initiative involves the hiring of a full-time faculty member who would teach half-time within their area and would be an advocate for the administrative grant half-time. The goals are to recruit science majors and to work with the School of Education to improve training in the science field. A science day is planned where students will compete in science events. Middle school students will be invited as well. Anyone interested in applying for the associate professor position is encouraged to do so.

Also, those interested in working with the science challenge may contact Sam Peavy, Stephanie Harvey, or Elizabeth Gurnack.

6. Reports by Committees:

Academic Affairs

Dr. Tietjen gave a report in the absence of Robert Ledman. Robert Ledman was selected as Chair and Jaclyn Kaylor volunteered to be secretary at the initial meeting. The committee has met four times during fall semester and seventeen proposals have been reviewed. The electronic submissions have significantly reduced photocopying and expedited the submission and review process.

Academic Grievances – No report

Athletics – No report

Business and Finance – No report

Faculty Affairs

Michele Smith announced that the Faculty Affairs Committee recommended twenty-two Faculty Development Grants for a total of \$11,430.00. The committee has met twice and will meet again next week.

Graduate Affairs

Margaret Ellington said that the Graduate Affairs Committee has reviewed the applications for those seeking graduate status.

Institutional Research – No report

Institutional Review Board

Paul Shapiro stated that IRB has met monthly and has reviewed and approved all applications in a timely manner.

Instructional Technology – No report

Scholarships & Financial Aid – No report

Student Affairs – No report

University and Alumni Relations

Angela Wilson reported that they are working to support homecoming and they are willing to help in any way that they can.

7. New Business

A. Academic Proposals

(1) School of Business Administration

Substantive Change – Approved by the Faculty Senate
Fifty Percent Requirement

At least 50% of the semester credit hours in business required for the School of Business Administration undergraduate programs must be completed at Georgia Southwestern State University.

Tom Johnson asked If this might be counterproductive for transfer students. Dr. Kooti said that this was for AACSB accreditation and would not be counterproductive because it pertains to major courses only. **APPROVED.**

(2) Computer and Information Sciences

Substantive Change – Other – Approved by the Faculty Senate

Change School's Name - APPROVED

Change the School's name from "School of Computer and Information Sciences" to School of Computing and Mathematics"

(3) History and Political Science

a) Substantive Change – Program – Approved by the Faculty Senate
B.S. in Political Science - APPROVED

In Area F, reduce the required options in the final category from two courses to one. Eliminate SOCI 2293 (Sociology of the Family) from the list. Add SOSC 1101 (The World & Its Peoples) to the list of three options.

b) Substantive Change – Program – Approved by the Faculty Senate
B.S. in Political Science - APPROVED

Under the Major/Elective Requirements, in the final category with four political science course options (U.S. institutions & processes): add Judicial Politics (POLS 4480) to the list; instead of one course, require two courses from this group; and reduce the number of political science electives (above) from four to three.

(4) School of Nursing

Addition – Program – Approved by the Faculty Senate
B.S. in Nursing (RN to BSN; Generic BSN; Accelerated BSN)

This proposal supports expanding the science sequence course options in Area D to include Chemistry 1151 and 1152 which are designed for allied health professionals.

Sam Peavy asked when the courses will be offered and what chemistry courses it might replace. Michele Smith said that it will not be replacing any current chemistry offerings. This addition to Area D of the core is pending BOR approval. Dr. Smith will be teaching the courses. Mrs. Purvis stated that in addition, this will make us more in-line with transfer students from other schools. There will be overload compensation for faculty teaching these chemistry courses. **APPROVED.**

B. Statute Changes – Approved by the Faculty Senate

Bryan Davis asked if the president of the Faculty Senate should be considered by the full faculty instead of the Faculty Senate Committee. Gary Kline said that it had previously been decided that the person elected to the presidency should have served on the Faculty Senate committee for at least one year. Laurel Robinson stated that members were elected by the schools/departments and Faculty Senate members should know best who would be most effective as president.

APPROVED.

C. Faculty Guidelines for Violence – Approved by the Faculty Senate

Elizabeth Kuipers said that she understood the need for some guidelines but was a little concerned that students may be stifled in their writings. Paul Shapiro said he also understands, however, he is concerned that a single red flag on the flow chart qualifies for action by the faculty. Karen Turner stated that it was the choice of the faculty member to act on a concern but it is not mandatory. Tom Johnson stated that he was afraid that we are trying to create the perfect student. Also, we really don't have serious counseling on our campus. Laurel Robinson made a motion that we consider, as faculty, a recommendation to the administrative council to get trained people on campus to address student violence. This motion was seconded and approved. Tommy Wright suggested that the violence policy needs to be examined from a legal standpoint. Dr. Blanchard said that the issue of student violence is presently being discussed and we will hear more about it soon. Dr. Kline stated that we need to have something in place very quickly. Dr. Odio suggested that faculty should have the campus safety numbers, day and evening, on their cell phones. **A motion was made and seconded to table the faculty guidelines for violence until further information is available.**

D. Applications for Graduate Faculty Membership – Approved by the Faculty Senate

Margaret Ellington stated that two of the faculty on the list, Marcia Mayo and Faye Wells, did not need to be voted on because they were previously approved for one year. A motion was made, seconded, and approved to remove their names. Jeff Green asked for clarification as to who is eligible for graduate faculty status. Dr. Ellington stated that applications for graduate faculty can be made after the department or school has approved graduate courses. The graduate courses must be in place before applications for graduate faculty status can be considered.

Julia Dorminey - **APPROVED**
Marcia Mayo – **NO VOTE – 1 YR**
John Stovall - **APPROVED**
Philip Szmedra - **APPROVED**
Dawn Valentine - **APPROVED**
Randall Valentine - **APPROVED**
Faye Wells – **NO VOTE – 1 YR**
Chu-Chu Wu - **APPROVED**

8. Announcements

Laurel Robinson invited everyone to come to the Art Department's open house after attending the President's Holiday Bash in the evening.

Ellen Cotter encouraged the faculty to submit student papers for the Delores Capitan writing award competition in the spring.

Lettie Watford invited everyone to attend the sessions with the two remaining Vice President for Academic Affairs candidates next week.

William Tietjen announced that Regent Willis Potts will be coming to GSW next Tuesday, December 4, and encouraged everyone to meet him.

Gaye Hayes thanked everyone for their participation on Preview Day. Positive feedback was received regarding the new format. Meetings with high school counselors in metro Atlanta have taken place as well as in other areas resulting in contacts with over 100 counselors. Applications as well as acceptances for fall semester have increased from last fall. We have

already offered honor scholarships to seven outstanding students.

Stephen Snyder reported that University Relations is being more aggressive with advertising, particularly with television and radio ads for Macon south. He feels very confident that the goal to increase student enrollment by 10% for fall 2008 will be met.

Sandy Stewart thanked David Hunter, Gabriele Stauf, Julie Megginson, and everyone else for accepting him and his wife to GSW. He said it has been a great experience and encouraged others to apply for the Fulbright Scholar program. He wished everyone a great future.

Lynda Lee Purvis invited everyone to attend graduation on December 8. Graduates will be recognized at the breakfast which will be served in the student dining room at 8:30 a.m. Graduation instructions have changed. Tom Johnson is the grand marshal.

9. Adjourn

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Dawn Knapp
Administrative Assistant
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Kendall A. Blanchard
President