

Georgia Southwestern State University
Americus, Georgia

Minutes of the General Faculty Meeting
Friday, December 4, 2009 – 10:00 A.M.
Student Success Center, Room 2417

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Gary Fisk, president of the Faculty Senate. A quorum of the faculty was present.

2. Approval of Minutes of May 1, 2009

A motion was made by Elizabeth Gurnack and seconded by Peggy Ellington to approve the minutes of May 1, 2009, General Faculty meeting. They were unanimously approved.

3. Remarks by the President

Dr. Blanchard congratulated everyone on completing another semester. He shared some concerns from a meeting in which he attended at Columbus State University along with other USG presidents in regard to some very important issues. Fifteen comprehensive universities are all very different. He believes that diversity is the key to adapting to change when applied to universities. He would like to see diversity in programs and missions among the universities. There are several ADP concerns among the universities in regard to pay, travel, costs, etc.. ADP issues need to be cleared up before centralizing across the system. Concerns were expressed about UGA moving into off-campus universities. Dr. Blanchard is not in favor of the merger between technical colleges and two-year colleges. In particular, the part that involves the technical colleges moving into core curriculum and offering sixty credit hours is not a good idea. Another concern is the mission creep of two-year schools proposing to offer four-year programs. Dr. Blanchard expressed his appreciation to those involved with the IT consultation. An exit interview will take place next week. The budget remains a big concern. He hopes to see a turn-around in state revenue in the coming year. He understands that questions remain about travel, office equipment, etc. Dr. Blanchard thanked everyone for their patience and hopes that everyone will have happy holidays.

Dr. Blanchard asked if there were any questions. Peggy Ellington asked if GSW received any stimulus money. Cody King stated that all state institutions received a portion of the stimulus money. GSW received three percent to offset the budget. He also said that the IT auditors will be looking at the total IT system mainly for security issues. A question was asked about the new Health Science building. Dr. Blanchard said that the Health Science building project is moving ahead with the design. Several people will be attending a meeting in Atlanta on January 14, 2010, for project review. The plan is to begin late spring or early summer of 2010 and open late 2011 or early 2012. The new hospital should be opening about the same time. We are hoping to get assistance from the hospital to help with making the new Health Science building a state of the art facility. Laurel Robinson commented that even though some areas on campus do not have updated technology, the Visual Arts Department does have state of the art facilities in graphics. However, IT support is needed for those that use MacIntosh systems. There has been no mention of this type support at the present time. Gary Fisk added that discussions were mostly about protecting student

records, privacy issues, and network issues rather than hardware issues in most of the IT meetings. Laurel Robinson commented that they are unable to do a lot of the things on Macs that they are asked to do. Vera Weisskopf added that the focus of the IT meetings was any kind of security.

4. Remarks by the VPAA/Dean of Faculty

Brian Adler stated that all of us are information managers and all of us should secure information. It has been a busy and productive semester. Dr. Adler thanked everyone for their efforts, enthusiasm and passion for our students. GSW is engaging in a Prior Learning Assessment project which is an important movement for us. Twenty-five percent of our students are non-traditional with various backgrounds. We are included in the small group of institutions that is a part of this initial wave. Another initiative is to become a more military friendly institution. With the wave of military in our area, we are trying to put some programs together to help veterans. Charles Wells is taking on this initiative. Veterans are underserved in relation to higher education. They can bring life experiences to the classroom which can be beneficial to all. Bryan Davis is steering the 5th Year SACS Report which is due to the Commission in March. More updates will be available soon. We are working on a B.S. in Engineering Technology with Albany State, South Georgia Technical College and Albany Technical College. We are continuing to expand outreach to other nations including India, China, Ghana and with Korea through a RCI program. The strategic plan is moving into the second phase hopefully during spring semester as well as the master plan which goes hand in hand with the strategic plan. Carol Bishop and her task force have created a mission statement. There will be much more to follow. The idea is to have a larger group of ideas, essential activities and values for the university. Dr. Adler is looking forward to expanding the strategic task force. If the mission statement is approved by the faculty, it will be sent to the BOR for approval. We have been mandated by the BOR to increase retention and graduation rates. We must establish a plan to improve our retention and graduation rates. It is in everyone's interest to hold on to our students because it helps the students, ourselves and puts money into programs. We are developing a culture of success which is a concept of working on cultural change in the university to help students become more successful. Finally, there is some good news - the semester is coming to an end and we did not have a pandemic flu crisis.

5. Reports by Committees:

Academic Affairs

John Kooti stated that the committee has been very busy this semester. An Academic Affairs Committee website has been developed that is hopefully more informative and easy. The committee has had twenty-eight proposals. Two subcommittees have been formed. The Advisement Subcommittee is currently updating the advisement manual and advisement survey and the Standard Subcommittee is working on the academic integrity policy. Dr. Kooti expressed his appreciation to the committee members.

Academic Grievances

Krystal Oliver reported that the committee has met and expressed appreciation to the committee members.

Athletics

Nellie Iordanova announced that there were no cases to discuss.

Business and Finance

Laurel Robinson reported that the committee has met two times with the same agenda to accommodate the teaching schedules of the members. They discussed the fiscal year 2010 budget in which an additional cut of up to 8 % is anticipated. An additional \$100 fee will be assessed by the students; tuition revenue is up by 10% over budget; a percentage of summer profits will be distributed to the academic departments and for travel; resident halls are operating well and desk top computers were discussed. For the 2011 fiscal year budget, additional stimulus funds may be available; at least three new faculty positions may be filled and state appropriations are still tight. Capital projects include cafeteria renovation, energy projects and Wheatley Hall renovation. Possible year-end projects include Column I - second and/or third floor, library carpet and ceiling work, business ticker room, technology allocation and Roney labs. The committee was invited and participated in the focus groups with the Master Planning Team this week.

Faculty Affairs

Gary Kline reported that the committee had made decisions about the faculty development grants. There is money left to award faculty development grants next semester. They also made a decision for the Teacher of the Year award.

Graduate Affairs

Julia Dorminey said that their committee had met one time resulting with the English proposal that is on the current agenda.

Institutional Research

Brennan Thomas reported that the committee had met and agreed to discuss the NSSE data results to determine what kinds of learning outcomes to report and how to disseminate these results for SACS review. It was decided to table the agenda items for now until Lisa has had a chance to add more data to the NSSE materials.

Institutional Review Board

Paul Shapiro reported that they have reviewed five proposals. He wanted to thank the 93 professors who responded to their survey and appreciated their assistance with the program.

Instructional Technology

Gary Fisk stated that major changes had taken place to increase bandwidth. New wireless technology is now in the residence halls. New backup is now available. They have received \$75,000 in computer upgrades from the student technology fee. The main goal of the IT audit is for student records and privacy. A records retention policy in regard to student records, protecting sources, etc. will be developed in the spring.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

Svilen Kostov reported that their committee has met two times and has focused on how GSW has affected first year student retention. He hopes to have information to help in retaining our students by the end of next semester.

Student Affairs

Julie Megginson reported that the Student Affairs Committee reviewed three student appeals and two new student organization requests.

University and Alumni Relations

John Stovall said that their committee had met one time.

6. New Business

A. Academic Proposals

(1) Academic Affairs

- (a) Policy Change – General Degree Requirements - Approved by the Faculty Senate
Based on approved policies and practices at GSW, item #7 and item #10 need to be revised for the General Baccalaureate Degree Requirements as stated in the GSW Bulletin found online at:
<http://www.gsw.edu/academics/bulletin/contents/req.htm#GENERAL%20BACCALAUATE%20DEGREE%20REQUIREMENTS>.

Bonnie Simmons made a motion to approve and Laurel Robinson seconded. **All Approved – Motion Carried**

- (b) Addition – Academic Policy - Approved by the Faculty Senate
To implement USG policy on TOEFL requirements for USG institutions with approved ESL programs at GSW (see attachment).

Lynda Lee Purvis explained that the purpose of this addition is to bring us in-line with USG guidelines. Students won't be placed immediately in regular courses and will have ELI courses to support them. Jeff Waldrop made a motion to approve and John Kooti seconded. **All Approved – Motion Carried**

(2) College of Arts and Sciences

- (a) History and Political Science

Addition – Certificate Program- Approved by the Faculty Senate
Global Studies Certificate

Proposal is for a new certificate program in Global Studies. Most students will be able to complete the certificate program by choosing appropriate core, major and elective classes within the existing curriculum. Classes that fulfill the certificate requirements will be chosen by the director of the certificate program. It will be open to all majors. The certificate will be open to all students who are already enrolled at Georgia Southwestern State University.

Peggy Ellington made a motion to approve and Elizabeth Gurnack seconded. **All Approved – Motion Carried**

- (b) Psychology and Sociology

- (1) Substantive Change - Program- Approved by the Faculty Senate
BA in Psychology

Increase B.A. requirement to 30 semester hours. In Area F, ANTH 1102 is no longer required and added to a larger grouping of courses in which one is

required. Addition of PSYC 4411, History & Systems in Psychology, and PSYC 4497, Senior Research I as a major course requirement for the B.A. in Psychology. Drop PSYC 4498, Senior Research II as a major course requirement.

Gary Fisk explained that there is now only one part-time person that is teaching ANTH 1102. The change makes ANTH 1102 an option from a list of choices in order to give students more flexibility. The choices include ANTH 1102, ANTH 1150, SOCI 1101, SOCI 1160, SOCI 2293, SOSC 1101 or WMST 2001. Genie Bryant made a motion to approve and Paul Shapiro second. **All Approved – Motion Carried**

Jeff Green remarked that a motion is not needed for the proposals since they have already been approved by the Faculty Senate. Henceforth, a motion to approve and a second was not made for the remaining proposals.

- (2) Substantive Change - Program- Approved by the Faculty Senate
BS in Psychology
Change in major course requirements. Addition of minor requirement

All Approved

(3) School of Business Administration

Substantive Change – Program – Approved by the Faculty Senate
BBA in Management – Concentration in Professional Golf Management (PGM)
The School of Business proposes changes to the previously approved Professional Golf Management Program. The program will be a BBA in Management with a concentration in Professional Golf Management and will begin in Fall 2010.

John Kooti announced that the intention is to begin fall 2010. **All Approved**

(4) School of Computing and Mathematics

- (a) Department of Mathematics

Substantive Change – Program – Approved by the Faculty Senate
MATH 4495 - Mathematics/BS

The proposal adds a 3 credit required course in mathematics to the BS in Mathematics, and balances this by removing a 3 credit mathematics elective. The new course, MATH 4495, Mathematical Preparation for Graduate Study, is designed to give students a coherent overview of undergraduate mathematics as it relates to graduate study, in a lecture, seminar, mini-research, and oral examination environment.

Boris Peltsverger remarked that the purpose of the course is to prepare math majors for graduate school. **All Approved**

B. Graduate Affairs

Addition – Program - Approved by the Faculty Senate

Master of Arts English/Critical Literacy

Our program proposal tackles the explosion of literacies in our world and anticipates students' need to learn and use these multiple literacies as each of the distinctive modes of communication develop. Such communication in diverse modes is essential to successful careers, leadership roles, productive citizenship, and a satisfying quality of life. Our proposed degree invites students from all disciplines to engage in rigorous critique of today's rhetorical modes.

All Approved

C. Mission Statement – Approved by Faculty Senate

"Georgia Southwestern State University cultivates excellence in learning and teaching that encourages intellectual, personal, and social growth for students, faculty, staff, and the community."

All Approved

D. Faculty Handbook Revision – Promotion and Tenure – Approved by Faculty Senate (See Attached)

All Approved

7. Announcements

Laurel Robinson announced that the Visual Arts department is currently having their annual art sale at the MSC patio. Also open house is tonight from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. and will feature a "bubble" contest in glass.

Krista Smith announced that senior grades are due by December 11 at noon. All grades are due by 8:00 a.m. on December 14.

YeVette McWhorter said the 4-K program has a few openings and encouraged faculty and staff that would like to enroll their 4-year-olds to go ahead and register them in the program since it fills up quickly.

Lynda Lee Purvis invited everyone to graduation on December 12. Breakfast will be served at 8:15 a.m. with the ceremony following at 11:00 a.m. This semester we are offering tickets for seating because of the large number of graduates which is close to 400. In order to attend the ceremony, a ticket is needed or either someone will need to be marching.

Nellie Jordanova, chair of the convocation committee, said there is no money for convocation speakers, etc. this year. She thanked Glenn Robins for organizing the two convocations. She said that the attendance was very low. She said we might need to have a free 11:00 a.m. time slot for activities. Students can't be encouraged to go to convocations because of having to attend class. We need to do something to encourage outside visitors. It was suggested that the president or vice president for Academic Affairs designate a free 11:00 a.m. time slot for the MLK convocation on January 13. Dr. Blanchard said that he has discussed the convocation issues with Glenn Robins and he shares the concern about low attendance. He would also like to see the community get more involved. We will not have the Griffin Bell lecture this year due to the fact that the speaker had to cancel due to his son having complications from a previous car

accident. He will work with the committee and the community to establish a strong relationship and to encourage attendance. Dr. Adler said the 11:00 a.m. hour was experimental. It has apparently had a bad affect on the course program. The plan is to retrieve the 11:00 a.m. hour fall 2010. He would like to try and make the convocation experiences an important part of the intellectual content. He expressed his appreciation for the efforts of Nellie and the convocation committee.

Laurel Robinson added that the lab courses and studio classes will be lost if they lose the 11:00 hour. They need Fridays for labs and longer classes rather than a 4-day week. Peggy Ellington said that she thought students are suffering from the 4-day week and something needs to be done. She doesn't think it is a sound policy for students to leave campus early to go home. Silven Kostov commented that for the past few years he has been trying to schedule a seminar and suggested the possibility of scheduling a seminar time slot so that more students can attend. Gary Kline said that several students have told him they have trouble getting organized with a 3-day weekend. David Hunter said a short-term solution for the MLK convocation could be to incorporate the convocation hour in the classroom.

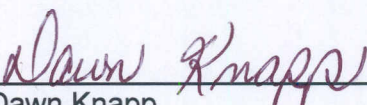
Angela Wilson announced that the Department of Dramatic Arts has started a program with GSW television called Alumni Experiences. Gaye Hayes has already been on the show. She requested that if there is anyone who would like to be on the show or knows of someone that would like to participate to let her know so that she can add them to the list of guests for spring.

8. Adjourn

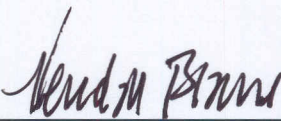
The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:



Dawn Knapp
Administrative Assistant
Vice President for Academic Affairs



Kendall A. Blanchard
President