

General Faculty Meeting

December 1, 2022 at 10:30 pm

1. Call to order –Evan Kutzler called the meeting to order at 10:30. He began by announcing several upcoming events on campus.
2. Approval of the minutes of the spring 2022 general faculty meeting
3. Approval of the minutes of the October 2022 special faculty meeting

Genie Bryan made a motion that we consider the minutes as a block. The motion was approved. Brian Smith moved to approve both minutes. The motion passed.

4. Brief Reports

a. President – Neal Weaver

The President began by congratulating the new faculty and thanking everyone for a good semester. He commended the humanities conference, science day, and the PTR committee for their work.

The SACS COC accreditation visit is in March 2024. The self study is due October 2023. President Weaver reminded everyone that the Strategic Plan and QEP selection process is critical to SACS COC. He reported that Computer Science had an ABET accreditation visit this semester. GSW will again have a TEDx event in the Spring as well as an undergraduate research day.

The President gave several facts about the 615 graduates in Fall 2013. They include 196 undergraduates and 419 graduate students. 127 graduates will receive their second GSW degree, 118 (60%) undergraduates are first generation graduates, and 77 (40%) of the undergraduates started their degrees at GSW.

The budget for FY 2023 included \$900,000 of growth funding. The money was used (1) to cover items previously funded with COVID-related funding, (2) fund raises to positions not covered by the Governor's funding (3) to fully fund the experiential learning office, and (4) to cushion inflationary increases in operating items.

Enrollment continues to be positive. We have previously been the fastest growing university south of Atlanta. We are now the only university south of Atlanta to grow in the last five years. We have grown by 5% in the last five years. Enrollment this semester is down 2.7%.

The financial highlights include salary savings through some open positions, increased auxiliary revenues, and high levels of auxiliary reserves.

Jen Smith, the new Director of Physical Plant, has several serious maintenance issues to deal with in the residence halls, art building, and the science building.

We received USG funding of \$430,000 to support the new ASN program, along with \$900,000 from the Governor to convert the computer labs to science labs, and \$750,000 from Phoebe Health Care Systems and \$250,000 from Magnolia Manor.

We are launching a student portal to address retention and recruitment. We are working on the withdrawal rate by encouraging students to wait until midterm exams to make a withdrawal decision, and we are considering instituting a withdrawal limit.

Question: Did GSW purchase land around the golf course? The Foundation purchased property adjacent to our land near the golf course, including a house and apartments for potential expansion in the future.

Question: What was the process for changing the BS Education programs over the summer without faculty input? The BS Education programs were already in place. The College of Education asked for them to be brought back to better prepare teachers for classroom environment. The proposals were not forwarded out of Academic Affairs or voted on by Faculty Senate. The President would have welcomed input from the faculty, but lacking that, the President made a decision based on input from the school systems. There was considerable discussion from the faculty on this topic.

Question: Was the mission statement changed at BOR? In a SACS-SOC change the word comprehensive was removed to match GSW's classification in the USG.

b. Provost / Vice President for Academic Affairs – Suzanne Smith

Joco Normal is still running online in China. Students are projected to come to the GSW campus in Fall 2024. We were grateful that the PTR process was approved. Strategic plan documents are coming in from all over campus. We have had good participation in the QEP town halls. Dr. Gugg will be Chairman of the Math Department and Dr. Judy Grissett is moving to part-time. We will have summer contracts in Summer 2023. They will include the process used to compute summer pay and the date that the pay will be calculated.

5. Standing Committee activity reports

a. Faculty Senate – Evan Kutzler

Evan commended the members of Faculty Senate for having tough conversations in a respectful manner. He noted that the Faculty Senate decided not to take the discussion about changes to the BS in Education academic programs further than

the Senate recently. The Senate also made changes to the University Statutes, created Senate Bylaws, and developed an apportionment formula for faculty representation on the Faculty Senate.

b. Academic Affairs – Carol Bishop

Carol reported that the committee considered numerous new and revised programs and classes.

c. Business and Finance – Amber Stovall

Amber reported that the Deriso pool repair is in progress and the Carter library project is postponed for a year. We have the largest freshmen class in history. Budget hearings will be conducted next semester.

d. Faculty Affairs – Brian Smith

Brian reported that they revised the faculty evaluation policy and will consider active shooter training for faculty.

e. Faculty Development – Allen Brown for Anish Dave

Allen remarked that the committee had more money available after disbursing funds to the applicants.

f. Graduate Affairs – Jim Aller

Jim reported that the committee reviewed new courses and the language in the bulletin.

g. Institutional Review Board – Michael Crosby

Michael stated that the committee reviewed 15 applications from faculty and students.

h. Institutional Effectiveness – Jamie MacLennan

Jamie reported that the committee formed a task force to target measures for student achievement, retention, and enrollment along with an ongoing subcommittee for assessment.

i. Instructional Technology – Olga Godoy

Olga reported that the committee met twice to review computers and computer labs. The discussed renaming GeorgiaVIEW.

j. Global Engagement and High Impact Practices – Jennifer Ryer

Jennifer reported that the committee was involved in new projects, HIP in Banner promotion, two rounds of HIP grants, and international education week.

k. Student Affairs – Jonathan Carter

Jonathan reported that there has been significant turnover in the Student Affairs offices. The committee discussed uniform syllabus language around student affairs issues.

6. Ad hoc committee activity reports

a. President Jimmy Carter Leadership Program – Suzanne Smith

Dr. Smith reported that the first cohort is graduating this year. This is the last year for the ad hoc committee.

b. SACS-QEP Ad Hoc Committee – Suzanne Smith

Dr. Smith covered this topic in her report.

7. USG Faculty Council Report – Elizabeth Gurnack

The Council met twice in person and attended the investiture of Sonny Perdue. They also worked on updates to Bylaws. Elizabeth outlined attempts to remedy the problems associated with the post tenure review process. The potential to remove a faculty member's tenure resulted in a censure from AAUP and has impacted hiring faculty members from outside of Georgia.

8. New Business

a. Academic Affairs Committee

i. Arts and Sciences

Elizabeth Gurnack's motion to consider the Arts and Sciences items as a block was approved. Her motion to approve the block was also approved after discussion regarding the new Biology course designed as an overview for non-science majors.

1. English curriculum change
2. Sociology curriculum change
3. Biology curriculum change

4. Chemistry curriculum change
5. Chemistry new course (CHEM 4100 – Forensic Chemistry)

ii. COBAC

1. Computer Science curriculum change

Brian Smith's motion to approve carried without discussion.

b. Graduate Affairs Committee

Brian Smith's motion to consider the items as a block was approved. His motion to approve the block was also approved without discussion.

- a. Graduate Residency Policy revision
- b. Strategic Change Management & Executive Communication
- c. Education – EXOL Program
- d. Education – new courses (EDUC 7520, 7530, 7540)

c. University Statutes

The revised statutes and bylaws created the position of Vice President of Faculty Senate and created an apportionment formula for Senate membership. After a clarification that the membership was drawn from full-time faculty, Brian Smith proposed that the Faculty Senate consider including ad hoc and adjunct faculty for representation in Faculty Senate. Elizabeth Gurnack's motion to approved passed unanimously.

9. Other Items

- a. Annual Evaluation, Promotion and Tenure, and Post-Tenure Review update

Evan updated the faculty regarding recent minor/cosmetic changes requested by the BOR. The Faculty Senate make these minor changes in consultation with the BOR. There were no questions about the changes.

After a couple of announcements, and with no further business, Evan adjourned the meeting at 12:01 PM.