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2008

## Faculty Senate Minutes-2008

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***SECRETARY'S NOTE: BECAUSE OF A VERY POOR RECORDING A COMPLETE TRANSCRIPT OF THIS MEETING WAS UNAVAILABLE. WE HAVE DONE THE BEST WE CAN.***

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 14, 2008  
400 TO 600 P.M.  
RUSSELL UNION BALLROOM**

**2007-2008 Senate Executive Committee** Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS); Dr. Les Furr (CHHS); Dr. Jim Whitworth (CIT); Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS); Dr. Michael Reksulak (COBA); Dr. Michael Moore (COE); Dr. Bruce McLean (COST); Dr. Alison Scott (JPHCOPH); Dr. Charles Skewis (LIB); Ms. Marilyn Bruce (Senate Liaison)

**Voting Members in Attendance** Dr. Ahmed Adu-Oppong, Dr. Barry Balleck, Dr. Jean-Paul Carton, Dr. Marc Cyr, Dr. Nirmal Das, Dr. Terry Diamanduros, Dr. Richard Flynn, Dr. Tim Giles, Dr. Mary Hadley, Dr. Greg Harwood, Ms. Ellen Hendrix, Dr. Sonya Huber-Humes, Dr. Clara Krug, Dr. Maggie LaMontagne, Dr. Bruce McLean, Jim Bigley substituting for Dr. Jim McMillan, Dr. Lowell Mooney, Dr. Michael Moore, Dr. Patrick Novotny, Dr. Constantine Oglobin, Dr. Michael Reksulak, Dr. David Rostal, Dr. Norman Schmidt, Mr. Charles Skewis, Mr. Fred Smith, Dr. T. Maria Smith, Dr. Diana Sturges, Dr. Brenda Talley, Dr. Patrick Wheaton, Dr. LeVon Wilson, Dr. Mark Yanochik

**Voting Members Absent** Dr. Frank Atuahene, Dr. John Averett, Mr. Jim Braselton, Dr. Jonathan Copeland, Dr. Les Furr, Dr. Kymberly Harris, Mr. Alain Lawo-Sukam, Dr. Jill Lockwood, Dr. Alison Dobson Long, Dr. Ron MacKinnon, Dr. Mary Marwitz, Mr. Mark Mohr, Dr. Broderick Oluyede, Dr. Onyile Onyile, Dr. Alison Scott, Dr. Jim Whitworth

**Administrative Members in Attendance** Dr. Bruce Grube, President; Dr. Linda Bleicken, Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs; Mr. Joe Franklin, Vice President, Business & Finance; Mr. Steve Burrell, Vice President, Information Technology; Mr. Billy Griffis, Vice President, University Advancement; Ms. Marilyn Bruce, Executive to the President; CHHS; Dr. Sue Moore, Interim Dean, CLASS; Dr. Cindi Chance, Dean, COE; Dr. Timothy Mack, Dean, COGS; Dr. Bret Danilowicz, Dean, COST

**Senate Parliamentarian** Dr. Bob Cook (CIT)

**SPC Representative** Dr. Norman Schmidt (COST)

**SGA Representative** absent

**NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative** Dr. Chris Geyerman (CLASS)

**Visitors**

Senate Moderator: Marc Cyr called the meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 400 p.m.

1. **Approval of the Agenda for the February 14, 2008, Meeting. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator:** The agenda was approved.
2. **Approval of the [November 27, 2007](#), Minutes Richard Flynn (CLASS), Senate Secretary** moved that the minutes be approved. They were approved unanimously.
3. **Librarian's Report of [February 14, 2008](#) Michael Moore (COE), Senate Librarian** moved approval of the Librarian's Report with the understanding that accepting the minutes constitutes approval of their accuracy not approval of the committee actions.

After some discussion, the minutes were approved unanimously.

- a. **Report from Undergraduate Committee Chair, Michael Moore (COE)** I moved acceptance of the Undergraduate Committee report.

Clara Krug (CLASS) questioned the accuracy of the item on page 54, B.A. in Spanish, B.A. in French, B.A. in German. She and Dr. Carton (CLASS) said that it did not accord with the language that was approved by the department. After some discussion, Dr. Krug moved that that particular section be removed from the undergraduate report and tabled. The motion was seconded and passed

The remainder of the Undergraduate report was approved unanimously.

- b. **Report from Graduate Committee Chair, Jill Lockwood (COBA) Richard Flynn (CLASS)** presented the report for Dr. Lockwood whose plane was snowed in. The committee approved a mission statement and Dr. Lockwood wished him to pass on the information that all of the people presenting curriculum items to the committee were well prepared. He moved that the Senate approve the minutes of the two meetings included in the Librarian's Report.

The report was approved.

4. **President's Report Dr. Bruce Grube (President)**

***New Doctorate Approved***

President Grube announced the approval of the new doctorate in Nursing

### ***Building Projects***

The president announced the ribbon cutting on February 29 of the new Center for Arts and Theatre coinciding with the opening of *King Lear*.

He reported on the progress of the Foy Building renovations. The building is still on schedule and due to be completed in the summer of 2008.

Also, the Henderson Library of course has opened a new coffee shop. The completion of the Henderson Library project is expected this summer.

The Alumni House/Welcome Center received Board of Regents approval, and plans are progressing for the construction at the first entrance off the Bypass by the RAC where the facility will be located.

### ***Emergency Message System***

The test of the system was successful

### ***Shared Services***

The president reported on the University System's plan to outsource some shared services, such as payroll. HE noted that Vice President Franklin was scheduled to provide specifics later in the meeting. President Grube assured the senate that any personnel changes would be made by attrition and reassignment rather than firing staff. He asked senators to reassure staff in the affected areas that we will watch out for the welfare of our employees and protect them.

- 5. Report from Marc Cyr (CLASS), Chair, Senate Executive Committee** presented his report. There were no motions and two requests for information. He invited Vice President Franklin to address Dr. Krug's (CLASS) RFI on shared services. Are there any questions for President Grube? Then we'll move on to my report, which should be relatively brief. There were no motions submitted. We did have two Requests for Information and one of those has to do with Shared Services, and so now I will turn it over to Joe Franklin, please, so he can tell us what's going on.

### **RFI Shared Services, submitted by Clara Krug, 1/27/2008**

Mr. Joe Franklin (VP Business & Finance) reported on Shared Services, "a concept that is pretty common in industry and it is starting to move in to state and university settings. It's a concept where you take back office folks in such as accounting, payroll, human resources, and you combine services from many institutions into one." He reported that the University System's plan is to take payroll, part of human resources, part of procurement, and part of accounts payable from 35 institutions and combine those into one office probably in Columbus, Georgia.

He noted that "they're not going to try to do hiring for Georgia Southern in Columbus, but they would do the paperwork processing and the accounting and the software databases in Columbus, Georgia, rather than here." He said that the current BOR plans to start operations by April, 2009 seemed a bit optimistic, and that his best guess is that operations won't be in place until January, 2010.

**RFI The Procedure for Granting Tenure, submitted by Clara Krug, 1/27/2008**

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator presented Dr. Bleicken's response to the RFI. Dr. Bleicken noted that our Faculty Handbook indicates the following: "In considering the tenure of an academic administrator — vice president, dean, department chair — the immediate supervisor must obtain the appropriate input from the academic department involved" (page 33). Board of Regents' Policy is as follows "A) Institutions set their tenure guidelines and a distinguished senior faculty member may be awarded tenure upon the faculty member's initial appointment" (Section 4, BOR Policy Manual).

When there is such a decision to be made on our campus, the chair of the department typically calls together the tenured faculty members of the department. This group reviews the credentials of the candidate and discusses the implications of granting tenure upon appointment. The outcome of that decision and vote up or down is communicated to the dean and in turn communicated here so that a decision can be made on whether or not to grant tenure on appointment. In addition to vice presidents, deans, and department chairs, we also typically follow this procedure with distinguished chairs.

Dr. Cyr reported a later exchange of emails and phone calls with Dr. Bleicken in which he suggested that it wasn't always clear to department members that they knew that they were voting on tenure when they were recommending hiring an administrator, and that there may be some difficulties with language in the handbook particularly in regard years of probationary tenure being given upon hiring. In the meantime, he was informed by Jean-Paul Carton, the chair of the Welfare Committee that they are very likely going to be looking at this. He noted that it seems to be a matter of us needing to get our policies and procedures to line up with one another more than anything else.

There followed some inaudible discussion.

Moderator Cyr discussed the SEC's decision to charge the Academic Standards Committee with reviewing and perhaps making recommendations for changes to the policies and procedures regarding academic dishonesty, and to charge the Welfare Committee with reviewing and perhaps making recommendations for changes to policies and procedures regarding disruptive students.

Those charges were mistakenly omitted from the agenda are linked here in the minutes:

Charge to Welfare Committee re [Disruptive Students](#)

Charge to the Academic Standards Committee [Academic Dishonesty](#)

Because they were not linked, Moderator Cyr (CLASS) read them to the senate. The charge to the Academic Standards Committee:

“The Senate Executive Committee asks that, pursuant to the standing charge of your committee, you examine Georgia Southern University’s current policies and procedures regarding academic dishonesty, and, if you believe changes should be made, that you make recommendations for such changes. In pursuing this charge, you will consult with the Office of Judicial Affairs, and also check on Board of Regents policies (if any) regarding this matter.

Among other avenues of inquiry, we suggest that you try to determine the extent of cheating (in its various forms) on our campus, both what is and (perhaps) what is not reported to Judicial Affairs. This could involve checking trends at other colleges and universities, and you may find it helpful to check policies and procedures on other BOR system campuses and elsewhere. It would also be of value to know if faculty avoid pursuing/reporting cases of academic dishonesty and, if so, the reasons why.”

Having heard anecdotal evidence of a problem with academic dishonesty, the SEC wants the committee to investigate whether we do, and if we do to report on the extent of the problem and suggest policy changes. He noted that not long ago the University of Georgia redid all their [academic dishonesty](#) judicial review policies.

To the Welfare Committee

“The Senate Executive Committee asks that, pursuant to the standing charge of your committee, you examine Georgia Southern University’s current policies and procedures regarding disruptive student classroom

behavior, and, if you believe changes should be made, that you make recommendations for such changes. In pursuing this charge, you will consult with the Office of Judicial Affairs, and also check on Board of Regents policies (if any) regarding this matter. Further, to what extent, if any, are the University legal office and the Provost's office involved?

Among other avenues of inquiry, we suggest that you try to determine the extent of student disruptive behavior (in its various forms, especially in the classroom) on our campus, both what is and (perhaps) what is not reported to Judicial Affairs. This could involve checking trends at other colleges and universities, and you may find it helpful to check policies and procedures on other BOR system campuses and elsewhere. It would also be of value to know if faculty avoid pursuing/reporting cases of student disruption and, if so, the reasons why.

You may wish to talk with Michael Moore (COE) about a Fall term incident regarding a disruptive student.”

Moderator Cyr asked Senate Librarian Michael Moore to provide an update on the elections.

Michael Moore (COE) reported that J. B. Claiborne has adapted the software to permit both peer nominations and self-nominations, and once the nominations are made, elections should proceed. The hope is that the elections will be concluded by the April 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.

6. Report from Chris Geyerman (CLASS), NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative presented the 2007-2008 Fall GPA comparison report for the student-athletes. With the exception of football, the averages are comparable with those of previous years. The football GPAs were discussed at some length at the last University Athletics Committee meeting, and will be discussed at the next meeting.

He then discussed the summary of the graduation success rates. The 74% is the student-athlete graduation success rate is the highest of the public institutions in Georgia. During the same time frame, 352 student-athletes exhausted their

eligibility and of those 352, 91% graduated, so we're going a good job with the graduating folks.

**7. Report from Norman Schmidt (COST), SPC Representative** reported that after the fall SPC for and the January faculty meetings about defining Georgia Southern as a Doctoral Research University, the SPC is taking those meetings into consideration as it formulates Level II plans.

**8. Unfinished Business**

None.

**9. New Business**

None.

**10. Announcements Vice Presidents**

Linda Bleicken (Provost) provided an update on the USG core curriculum initiative. Dr. Dorothy Leland, who is President of Georgia College and State University, was appointed to be the chair of the initiative committee. There are three subcommittees, and Dr Bleicken is a member of the steering committee. On that committee, actually there are three that are part of this whole initiative at this time. One of them is a steering committee. I happen to be a member of that committee. There are two other committees: a curriculum competencies committee and a curriculum design and assessment committee. Dr. Pat Humphrey who is a member of our Mathematical Sciences Department is a member of the curriculum design and assessment committee. After a retreat in Athens on February 4 and 5, the committees worked on defining expectations, including promoting a strong global emphasis; defining a framework that would include 6-10 areas of study that would essentially identify skills, values, and processes emphasized across the core curriculum; defining a limited number of learning outcomes for each of the subject areas.

There will be two draft framework proposals that will be put up on a web. [Secretary's note, now available here: <http://www.strongfoundations.usg.edu/news/news.html>] This is going to be an opportunity for faculty across the system to provide input and to have that input noted.

**11. Announcements from the Floor**

**12. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:48 p.m.





**FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES**  
**MARCH 26, 2008**  
**400 TO 600 P.M.**  
**RUSSELL UNION BALLROOM**

**2007-2008 Senate Executive Committee** Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS); Dr. Les Furr (CHHS); Dr. Jim Whitworth (CIT); Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS); Dr. Michael Reksulak (COBA); Dr. Michael Moore (COE); Dr. Bruce McLean (COST); Dr. Alison Scott (JPHCOPH); Dr. Charles Skewis (LIB); Ms. Marilyn Bruce (Senate Liaison)

**Voting Members in Attendance** Mike Hurst for Dr. Frank Atuahene, Dr. Barry Balleck, Dr. Jean-Paul Carton, Dr. Jonathan Copeland, Dr. Marc Cyr, Dr. Gustavo Maldonado for Dr. Nirmal Das, Dr. Richard Flynn, Dr. Tim Giles, Dr. Mary Hadley, Dr. Kymberly Harris, Dr. Greg Harwood, Ms. Ellen Hendrix, Dr. Sonya Huber-Humes, Dr. Clara Krug, Dr. Ron MacKinnon, Dr. Bruce McLean, Dr. Jim McMillan, Dr. Mary Marwitz, Dr. Lowell Mooney, Dr. Michael Moore, Dr. Patrick Novotny, Dr. Constantine Oglobin, Dr. Onyile Onyile, Dr. Michael Reksulak, Dr. David Rostal, Dr. Norman Schmidt, Mr. Charles Skewis, Mr. Fred Smith, Dr. T. Maria Smith, Dr. Diana Sturges, Dr. Brenda Talley, Dr. Patrick Wheaton, Dr. LeVon Wilson, Dr. Mark Yanochik

**Voting Members Absent** Dr. Ahmed Adu-Oppong, Dr. John Averett, Mr. Jim Braselton, Dr. Terry Diamanduros, Dr. Les Furr, Dr. Maggie LaMontagne, Mr. Alain Lawo-Sukam, Dr. Jill Lockwood, Dr. Alison Dobson Long, Mr. Mark Mohr, Dr. Broderick Oluyede, Dr. Alison Scott, Dr. Jim Whitworth

**Administrative Members in Attendance** Dr. Bruce Grube, President; Mr. Joe Franklin, Vice President, Business & Finance; Mr. Steve Burrell, Vice President, Information Technology; Mr. Billy Griffis, Vice President, University Advancement; Ms. Marilyn Bruce, Executive to the President; Dr. Gary Means, Dean, CEPS; Dr. Stephanie Kenney for Dr. Cindi Chance, Dean, COE; Dr. Timothy Mack, Dean, COGS; Dr. Bret Danilowicz, Dean, COST; Dr. Bede Mitchell, Dean, University Library

**Senate Parliamentarian** Dr. Bob Cook (CIT)

**SPC Representative** Dr. Norman Schmidt (COST)

**SGA Representative** Mr. Tedrick Kelly (SGA)

**NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative** Dr. Chris Geyerman (CLASS)

**Visitors** Candace Griffith, Tallarus (sp.?) Hall, Jonathan Harwell, Amy Heaston, Kelli Vincent

Senate Moderator Marc Cyr called the meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 4:00 p.m.

**1. Approval of the Agenda for the March 26, 2008, Meeting.**

The agenda was approved unanimously

**2. Approval of the February 14, 2008, Minutes: Dr. Richard Flynn (CLASS), Senate Secretary** moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously. D

**3. Librarian's Report: Dr. Michael Moore (COE), Senate Librarian** moved that the Librarian's Report be accepted. The motion was seconded and the report was accepted unanimously.

**a. Report from Undergraduate Committee Chair: Dr. Michael Moore (COE)** moved acceptance of the Undergraduate Committee minutes, which were approved unanimously.

**b. Report from Graduate Committee Chair: Dr. Mary Hadley (CLASS) for Dr. Jill Lockwood (COBA)** moved acceptance of the Graduate Committee minutes. Dr. Krug (CLASS) asked about the Blueprint for Graduate education mentioned in the report. After some discussion, Dr. Mack agreed to distribute the draft report to the senate. The Graduate Committee minutes were then approved unanimously.

**4. President's Report: Dr. Bruce Grube:** Thank you. Good afternoon. I want to focus on two areas: the legislature and budget developments.

*The Legislature*

The President reported on the machinations of the state government regarding the budget and noted that the University is following developments in Atlanta closely. In the Governor's recommendation were funds to support the renovation of Hendricks Hall. The University had to spend its own money to redevelop Veazey Hall and to redevelop Cone Hall, so it was a relief to have the Governor say the state would assist with this new project. The House, unfortunately, deleted that from their budget without telling our local delegation. He made it clear that our local representatives-- Butch Parrish, Jon Burns, and Bob Lane—are not happy about the development. President Grube said that we've been assured by all parties that in the end these projects will be back on the list. But he cautioned that at the time of the year when both bodies of the legislature are negotiating how to resolve their budget differences, they usually look for reasons not to do things, rather than reasons to do things. He expressed cautious optimism.

*Endowed Chair*

The President reported that Russell Keen is monitoring out effort to have state matching funds for an endowed chair restored in the budget.

### *Budget*

The President discussed a document that was sent from the Office of Planning and Budget at the behest of the Governor's Office, to all state agencies, including the University System of Georgia, which called for reductions in the fiscal year 09 budget, the budget that's currently under discussion in the legislature. The reduction to the University System of Georgia was approximately \$67 million. President Grube received a communication from Rob Watts, the Chancellor's Chief of Staff, saying that we should prepare to show savings at the end of the year, if savings need to be shown. He said that Vice President Joe Franklin pointed out to him that almost all of the funds on this campus have already been encumbered. The President emphasized, however, that he has received "no direct instructions whatsoever from the University System of Georgia" to do anything other than monitor expenditures and not permit those which might be considered unnecessary.

The President then explained that of the items in the University Budget, about 65.4% of it is budgeted to Academic Affairs, and that there is another 5% that comes to Academic Affairs that is actually budgeted in other areas. About 70% plus of the University's budget is in Academic Affairs budget. He reminded the senate of the library motion on the agenda later in the meeting and cautioned that an increase in the library budget would have to come from "a redirection within the funds that are out there in Academic Affairs." He noted that "we may be at a point in time with the state budget where that's not particularly a promising way to look at it."

Then the President put the rumors of budget reductions in "historical perspective," noting that the budget cuts following 9/11 amounted to a 21% cumulative hit on our budget, cumulatively, and that "while all of us suffered from that, we didn't lose people as a result of it, and we managed to get through it." "I don't see this as anything coming close to what we're talking about here," President Grube said. He noted the positives: we are building a strong summer and fall, enrollments, for instance.

Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS) asked whether the President had any idea what the percentage of merit raises will be.

Dr. Bruce Grube (President) answered that the 2.5% increase recommended in the Governor's budget which had seemed low to all the Presidents in the University System But in the event of the \$67 million reduction that 2.5% would be reduced to 2%. He noted some internal discussion about whether or not the University could find money to supplement that increase. Believing that 2.5% didn't sound good, the administration had been trying figure out if it was possible to get it to 3, but at the moment, the money that looks like the figure will be 2%.

**5. Report from Marc Cyr (CLASS), Chair, Senate Executive Committee reported on two Requests for Information:**

*Authority to Cite Parking/Permit Violations and Adjudicate Citations*

One RFI asked under what authority are parking and traffic citation issued, and adjudicated? Vice President Joe Franklin supplied a response:

“Georgia Southern University parking rules and regulations are generally not a legal matter that is adjudicated by judge and jury. Georgia Southern Parking and Transportation issues are University rules and regulations that are enforced with fines essentially assessed by the University and are not legal matters to be dealt with by courts. Parking and Transportation has no authority where legal matters are concerned. However, the University Police Department does issue parking tickets that are violations of Georgia Law. These cases are legal matters and are adjudicated in State Court.

The Board of Regents authorizes the University to set parking rules, fines and fees. The Office of Parking and Transportation administers the citing of parking violations and collects fines associated with the citations. A separate Parking and Transportation Committee has the authority of final enforcement of appeals on citations issued by Parking and Transportation.

The University Police Department is a recognized police department and has the same authority as any police department in the State of Georgia. Tickets issued for violations of law are adjudicated in State Court. Citations issued by University Police for violation of University parking rules and regulations would follow the same path as for Parking and Transportation.

Parking and Transportation, and the University Police Department are authorized to issue parking citations.

The University Police Department’s authority is derived from state law. The Parking and Transportation Department’s activities are regulatory in nature.”

*Are Full-time Temporary Faculty Eligible to Vote?*

The second RFI came from Jim Harris and revisits an issue that came up last fall, regarding who is and who is not faculty, according to the Board of Regents. A reading of the BOR *Policies* and our own policies on campus led to the determination that not only are tenured faculty members, tenured and tenure-track faculty members considered faculty, but full-time temporaries are also considered faculty for the purposes of voting in University elections, whether for the senate or university-level committees.

The current RFI asks President Grube to address the issue at the college and departmental levels, whether full-time temporary faculty are eligible to vote for college representatives or to vote in college and departmental matters. Moderator Cyr turned the floor over to President Grube to answer.

Dr. Bruce Grube (President) said, that if the senate wishes to forward him a recommendation on this he would be pleased to interpret the rules as he is authorized to do. But since he gathered that the request arose from a particular instance of disagreement among colleagues in a given area, he would prefer that the colleagues resolve among themselves, first, and if that doesn't work, and it comes to the level that would require the attention of the senate, then we can deal with it at the time. He repeated his preference that colleagues in disagreement with each other first spend some good, honest time trying to resolve their differences before involving the President.

Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator clarified that the issue is in CIT and COBA, where their college bylaws specifically exclude full-time temporaries from taking part in votes or recommendations, which appears to be in conflict with University-level and from the BOR policies.

### *College Elections*

Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator noted that most college elections have been completed; others are still underway, regarding run-offs and supplementary elections. He asked Michael Moore, our Librarian and Chair of the Elections Committee, to give a brief progress report.

Michael Moore (COE) Chair of the Elections Committee noted the good news that we're farther along than we were last year at this time and the bad news that we're not that farther along than we were last year at this time. He acknowledged Ginger Malphrus's invaluable help in helping to coordinate the logistics of the elections. She's been very good about getting eligible faculty members, who they are, what elections we need, places, committees, and that sort of thing. And he acknowledged J. B. Claiborne for adjusting the software so that not only can you nominate yourself for an election, but you can now nominate peers. All the reports are supposed to be in April 1<sup>st</sup>, and that will give us a chance to then announce at our April Faculty Senate meeting who all the elected folks are for next year.

Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator: reiterated Dr. Moore's praise of Ginger Malphrus, noting that she has survived 15 years at Georgia Southern. The senate gave Ginger a round of applause.

**6. Report from Chris Geyerman (CLASS), NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative:** No report.

7. **Report from Norman Schmidt (COST), SPC Representative:** "Annually the SPC meets with the various vice presidents to see how their activities fit with the overall Strategic Plan of the University. We have been very impressed with the activities of the vice presidents and the growth and improvements in so many different areas of the University. Hopefully, this growth and these activities will continue as GSU expands to meet the projection of 25,000 students in 2020. One of the main items of concern to the SPC is the Level I and Level II plans. The GSU Strategic Plan of 2004 states that 'Georgia Southern University will be recognized as one of the best public comprehensive universities in the country within the next ten years.' While everyone agrees that this is a laudable goal, and with our classification as a Doctoral Research University we are making excellent progress in this regard. However, the Level II plan is in need of revision and the SPC will be working in conjunction with the President's Council [Cabinet] to formulate a new Level II plan at some point in the future."

8. **MOTION: "Increase Funding for the Library"**

Dr. Patrick Novotny (CLASS) offered to amend the motion to shift the language of the motion itself to a single sentence and placing rest of the information into the rationale.

Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator asked that the senate dispense with the reading of the original motion and accept the motion Dr. Novotny was passing around on paper. There were no objections, and he asked Dr. Novotny to put the motion forward by reading it into the record?

Dr. Patrick Novotny (CLASS): "In support of Henderson Library's librarians and staff, and in the interest of Georgia Southern University's commitment to excellence in instruction for its undergraduate and graduate students, and in support of faculty research and the University's Doctoral Research University designation, the Faculty Senate requests a joint study by the President's Cabinet, the Strategic Planning Council, and the Faculty Senate Library Committee to provide a comprehensive plan to increase Georgia Southern University's fiscal expenditures in Henderson Library's collections and resources."

The motion was seconded, and after a brief discussion, it passed by unanimous vote.

9. Unfinished Business  
None

10. New Business

Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS) moved to take off the table the language from page 54 of the Librarian's Report of the Undergraduate Committee minutes of November 13, 2007. This page, this section relating to Foreign Language programs was tabled at our February 14, 2008, meeting.

The language was taken off the table without objection

Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS) moved that we accept that portion of the Undergraduate Committee's report from November 13, 2007.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator: mentioned a query by a colleague about some safety issues to do with crosswalks. She was concerned that she was told that the brick crosswalks are sufficiently contrasted with the road surface that they don't need to be painted over. She vigorously disagrees with this having dodged cars. Moderator Cyr asked Joe Franklin if there has been a study made of the contrastive elements of flush brick walkways. Mr. Joe Franklin (VP Business and Finance) said he is aware of no studies that we have participated in contrasting the colors of flush brick pavers.

Dr. Bruce Grube (President): noted that there will be a happy end to this at some point because Forest Drive, according to the Master Plan, is to come out and become another pedestrian.

#### **11. Announcements: Vice Presidents**

Mr. Joe Franklin (VP Business and Finance) announced that we have begun construction on the new residence hall, which will include the demolition of Olliff, Johnson, and Winburn Halls. Buildings 805 and the Military Science Building have already been demolished. Johnson, Olliff, Winburn will be coming down probably during the month of June.

#### **12. Announcements from the Floor**

None

#### **13. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned shortly after 5 o'clock.



**FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES**  
**APRIL 21, 2008**  
**400 TO 600 P.M.**  
**RUSSELL UNION BALLROOM**

**2007-2008 Senate Executive Committee** Dr. Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS); Dr. Les Furr (CHHS); Dr. Jim Whitworth (CIT); Dr. Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS); Dr. Michael Reksulak (COBA); Dr. Michael Moore (COE); Dr. Bruce McLean (COST); Dr. Alison Scott (JPHCOPH); Dr. Charles Skewis (LIB); Ms. Marilyn Bruce (Senate Liaison)

**Voting Members in Attendance** Dr. Ahmed Adu-Oppong, Dr. Frank Atuahene, Dr. Jean-Paul Carton, Dr. Jonathan Copeland, Dr. Dr. Marc Cyr, Dr. Nirmal Das, Dr. Richard Flynn, Dr. Les Furr, Doralina Martinez Conde alternate for Dr. Tim Giles, Dr. Adam Con alternate for Dr. Mary Hadley, Dr. Greg Harwood, Ms. Ellen Hendrix, Dr. Dr. Clara Krug, Dr. Jill Lockwood, Dr. Bruce McLean, Dr. Jim McMillan, Dr. Mary Marwitz, Dr. Lowell Mooney, Dr. Michael Moore, Dr. Patrick Novotny, Dr. Michael Reksulak, Dr. David Rostal, Dr. Norman Schmidt, Dr. Alison Scott, Mr. Charles Skewis, Mr. Fred Smith, Dr. Diana Sturges, Dr. Brenda Talley, Dr. Patrick Wheaton, Dr. LeVon Wilson,

**Voting Members Absent** Dr. John Averett, Dr. Barry Balleck, Mr. Jim Braselton, Dr. Terry Diamanduros, Dr. Kymberly Harris, Dr. Sonya Huber-Humes, Dr. Maggie LaMontagne, Mr. Alain Lawo-Sukam, Dr. Alison Dobson Long, Dr. Ron MacKinnon, Mr. Mark Mohr, Dr. Constantine Oglobin, Dr. Broderick Oluyede, Dr. Onyile Onyile, Dr. T. Maria Smith, Dr. Jim Whitworth, Dr. Mark Yanochik

**Administrative Members in Attendance** Dr. Bruce Grube, President; Dr. Linda Bleicken, Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs; Mr. Joe Franklin, Vice President, Business & Finance; Ms. Marilyn Bruce, Executive to the President; Dr. Gary Means, Dean, CEPS; Dr. Sue Moore, Interim Dean, CLASS; Dr. Cindi Chance, Dean, COE; Dr. Timothy Mack, Dean, COGS; Dr. Bret Danilowicz, Dean, COST; Dr. Bede Mitchell, Dean, University Library

**Senate Parliamentarian** Dr. Bob Cook (CIT)

**SPC Representative** Dr. Norman Schmidt (COST)

**SGA Representative** Mr. Tedrick Kelly (SGA)

**NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative** Dr. Chris Geyerman (CLASS)

**Visitors**

Senate Moderator Dr. Dr. Marc Cyr called the meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 4:00 p.m.

**1. Approval of the Agenda for the April 21, 2008, Meeting.**

The agenda was approved.

2. **Approval of the [March 26, 2008 Minutes](#): Dr. Richard Flynn (CLASS), Senate Secretary** moved that the minutes for March 26<sup>th</sup> meeting be approved. It was seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously.
  
3. **Librarian's Report of [April 21, 2008](#): Dr. Michael Moore (COE), Senate Librarian**, moved that the Librarian's Report be approved and called attention to the two PDF files containing the Senate election results. He noted that there are still some run-offs and the rest of the results will be approved at the June meeting.

Clara Krug (CLASS) asked for clarification as to whether the Faculty Welfare Committee was involved with the study about disruptive student behavior. Jean Paul Carton (CLASS, Welfare Committee chair) assured her that the process was beginning but that the process would be deliberate and would likely take some time.

- a. **Report from Undergraduate Committee Chair: Dr. Michael Moore (COE)** moved acceptance of the Undergraduate Committee Report. The report was approved unanimously.
  
- b. **Report from Graduate Committee Chair: Dr. Jill Lockwood (COBA)**: introduced and commented on the Graduate Committee Report, included in the Librarian's report.

Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator asked if there was any discussion of the Graduate Report and the recommendations contained in it?

Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS) wished to discuss The Blueprint for Graduate Education, mentioned in the report.

Dr. Bob Cook (Parliamentarian) ruled that the report should be discussed either as a discussion item or when the committee actually recommended adoption of the report to the senate.

Ultimately Dr. Cyr and Dr. Cook decided that Dr. Krug could bring it up under unfinished business.

#### 4. **President's Report: Dr. Bruce Grube:**

##### ***Good News***

The President announced that after the appointment of Dr. Susan Herbst as the Chief Academic Officer of the University System of Georgia, he and Dr. Bleicken

were invited to Atlanta to discuss some of the doctoral proposals coming up. The good news to come out of that meeting was that Georgia Southern's proposal in the College of Business for a Doctorate in Logistics and Supply Chain Management was picked as one of two Ph.D. programs to go forward for the August Board of Regents agenda. This was followed by a change in policy at the Board of Regents, as the Regents voted to make it possible for comprehensive universities to now have Ph.D. programs on their campus. He reported that we've gotten much farther much earlier than we had anticipated regarding doctoral programs. The programs have not yet have been approved. Not only do they have to go through our process, but they have to be vetted by the Academic Affairs folks at the Board office, and then passed upon by the Board of Regents. But this does open up future opportunities for us.

### ***Budget***

President Grube reported that the legislature has adjourned, and the Governor has yet to sign the budget. He reported the result of the conference committee between the House and the Senate, which allocated \$4 million for the renovation of Hendricks Hall and two eminent chair matches thanks to Senator Jack Hill. The conference committee voted to keep the 2.5% pay increase. One negative piece of news, of course, is state revenue collections are down slightly over last year for the past month, and no doubt people will be watching that. He noted that while the Governor has yet to sign the budget, it'll be front-page news, when he does.

### ***Centennial Place Project***

The demolition of the ROTC building (805) is well underway, and the demolition of Olliff, Winburn, and Johnson hall will begin soon to make way for the Centennial Place Project.

### ***Sunday's Statesboro Herald***

President Grube reported his dismay at the Herald story about a half-dozen kids who have signed on to an NRA agenda and want to wear empty holsters around the campus. He saw as "not just a news story, but essentially an editorial on the front page, including the address of the web site where you can go to find out about this organization," and said it was "just flat-out over the line."

5. **Report from Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS), Chair, Senate Executive Committee:** SEC Minutes, [April 10, 2008](#) announced that Dr. Grube had approved the Undergraduate and Graduate Committee recommendations, as well as the Library Committee motion for a study of Library budget. He reported the request for information from Clara Krug about long awaited repairs to the roof of Forest Drive building. Dr. Cyr said that Vice President Joe Franklin replied that

air conditioners need to be replaced before the roof can be replaced, and they do have a plan. Cyr asked Vice President Franklin about a timeline. Mr. Joe Franklin (VP Business & Finance) reported that while there was no definitive timeline, he has signed a contract for the air conditioners that would go on the roof before the roof goes on, so that plan is underway and the repairs would be made as soon as possible. And we should see some action pretty soon as far as the air conditioners go, with the roof to follow immediately behind that.

Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator reported that the SEC is working on putting together a group of computer savvy senators to work on the migration of the senate web site. He then previewed the motion to join the USG Faculty Council that was on the agenda for later in the meeting.

- 6. Report from Chris Geyerman (CLASS), NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative:** No report.
- 7. Report from Norman Schmidt (COST), SPC Representative:** No report.
- 8. Elections: Senate Secretary  
Senate Librarian**

Dr. Richard Flynn (CLASS) nominated Ellen Hendrix (CLASS) to be next year's Senate Secretary.

The nomination was seconded, there were no other nominations, and she was elected unanimously.

Dr. Michael Reksulak (COBA) nominated Michael Moore (COE) to be the Senate Librarian for next year.

The nomination was seconded, there were no other nominations, and he was elected unanimously.

- 9. MOTION: That Georgia Southern University join the University System of Georgia Faculty Council (USGFC) and ratify these [USGFC Bylaws](#):**

Dr. Michael Moore (COE) moved that Georgia Southern University join the University System of Georgia Faculty Council, USGFC, and ratify the USGFC Bylaws. These Bylaws were linked to the agenda, and distributed with the agenda.

The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- 10. Unfinished Business**

Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS) returned to the questions she had about the Blueprint for Graduate Education. Her first question was

- Page 4 of 16, one of the goals is dual and joint degree programs with several international universities. I would like to know what procedure our graduate school anticipates following in establishing dual and joint degree programs with international universities. It would be helpful to know what those universities are.

Dr. Tim Mack (Dean, College of Graduate Studies) replied that the process for these degree programs would be faculty-driven and faculty-centered, and would begin with faculty establishing a relationship with an institution, and ultimately deciding to develop a joint or dual degree program. Once that happened, the program would then go through the Graduate Committee as a normal process.

Dr. Linda Bleicken (Provost) noted that in addition to faculty looking at possibilities for establishing partnerships, it has also been our practice that our Center for International Studies be involved at every step along the way.

Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator determined that the remaining questions might better be put into a memo for the Graduate Committee or raised by contacting faculty representatives on the committee, especially since the Blueprint is still in draft form and Dr. Mack has invited the senators to provide feedback on the draft document.

Dr. Richard Flynn (CLASS) suggested that the Senate listserv might be an appropriate place for an ongoing discussion, before the Blueprint is presented to the Senate for its approval.

Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator clarified: "So what you're suggesting is that we need to either discuss it on the Senate line among ourselves or send directly to the Graduate Committee recommendations, queries, etc."

Dr. Richard Flynn (CLASS) replies, "Or Senate information requests. Something that's going to focus the discussion and make it productive."

Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS) asked if she had the right to make an information request and Dr. Cyr (Moderator) assured her that she did have that right.

## **11. New Business**

**No new business.**

## **12. Announcements: Vice Presidents**

**No announcements from the vice presidents.**

**13. Announcements from the Floor**

**No announcements from the floor.**

**14. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

**FACULTY SENATE MEETING MINUTES**  
**JUNE 24, 2008**  
**4:00 TO 6:00 P.M.**  
**NESSMITH-LANE BALLROOM**

**2007-2008 Senate Executive Committee** Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS); Dr. Les Furr (CHHS); Dr. Jim Whitworth (CIT); Dr. Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS); Dr. Michael Reksulak (COBA); Dr. Michael Moore (COE); Dr. Bruce McLean (COST); Dr. Alison Scott (JPHCOPH); Dr. Charles Skewis (LIB); Ms. Marilyn Bruce (Senate Liaison)

**Voting Members in Attendance** Dr. Frank Atuahene, Dr. Barry Balleck, Mr. Jim Braselton, Dr. Doralina Martínez Conde for Dr. Jean-Paul Carton, Dr. Marc Cyr, Dr. Richard Flynn, Dr. Jim Bigley for Dr. Les Furr, Dr. Tim Giles, Dr. Mary Hadley, Dr. Greg Harwood, Ms. Ellen Hendrix, Ms. Sonya Huber, Dr. Clara Krug, Dr. Bruce McLean, Dr. Jim McMillan, Dr. Lowell Mooney, Dr. Michael Moore, Dr. Patrick Novotny, Dr. Constantine Oglobin, Dr. Onyile Onyile, Dr. Michael Reksulak, Dr. Norman Schmidt, Dr. Alison Scott, Mr. Charles Skewis, Mr. Fred Smith, Dr. T. Maria Smith, Dr. Diana Sturges, Dr. Brenda Talley, Dr. Patrick Wheaton, Dr. Mark Yanochik



**Voting Members Absent** Dr. Ahmed Adu-Oppong, Dr. John Averett, Dr. Jonathan Copeland, Dr. Nirmal Das, Dr. Terry Diamanduros, Dr. Kymberly Harris, Dr. Maggie LaMontagne, Mr. Alain Lawo-Sukam, Dr. Jill Lockwood, Dr. Alison Dobson Long, Dr. Ron MacKinnon, Dr. Mary Marwitz, Mr. Mark Mohr, Dr. Mary Marwitz, Mr. Mark Mohr, Dr. Broderick Oluyede, Dr. David Rostal, Dr. Jim Whitworth, Dr. LeVon Wilson

**Administrative Members in Attendance** Dr. Linda Bleicken, Provost and Vice President, Academic Affairs; Mr. Joe Franklin, Vice President, Business & Finance; Mr. Steve Burrell, Vice President, Information Technology; Dr. Teresa Thompson, Vice President, Student Affairs and Enrollment Management; Dr. Cindi Chance, Dean, COE; Dr. Timothy Mack, Dean, COGS; Dr. Bret Danilowicz, Dean, COST; Dr. Bede Mitchell, Dean, University Library

**Senate Parliamentarian** Dr. Bob Cook (CIT)

**SPC Representative** Dr. Norman Schmidt (COST)

**SGA Representative:**

**NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative** Dr. Chris Geyerman (CLASS)

**Visitors**

Senate Moderator Dr. Marc Cyr called the meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. **Approval of the Agenda for the June 24, 2008, Meeting.** Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator called the meeting to order and asked Ginger Malphrus, "the entire Senate staff," to come forward to receive a gift in appreciation for her service. The agenda was then approved
2. **Approval of the [April 21, 2008 Minutes](#):** Dr. Richard Flynn (CLASS), Senate Secretary moved that the minutes be approved. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
3. **Librarian's Report of [June 24, 2008](#):** Dr. Michael Moore (COE), Senate Librarian moved acceptance of the Librarian's Report. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.
  - a. **Report from Undergraduate Committee:** Michael Moore (COE) Chair moved acceptance of the Undergraduate Committee Report. The report was approved unanimously.
  - b. **Report from Graduate Committee:** Michael Reksulak (COBA) for Professor Lockwood, chair of the Graduate Committee, moved acceptance of the Graduate Committee report. The report was approved unanimously.
4. **President's Report:** Dr. Linda Bleicken gave the report in Dr. Grube's absence.

#### **Enrollment**

Dr. Bleicken reported a record summer enrollment (close to 9,000 students) and noted that we also have record enrollment in our Studies Abroad programs.

#### **SOAR**

Dr. Bleicken noted that we have eight regular freshman SOAR sessions this summer. She also reported that it appears that our retention rate for the fall is going to be a healthy one, possibly even breaking the 80% barrier this year.

#### **Revenue**

Dr. Bleicken discussed the state's revenue shortfalls and notes that we have been informed by the Chancellor's office that we must plan for a 5% reduction in next year's budget. This amounts to about \$5 million. Dr. Bleicken, in consultation with Vice President Franklin and President Grube have identified some ways that we're going to cut the budget including temperature controls, and a 60-day slowdown on the hiring of staff positions, as well as some limited Physical Plant projects that will probably be postponed at least until the following year. There are also going to be some positions that we might have thought about filling that we won't fill, but the reductions do not mean that we will have layoffs--"we're not going to do that."



## **Joe Franklin**

Dr. Bleicken congratulated Vice President Joe Franklin, who is retiring at the end of June after 27 years of service to Georgia Southern University. He has not only been VP for the last four years, but prior to that, he was our director of Auxiliary Services, and then prior to that he was manager of our bookstore for a long time. He was also a student here, graduating with a degree in business, so his history with Georgia Southern is long and deep.

The faculty gave Vice President Franklin a hearty round of applause.

## **5. Report from Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS), Chair, Senate Executive Committee:**

### **Agenda Requests**

The SEC approved three motion requests, and that are on today's agenda. Clara Krug withdrew another motion request that she'd made so that the Graduate Committee could organize its own business.

### **Request for Information**

The SEC received one request for information about House Bill 154, the Intellectual Diversity in Higher Education Act, asking when, how, and with what results Georgia Southern had prepared a report on our own Intellectual Diversity. Provost Bleicken has informed the SEC that we prepared no such report because it seems that the bill never went to the Governor, perhaps in part because the University System worked against it.

An unspecified person or group has apparently conducted surveys of system students that suggested that some students at some unnamed universities were having their rights trampled on. These surveys were suspect in their methodology and conclusions, so the USG had UGA run a survey with sound methods sampling students across the entire system regarding their experience vis-à-vis free speech issues. The results of this survey are not yet available; at least GSU has not seen them.

### **Shared Services**

There was another query regarding shared services: the Chancellor's plan to centralize various systems that are now dealt with individually by system schools. This plan is going forward with payroll projected to be centralized off-campus by July 1, 2009, according to VP for Finance, Joe Franklin. The plan projects that some other benefits functions will also be centralized and automated, but there is no proposed closure of GSU's benefits office.

### **Software Committee**

The SEC also received a report from Bruce McLean, who has been acting as our computer czar, in consultation with Ginger Malphrus, David Ewing, and others we are now ready to pull the plug on former Senator David Robinson's designer program base for senate operations and move to other more common programs

that can be more easily worked with. The SEC is going to set up a small working group to oversee and troubleshoot Senate computer issues very likely under CIT's Ron MacKinnon.

Three other issues have preoccupied the SEC recently:

- One of these is the fact that at least one college, COBA, the per-credit hour stated in the Faculty Handbook was without faculty consultation, or apparently any means of dissent except refusing to teach the class at all, reduced by administrators. This was done only days before the beginning of Term A on the grounds that tuition revenue was not meeting the 60/40 ratio required by the University. That is for every \$40 of a professor's salary; \$60 of revenue must come in, the extra \$20 covering such things as faculty buyouts for non-teaching work. [Faculty] Handbook Section 216, which appears to be only written basis for the handshake contracts under which we operate during summer, flatly states that the pay rate will be 3% of annualized spring salary per credit hour, so 9% for a three-hour class. In some COBA departments, this was lowered into the neighborhood of 8.5%. The SEC's reading of Section 216 though is that the only authorized way to deal with revenue shortfalls in summer is to cancel classes, and to let you know here that the SEC is making no judgment on whether what COBA did is more or less humane or better or a worse solution to the budget problem. Our concern involves faculty knowing in a timely fashion what their contract and working conditions will be. When I queried Provost Bleicken on this issue, she told me that COBA was the only affected college and that was a disclaimer at the back of the Handbook allowing for the pay rate reduction despite the policies in Section 216. She did not specify the exact location of this disclaimer, but the last section of the Handbook is #503, our Financial Exigency Policy. The Provost is going to work on greater clarity and timeliness for faculty, and it is likely that the SEC will pursue this matter further.
- The other preoccupying issues are our graduate programs. The first of these is a mix-up that occurred regarding the Graduate Committee minutes for May, which contained curricular items deemed by our College of Public Health as essential for immediate adoption. This urgency was not apparent to all involved, including Graduate Committee Chair, Jill Lockwood, who assumed from past practice that those minutes would come forward in September, and therefore did not submit them to Librarian Mike Moore. Dean Tim Mack, however, recognized the urgency and submitted the minutes, an action Jill Lockwood has asked me to thank him for. He saved the day. However, given the regular nature of the submission, confusion descended upon the whole procedure with left hands not knowing what the right hands were doing, but the situation was rectified and all is well that ends well. We passed them.

- And last we come to the Graduate Blueprint. The SEC requested from the Provost a flowchart of who is involved in the production and approval of the blueprint, and a timeline for that process. According to the Provost, there is no organized plan. Dean Mack created the first draft, and it has been redrafted several times with input from the Deans Council, Graduate Program Directors, and others. The Provost projects that it will receive additional discussion with the President's Cabinet, the Deans, Enrollment Management, and the Senate Graduate Committee. Regarding a timeline, Provost Bleicken could not offer one, noting that she could not offer when the Graduate Committee will provide comment. When I met with the Provost for our usual one-on-one meeting prior to today's Senate, I noted faculty concerns that the blueprint in whatever it's ultimate version might be implemented without Senate approval, and I raised the implementation of the Seniors to Sophomore program as a model for this process, since that program bypassed Senate approval via the argument that it was not a curriculum matter. The Provost told me the two programs were not analogous. When I pressed for an assurance that as a curriculum matter, the approval process for the blueprint would require the approval of the Faculty Senate, Provost Bleicken could not give me that assurance, at least in part because she disagreed that the blueprint involved curriculum, calling it only a framework that would not involve or affect curriculum, and that is where we currently stand.

Dr. Linda Bleicken (Provost) offered the clarification that the Blueprint was indeed being discussed in the Graduate Committee

Dr. Tim Mack (Dean, COGS) confirmed this

Dr. Linda Bleicken (Provost) offered her view that while the Blueprint is a "framework," it does not "affect curriculum . . . at this point. It certainly lays out some direction for what we might do with graduate, with graduate programs here at Georgia Southern, particularly as it relates to the Strategic Plan." She clarified that she was not "quite as direct as saying that it had no curricular implications. I think that it perhaps does ultimately, but does not lay out those things specifically at this point."

Regarding Summer School she noted that the administration "actually agreed that perhaps those actions were taken in relation to the College that was mentioned . . . were not communicated in as prompt a manner as possible." Those who were affected are receiving adjustments to your pay in their second check. Many times faculty summer school rates are negotiated, but those are typically conversations that occur well in advance of summer school.

Dr. Richard Flynn (CLASS) asked if the Blueprint would ultimately become an action item for the Graduate Committee.

Dr. Tim Mack (COGS) pointed out that multiple constituencies are contributing to the process, including the Graduate department chairs, the Graduate program directors, and the Graduate Committee. The plan is to try to get as much feedback from as many people as possible so that we are making decisions that are in the best interest of all. He noted that it was likely that the Graduate Committee would want to talk about it in several meetings. "We did talk about it in three meetings this spring, for example, it might take three more this fall. I don't think its something that should be rushed. I think it's something where the faculty should have the time to think about it, provide the input that they need, and then we'll get all the concerns out in the open, and try to resolve every one of them."

Dr. Richard Flynn (CLASS) agreed with Dr. Mack about the process needing to take some time, but asked (recognizing that it is not the only constituency involved in the process) whether the Graduate Committee would get an opportunity to approve or disapprove of the blueprint by vote.

Dr. Tim Mack (COGS) said he would ask the Graduate Committee to do so.

Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS) read from Section 110.02 [Faculty Handbook], "the academic affairs of the university which concern the Faculty Senate and for which it is responsible are those specified by the Board of Regents: academic activities, general educational policy, welfare of the faculty, and all other matters of interest to the faculty. . . ." to express her opinion that the blueprint does fall under the purview of the Faculty Senate, and expressed her hope that the Senate will be able to have an up or down vote on that as well.

Dr. Jim Bigley (CHHS) asked for clarification regarding the summer school pay issue with COBA.

Dr. Linda Bleicken (Provost) Dr. Jim Whitworth, Dr. LeVon Wilson explained that because of the lack of timeliness in the notification that the rate was being lowered fro 9% of annual salary to 8.5%, the pay for summer would be adjusted.

Dr. Jim Bigley (CHHS) asked whether the summer school pay rate could be less than 3% per credit hour because the rate is a function of the number of students who are enrolled in classes.

Dr. Bleicken replied in the affirmative.

Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Chair, Senate Executive Committee noted that unless there is some kind of a specialized one-on-one discussion the faculty rely in the 3% per credit hour rate stated in the faculty handbook.

Dr. Linda Bleicken (Provost) said that there are instances where faculty are given an option of either teaching a course that is low enrolled for less or not teaching a

class, and in those cases there are typically discussions with that faculty member and his or her chair or the dean.

Dr. Jim McMillan (CHHS) pointed out that faculty used to get paper contracts, and that now there is a spreadsheet that goes from the chair to the dean to the provost. He said that "it would be nice" if faculty were kept better informed."

Dr. Linda Bleicken (Provost) noted that the move from paper contracts to spreadsheets was an attempt to reduce paperwork, and "not in any way some nefarious attempt to obfuscate what you were . . . going to be paid. . . ."

Dr. Richard Flynn (CLASS) expressed his opinion that if you are going to do work beyond the 10-month contract, you should have a written agreement for that extra work.

Dr. Linda Bleicken (Provost) noted that sometimes we have adjusted summer contracts, so that a paper follows a piece of paper, and sometimes two papers follow a piece of paper, so the spreadsheet "was really an attempt . . . get us to a place where we didn't have quite so much stuff floating around. "

Dr. Michael Moore (COE): asked whether the College of Education in the summer at a disadvantage in terms of what they can offer in the summer because they don't have a core curriculum class where we get 50-60 people in a section.

Mr. Joe Franklin (Business & Finance): said he was not privy to the decision making process that allocates specifically to any particular college. But general productivity is a factor.

**6. Report from Chris Geyerman (CLASS), NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative:** What's circulating is the APR report for this year, and the GPA summary for spring. While that's going around, as the Bylaws require, let me report on the NCAA Violation Summary for Athletics for the year; I'll make this quick.

- September 2007 volleyball assistant coach had impermissible female contact with a junior recruit. As soon as the coach realized it was impermissible, they reported it; we reported it to the NCAA, the NCAA took no action. All of these are secondary; its not like the school got into any trouble with the NCAA.
- December 2007 in men's basketball one of the local restaurants improperly used a men's basketball photo without our knowledge. And what that means is that basketball players essentially aren't eligible; we reported it to the NCAA, and they immediately reinstated all of the players.
- January 2008 a men's tennis player purchased impermissible supplies with some of their grant-in-aid money. The player was withheld from two matches. That was submitted to the NCAA.
- January 2008 a women's basketball player purchased a textbook against the rules for a family member, a sibling on campus. That was discovered. We held

the basketball player out for three games; reported to the NCAA, Southern Conference that was all fine. Student-athlete services changed its policy in how they do textbooks now so that won't happen any more.

- February 2008 in the sports of baseball, golf, men's basketball, and football they all broke a policy in identifying a student-athlete's visiting campus for an official recruitment visit. It was a new policy; it was a secondary violation. We reported it to the NCAA and no further action was taken.
- In March 2008 a volleyball coach mistakenly text messaged a prospective student-athlete. As it turns out, the student-athlete had the coach thought they were texting another coach with the same first name. And that's a secondary violation. We reported it, no action taken.
- June 2008 a women's soccer coach accidentally emailed a high school junior that she thought was a senior. It's a secondary violation; no action taken.
- June 2008 women's soccer coach mistakenly emailed a higher junior who was misidentified in the game's program as a high school senior. We discovered that; reported it to the NCAA; no action was taken.

That's a summary of Georgia Southern's NCAA violations for this academic year unless one happens between now and July 31<sup>st</sup>, at which time you'll hear from me next year at this time.

He then presented a handout of the University's NCAA Division I 2006-2007 Academic Progress Report.

7. **Report from Norman Schmidt (COST), SPC Representative:** The SPC has not met since the last Faculty Senate meeting and at this point we have no report.
8. **MOTION: “[Probationary Credit and Hiring of Administrators](#)”**

Mr. Jim Braselton (COST): read the motion into the record.

The motion was seconded. After brief discussion the motion passed without opposition.

9. **MOTION: “[Information about the 'Blueprint' for Graduate Study](#)”**

Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS) moved “That the Faculty Senate request that, between August 1 and August 18, 2008, the Dean of the College of Graduate Studies provide to all first-year faculty members and all returning faculty members an electronic copy and/or a hard copy of the draft version of the “Blueprint” for Graduate Study current at that time.”

The motion was seconded

Dr. Tim Mack (COGS) announced that the current version of the [Blueprint](#) was posted on the College of Graduate Studies web site as a link that anyone can download.

Subsequent discussion established that this seemed to satisfy the request made in the motion.

The motion passed unanimously.

**10. MOTION: “[The Amount of the Summer Stipend Available through the Faculty Development Committee](#)”**

Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS): “That the Faculty Senate request that the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs increase the total 2009-2010 allocation available to the Faculty Development Committee by an amount that will allow funding each summer stipend awarded at the level of \$4,000, plus fringe benefits, instead of the current level of \$3,000, plus fringe benefits.”

The motion was seconded. After a short discussion, including Moderator Cyr's reminder that in passing any motion the Faculty Senate is only making a recommendation, the motion passed unanimously.

**11. Unfinished Business**

Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS) asked about the availability of Crane Metamarketing materials for faculty.

Dr. Teresa Thompson (Student Affairs) reported that the material has not been produced yet. It will come in the second half of the summer term at some point, but there is not a big change in anything from the survey that everybody was sent.

**12. New Business**

None

**13. Announcements: Vice Presidents**

None

**14. Announcements from the Floor**

Dr. Clara Krug (CLASS) announced that the Academic Club and the Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs would sponsor a back-to-school social on Friday, August 15<sup>th</sup>.

**15. Adjournment**

**GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**  
**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**  
**September 22, 2008**  
**4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**  
**Russell Union Ballroom**

\*\*Questions and clarification may be directed to the Office of the Faculty Senate ([fsoffice@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:fsoffice@georgiasouthern.edu)) or persons identified with each agenda item prior to Senate.

**2008-2009 Senate Executive Committee** Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS); Dr. Richard Flynn (CLASS); Dr. Pat Humphrey (COST); Dr. Jim McMillan (CHHS); Dr. Michael Moore (COE) and Senate Librarian; Dr. Michael Reksulak (COBA); Dr. Jim Stephens (JPHCOPH); Dr. Jim Whitworth (CIT); Mr. Charles Skewis (LIB); Senate Secretary Ms. Ellen Hendrix (CLASS); Senate Liaison Ms. Marilyn Bruce

**Voting Members in Attendance** Frank Atuahene, Jim Braselton, Michael Braz, Jean-Paul Carton, (Becky Kennerly for Adam Jonathan Con), Jonathan Copeland, Marc Cyr, Terry Diamanduros, Richard Flynn, Tim Giles, Mary Hadley, Kimberly Harris, Greg Harwood, Ellen Hendrix, Sonya Huber-Humes, Patricia Humphrey, Bob Jackson, Youakim Kalaani, Barbara Mallory, Jim McMillan, Michael Moore, Kent Murray, Patrick Novotny, Onyile Onyile, Patricia Price, David Rostal, Donna Saye, Lisa Schulz, Charles Skewis, Fred Smith, T. Maria Smith, Diana Sturges, Brenda Talley, LeVon Wilson, (Thomas Noland for Mark Yanochik),

**Voting Members Absent** John Averett, Les Furr, Ardian Greca, Jill Lockwood, Allison Jean Long, Mark Mohr, Michael Reksulak, Norman Schmidt, Alison Scott, Jim Stephens, Patricia Walker, Patrick Wheaton, Jim Whitworth, Jonathan Zhang

**Administrative Members in Attendance** Bruce Grube, Linda Bleicken, Ron Core, Steve Burrell, Billy Griffis, Marilyn Bruce, Gary Means, Ron Shiffler, Sue Moore, Cindi Chance, Tim Mack, Bret Danilowicz

**Senate Parliamentarian:** Bob Cook (CIT)

**NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative:** Chris Geyerman (CLASS)

**SGA Representatives:** Sam Gaston (Voting), Brandon Cook (Non-Voting)

**Visitors** Candace Griffith, Samantha Young, Amanda Staley, Tony Bretti, James Kicklighter, Berkeley Arakawa, Amy Heaston, Gary Gawel, Jonathan Harwell

Dr. Marc Cyr, Senate Moderator, called the meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 4:00 p.m.



1. **Approval of the Agenda for the September 22, 2008 Meeting.** After calling the meeting to order, Dr. Marc Cyr noted one emendation before calling for an approval of the agenda: Richard Flynn would be delivering the report for the Graduate Committee on behalf of Jill Lockwood. The agenda was then approved.

2. **Approval of the [June 24, 2008 Minutes](#):** Ellen Hendrix (CLASS), Senate Secretary, made one addition to the June 24<sup>th</sup> minutes: Lisa Schulz from the College of Education was present at that meeting. She then moved that the minutes be approved. Dr. Bob Jackson (COBA) added that he too was present. With these corrections, the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Ellen Hendrix (CLASS) reminded all senators to sign in. Marc Cyr (CLASS) added that speakers needed to identify themselves by name and college each time so that Ginger could correctly transcribe the minutes.

3. **Librarian's Report of [September 9, 2008](#):** Michael Moore (COE), Senate Librarian, moved that the Librarian's Report be approved with one addition: The Library Committee minutes are from August 25<sup>th</sup>. He also reminded senators that by approving the Librarian's Report, they are not approving what actually happened in the various committees; they are approving only that these are the minutes of those various meetings. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

a. **Report from Undergraduate Committee:** Michael Moore (COE) announced that the Undergraduate Committee would be meeting for the first time on September 23 and had nothing to report at that time.

b. **Report from Graduate Committee:** Richard Flynn (CLASS) [for Jill Lockwood (COBA), Chair of the Graduate Committee] reported that the Graduate Committee has met twice this year yet has taken no action. He added that a subcommittee was taking a look at the Blueprint and will report back to the Graduate Committee as soon as their work is done. He moved that the minutes of the Graduate Committee that are included in the Librarian's Report be accepted. The report was approved unanimously.

4. **President's Report:** Dr. Bruce Grube, President, presented his report.

### **Fall Enrollment**

Dr. Grube clarified that enrollment figures would not be finalized until the end of October, but he estimated that Fall enrollment will be between 17,700 to 17,800 students. He acknowledged that the large number of students has meant extra work for faculty but added that those additional tuition dollars could go to help

offset the University's current budget cuts, a benefit that not all of the campuses within the University System of Georgia have. He planned to give more specific information at the next meeting.

### **SATs**

Dr. Grube noted that the average SAT should be around 1111, roughly a 23 on the ACT.

### **Retention**

Dr. Grube announced that the University is gaining more confidence with its retention figure and that last year's 80% plus will hold, which will mean that the University will exceed 80% on Fall-to-Fall retention for the first time ever.

### **Budget**

Dr. Grube explained that he knew little more about the current budget situation than had already been broadly communicated to the campus. He acknowledged that revenue collections for both the month of July and the month of August were down. However, given that the high revenue collections for last August were an anomalous figure, he suspected that comparing August to August might not present the best information. In reality, he added, that the three-year rolling average reveals that August revenues are not down as much as they would appear to be. He noted that Jack Hill, chair of Senate Appropriations, is also aware of that August may not be down as much as the statistics would indicate. We added that the University System would probably not take on the issue of more cuts until after the third quarter. As soon as the University received any news, he would let people know. In the mean time, he encouraged faculty to reassure staff that the University is going to work with the budget issue in a way that avoids having to lay people off. He stressed that the University has been very clear in asking the Chancellor to give it a number to meet if there are additional budget cuts instead of telling the University what to do to get there. He emphasized that if the University has a fairly successful record of being able to handle things in a manner that people feel a lot less.

### **Library News**

Dr. Grube celebrated the opening of the Library, acknowledging Ron Core (Business and Finance) as one who had started the renovation and adding that Dr. Core returned to us on July 1<sup>st</sup> as Vice President of Business and Finance, just in time to enjoy the project's completion. He encouraged everyone to visit the library.

Marc Cyr (CLASS), Senate Moderator noted that Ogeechee Tech had gone to a four-day week and asked if Georgia Southern had considered such a move.

Dr. Grube explained that things that are possible for small, very simple operations are not possible with large, more complex institutions like Georgia Southern where we cannot literally shut down entire buildings for several days in a row. He emphasized that Georgia Southern has no plans whatsoever to do what Ogeechee Tech has done and that the University System of Georgia has not taken up the idea either.

5. **Report from Senate Executive Committee:** Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS), Chair, began his report.

### **RFI**

There were no RFIs to report.

### **Agenda**

There had been only one request for an agenda item, but the SEC returned it to be revised and brought back at the October meeting.

### **Cell Phones Query**

Ellen Hendrix (CLASS) received a query from colleagues in regard to cell phone usage and had shared the query on the SEC Listserv. The few people who replied to the query thought there was no need for a policy.

### **Academic Dishonesty Policy/Disruptive Student Policy**

Last year, Academic Standards was charged with reviewing GSU's academic dishonesty policies, and Faculty Welfare was charged with reviewing GSU's policies regarding disruptive students. Both charges have been moving forward slowly, but it also appears that the internal changes in Judicial Affairs might have taken care of the problems. The SEC is doing some follow-up on with the Welfare Committee and Academic Standards, but it looks like things are in much better shape now than they were a year ago.

### **Library Funding**

Dr. Cyr called on Tim Giles to report on behalf of the Library Committee regarding funding.

Dr. Tim Giles (CLASS) reported that the Library Committee has met twice and established a list of benchmark institutions and is currently working on a list of questions to see what the University can do to increase library funding. Dr.

Bleicken has encouraged the committee to plan even though the budget situation remains bleak.

Dr. Cyr (CLASS) resumed the SEC's report.

### **Intellectual Property Rights Issues**

The SEC has started talking with the Provost about intellectual property rights issues, primarily with online courses. The SEC would be glad to hear suggestions as to the best avenue to follow.

### **TAG Team**

Ron MacKinnon will be heading up the Senate's Technology Advisory Group, or TAG Team, which will be working with Ginger Malphrus to keep abreast of the Senate needs.

### **Upcoming Elections**

A couple of elections will be coming up later with SEC nominees. However, the SEC has had no self-nominations for a liaison to the Student Government Association. Dr. Cyr (CLASS) encouraged senate members to think about self-nominating for that position.

Also, this November the Senate will be electing Dr. Cyr's successor as chairman of the SEC and moderator of the Senate. Dr. Cyr encouraged senators to consider running for the position.

Marc Cyr then opened the floor for questions.

Ms. Ellen Hendrix (CLASS) made one clarification on the cell phone issue that she brought forward, explaining that the query specifically addressed the potential conflict between disallowing cell phones in class and the University's decision to use cell phones as a means of contacting students in an emergency.

A brief discussion of the issue ensued, focusing on the use of cell phones versus sirens in cases of emergency. Dr. Bruce Grube (President) assured the Senate that the University will not cease sending messages on cell phones about emergencies. He added that simply assigning a student or two to keep their cell phones on or having department office personnel inform classes in their vicinity are logical ways to work with the issue. Cell phones are the best way to get messages out to as many people as we can, which is the most important issue. The second most important is actually getting people to pay attention when it does happen.

Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator added that text messages also allow an explanation of what the situation is and a siren does not.

- 6. Report from NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative:** Chris Geyerman (CLASS) had nothing to report but made one small request: Over the course of the year, senators should encourage colleagues to fill out the grade check forms that the Athletic Advising Center sends out to check on the progress of student-athletes. He added that people with questions could contact him or their University Athletic Committee representative. Reporting helps him work with advisees and give them sound advice.

A brief conversation about the methods and frequency of reporting followed. Dr. Geyerman offered to bring faculty concerns about methods and reporting schedules before the University Athletic Committee in an effort to increase the response rate and get accurate information about student athletes.

- 7. Report from SPC Representative:** Norman Schmidt (COST) was absent and no report was made.
- 8. ELECTION: SPC representative (beginning August 2009)** Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator announced that Norman Schmidt would be rotating off the SPC at the end of this year and that the SEC nominated Michael Braz (CLASS) as the shadow SEC representative, after which he will serve for two years on the SPC. The nomination was seconded. Dr. Cyr (CLASS) then asked for other nominations. Receiving none, Dr. Cyr called for a vote and Dr. Braz was elected unanimously.
- 9. ELECTION: Parliamentarian:** Dr. Cyr (CLASS) then announced that Bob Cook (CIT) had nominated himself to continue as Parliamentarian. The nomination was seconded. With no additional nominations, Dr. Cyr (CLASS) called for a vote and Bob Cook was elected unanimously.

**10. Unfinished Business: none.**

**11. New Business: none**

**12. Announcements: Vice Presidents**

Dr. Linda Bleicken (Provost) recognized the Student Government Association executive board, Brandon Cook, President, and Sam Gaston, Vice President for Academic Affairs, and asked other students attending on behalf of the SGA to stand up and be welcomed.

Dr. Bleicken (Provost) announced that the school year had started with a lot of activities. Adding to that activity, she announced that two dean searches are

going on, including one for CLASS Dean, which is being chaired by Fred Whitt, and another for the new Dean of the College of Education, which would be chaired on Friday and would be chaired by Bret Danilowicz. She also acknowledged Cindi Chance, who will step back after this year.

Dr. Bleicken reported on several accrediting bodies that had been on campus, including ABET, which looks at the accreditation of the Departments of IT and Computer Science; ACCE, which was here to look at the operations in the Construction Management group; and CACREP, which looked at the Counselor Ed program. She added that the outcome of all visits look very positive. She thanked all of the faculty, chairs and the deans who were involved in these visits.

Dr. Ron Core (Business and Finance) responded to questions he had received, beginning with the financial conditions concerning AIG and they're subsidiary VALIC. He stressed that he doesn't think we have to worry about VALIC, primarily because of the how isolated they are from what the parent company actually does. When asked whether the bailout by the Federal Reserve of New York would impact AIG retirement and/or VALIC, AIG responded that there will be no disruption to the service they provide or impact on their ability to meet the contractual obligation of the products and services they offer. He added that even though the financial difficulties of AIG will not impact VALIC, the general condition of the stock market and investments that VALIC owns may indeed affect the value of accounts.

Dr. Core also addressed the issue of switching from ORP accounts to TRS, stating that such an opportunity would be predicated upon a couple of things, including legislative action and approval by the TRS Board of Directors. A bill, he believed, was introduced in the legislative session before last never made it out of committee, and he had heard nothing more since that time.

Dr. Core announced that at the last BOR meeting, the Board of Regents approved capping the employers' rate on the indemnity health plan at the same rate as the PPO plan as a measure to help offset the budget reductions. The implication will be that University employees can still be a part of the indemnity plan, but it's going to cost employees more because the employers' portion is going to be reduced. He encouraged senators to talk to their colleagues about taking a close look at the indemnity premium since the employees' portion of the indemnity plan is going to be raised significantly. HR will be sending Open Enrollment packets out far enough ahead that employees will have ample opportunity to make their decisions.

Dr. Core (Business and Finance) concluded by announcing that the University has selected Paul Michaud as the new director of HR. He is from the University of Idaho and is scheduled to begin on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator asked Dr. Core could make a distinction between the indemnity plan and the PPO. Dr. Ron Core (Business and Finance) responded that 93% of the doctors that are on the indemnity plan are also on the PPO. By moving from the indemnity to the PPO, an employee's portion of the premium will probably go down.

### **13. Announcements from the Floor:**

Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator called for announcements from the floor.

Dr. Bede Mitchell (Librarian) reminded everyone about the Fries Lecture by Gordon Wood, an eminent historian from Brown University who would be talking about the invention of Benjamin Franklin. He also announced that the Hotel and Restaurant Management students would be preparing the annual Friends of the Library luncheon on Friday. This year's luncheon speaker would be Patrick Novotny, talking about his newest book, "Georgia Rising: A History of Georgia Politics in the 1940s and 1950s."

Dr. Bede Mitchell (Librarian) also responded to complaints about the suspension of the Gill Express Courier, asking everyone to forward their comments to him so that he could forward them to the appropriate Associate Vice Chancellor at the Board of Regents. He briefly explained the reason for the suspension and added that further cuts this year will be made based on a thorough review of all Galileo databases, so the resumption of Gill Express Courier next fiscal year might be possible

### **14. Adjournment**

**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**  
**October 20, 2008**  
**4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**  
**Russell Union Ballroom**

\*\*Questions and clarification may be directed to the Office of the Faculty Senate ([fsoffice@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:fsoffice@georgiasouthern.edu)) or persons identified with each agenda item prior to Senate.

**2008-2009 Senate Executive Committee** Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS); Dr. Richard Flynn (CLASS); Dr. Pat Humphrey (COST); Dr. Jim McMillan (CHHS); Dr. Michael Moore (COE) and Senate Librarian; Dr. Michael Reksulak (COBA); Dr. Jim Stephens (JPHCOPH); Dr. Jim Whitworth (CIT); Mr. Charles Skewis (LIB); Senate Secretary Ms. Ellen Hendrix (CLASS); Senate Liaison Ms. Marilyn Bruce

**Senate Parliamentarian** Bob Cook (CIT)

**SPC Representative** Norman Schmidt (COST); **SPC Apprentice** Michael Braz (CLASS)

**NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative** Chris Geyerman (CLASS) 

**SGA Representatives** Sam Gaston

**Voting Members in Attendance** Frank Atuahene; Michael Braz; Jean Paul Carton; Jonathan Copeland; Marc Cyr; Terry Diamanduros; Richard Flynn; Tim Giles; Ardian Greca; Mary Hadley; Kymberly Harris; Greg Harwood; Ellen Hendrix; Sonya Huber-Humes; Pat Humphrey; Bob Jackson; Youakim Kalaani; Jill Lockwood; Barbara Mallory; Jim McMillan; Michael Moore; Kent Murray; Patrick Novotny; Onyile Onyile; Patricia Price; Michael Reksulak; David Rostal; Donna Saye; Norman Schmidt; Charles Skewis; Fred Smith; T. Maria Smith; Diana Sturges; Jim Stephens; Brenda Talley; (Dolores Rangel for Patricia Walker); Patrick Wheaton; LeVon Wilson

**Voting Members Absent** John Averett; Jim Braselton; Adam Jonathan Con; Les Furr; Allison Jean Long; Mark Mohr; Lisa Schulz; Alison Scott; Jim Whitworth; Mark Yanochik; Jonathan Zhang

**Administrative Members in Attendance** Bruce Grube; Linda Bleicken; Ron Core; Steve Burrell; Teresa Thompson; Marilyn Bruce; Timothy Mack; Bret Danilowicz; Bede Mitchell

**Visitors** Brenda Marina; Amy Heaston; Candace Griffith

Dr. Marc Cyr, Senate Moderator, called the meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 4:00 p.m.



1. **Approval of the Agenda for the October 20, 2008 Meeting.** After calling the meeting to order, Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS) called for approval of the agenda. He announced a couple of last minute changes: Patrick Wheaton had been newly elected chair of the Undergraduate Committee, so his name was not in the proper slot. Chris Geyerman would not be able to make it to give the NCAA report, so he will report at the November meeting. The agenda was then approved.
2. **Approval of the [September 22, 2008](#)** Ellen Hendrix (CLASS), Senate Secretary reminded everybody to sign in. She then moved that minutes from the September 22 meeting be approved.

With a note to insure the draft posted to the web was, in fact, the draft moved for approval, the motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

3. **Librarian's Report of [October 20, 2008](#):** Michael Moore (COE), Senate Librarian moved that the senate accept the Librarian's Report.

Michael Moore (COE) questioned Jean-Paul Carton (CLASS) about the faculty welfare committee's getting a statistical report, wondering if the sense was that there are more incidents of student disruption on campus over the last couple of years or just a matter of us having more students?

Jean-Paul Carton (CLASS) responded that the statistics were part of the charge and the findings would be coming in the next set of minutes.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) clarified that part the charge was to investigate what the situation was on campus, and whether it needed to be revised and addressed, and, if so, in what ways.

Pat Humphrey (COST) added that evidence indicates that incidents are up and asking for the data will give the committee a clearer picture.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator then called for a second. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

- a. **Report from Undergraduate Committee:** Patrick Wheaton (CLASS) moved that the report of the minutes of the Undergraduate Committee be accepted. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator added that Wheaton's motion did not need a second.

Patrick Wheaton (CLASS) then noted curriculum changes from two areas: the Vice President of Academic Affairs added four thesis seminar classes for the Honors program, as well as a change for Selected Topics in International Studies from three hours to anywhere from one to three hours. COBA offered two course revisions, including titles and descriptions to distinguish how material is presented. They also added the REDV course as an alternative prerequisite.

Pat Humphrey (COST) asked for clarification on the REDV 4131, wondering if the justification should be “or.” Patrick Wheaton (CLASS) responded that the actual form says “or.”

The report of the Undergraduate Committee was then approved unanimously.

- b. **Report from Graduate Committee:** Jill Lockwood (COBA) thanked Richard Flynn (CLASS) for reporting at the last meeting. She then reported that the Graduate Committee is currently revising the blueprint for the future of graduate faculty based on the need for continuing and improving graduate faculty at a national level. However, the initial blueprint did not concretely address the problems at Georgia Southern University, so the revised blueprint will look specifically at GSU’s challenges using the same three headings in the original blueprint. The committee will look at challenges and ways to solve those challenges, but again they will be specific to Georgia Southern University. The committee is also looking at assessment, specifically assessing graduate programs. She added that faculty should have input in how they are being assessed, and that is the direction the committee is taking. The committee is also making revisions to the status of graduate faculty and how we determine who is graduate faculty. The committee is working to insure that their recommendations are in accordance with the practicalities of the programs here at Georgia Southern.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator asked if the graduate committee had any curriculum items. Jill Lockwood (COBA) responded that they had no curricular issues at that time.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator asked if there were any questions for Lockwood or the Graduate Committee, and Richard Flynn (CLASS) added that the Graduate Committee minutes needed to be approved. The minutes of the Graduate Committee were then approved unanimously.

4. **President’s Report:** Dr. Bruce Grube, President, presented his report.

- **Enrollment:** Dr. Grube announced that the final headcount enrollment for fall is plus/minus two or three students 17,748. A significant subset of that headcount was a very strong increase in graduate enrollments;
- **Final SAT:** The average for this year’s freshman class will be at 1111; and
- **Retention:** For the first time in our history, GSU has cracked the 80% mark for retention. The official figure will go down in USG report as 81%. He reminded the senate that in Fall ’09 there will be a residency requirement for freshmen as a part of efforts to increase retention, progression, and graduation levels at the University. Students who live in University housing and engage in the programming tend to be retained at a higher rate and to get higher grades.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator asked if there were any questions for President Grube.

Norman Schmidt (COST) then asked Dr. Grube how the budget was looking. Any good news, bad news?

Bruce Grube (President) responded that we've already given up 6% of our budget and have been told to prepare for 8% cuts and 10% cuts. In fact, we have been told that we should expect a 10% cut. The Board of Regents has just approved the 6% level, but the campus is planning for the 10%. He added that the additional students and the revenues that come to us via tuition may permit us to get through this year without feeling a whole lot more than we've already felt.

5. **Report from Senate Executive Committee:** Marc Cyr (CLASS), Chair, reported that the SEC had four items up for consideration for inclusion on the agenda, two of which were on the agenda today: The election of our SGA Liaison and Jill Lockwood's ad hoc committee motion.

### **Agenda Request**

One agenda item request for a motion by Pat Humphrey, titled *Approval of Amended USG Faculty Council Bylaws*, was not approved for inclusion on the agenda because several SEC members noted the need for clarification in several elements of those Bylaws so they could be explained to Senators prior to their consideration. Of special concern was Section IV, Voting, #3: "Any decisions or recommendations by the USGFC must receive majority approval from each of the three institutional tiers (research, four-year and two-year school) groupings." The SEC wasn't clear in which tier GSU belongs, nor sure whether two research tier schools—UGA, Georgia State, Tech and the Medical College of Georgia—voting against a measure approved by all of the other system schools would constitute defeat of the measure. A number of things needed clarification before the SEC would bring the item before the senate.

### **Request for Information**

Robert Costomiris had submitted a request of information about summer teaching contracts. Cyr acknowledged Provost Bleicken to address the request:

Linda Bleicken (Provost) indicated that there were several questions in Dr. Costomiris' request for information:

The first question was why no contracts had been offered for summer teaching in 2008, and how long has been since we have issued contracts? According to Dr. Bleicken, GSU has never had what we would call a contract for summer teaching since she has been at GSU. Instead, the document that faculty sign and then is signed off on by the President is something called a "summer employment form," which has taken several different forms over the years. These paper documents, were prepared initially in the Department office, forwarded to the Dean for the Dean's signature, forwarded to the Provost for the Provost's signature, and forwarded on to the ContrOller for payment. These forms often required corrections and updates. A lot of times we would have a a paper form that was

bouncing back and forth as many as five and six times before we got it right. In 2007, someone suggested that we use electronic means to actually track this sort of thing and make the updates electronically. However, the information on that spreadsheet did not necessarily get back to faculty in a document form, so the Deans' Council has been looking at a standardized form that can very easily be forwarded to faculty that would describe:

- A. What you are going to be teaching,
- B. What you are going to be paid, and
- C. When you are going to be paid that amount.

Dr. Costomiris also asked whether we intended to stop issuing contracts for the academic year, and Bleicken stated that GSU does not intend to stop issuing contracts. She acknowledged that there's been a lot of discussion about the interesting nature of summer because summer is not guaranteed to anyone. It is based upon enrollment and an approved budget. Because summer pay comes out of the following fiscal year's budget, and the following fiscal year's budget is not actually signed off on until sometime in May, we don't for sure know what we have in the budget for the coming year. So, we're always projecting ahead when we are building summer school

Marc Cyr (CLASS) then asked if there were any questions for Provost Bleicken. There being none, he then asked Vice President Core if anything else had come up in regard to the TRS proposal.

Ron Core (VPBF) responded that nothing has come up, but added that the email sent to GSNEWS was to bring to attention a situation that GSU feels can be somewhat problematic: the TRS Board, at its last meeting, had a first reading on a proposed amendment to the administrative rules that govern the TRS distribution; the amendment has to do with the payment of cost-of-living adjustments to retirees once they're retired. The current language and the current procedure is that those cost of living adjustments are paid automatically. The language actually says the TRS Board "shall" pay the cost-of-living adjustments based on a formula and that such adjustments do not require board action. The new language says that they "may" and, at their annual meeting each year, will determine how much that is based on a formula. The difference between them saying they "may" do it and "shall" do it can be the difference between whether retirees get the adjustment or not. He added that GSU has written letters to all of our retirees alerting them to the proposed change.

Pat Humphrey (COST) added that the problematic wording is not just "may" give you a cost-of-living increase, but may also give you a cost-of-living decrease, if the cost-of-living goes down.

Jean-Paul Carton (CLASS) also added that the amended wording indicated that the retirement benefit may be reduced. He added that there are more problems than the substitution of "may" in there, adding that cost-of-living should be adjusted according to the price index, inflation, and all that is good, but the language also argued logically that it could go down. It's not the same thing, he

added, when it doesn't go above 3% in the first place, and then it's a little bit different when the phrasing says the "retirement benefit may be reduced," rather than just the cost-of-living adjustment being reduced.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) added that there are a number of issues at stake and reiterated Ron's suggestion that everyone write in and voice their opposition, their complaints, adding that the more specific those complaints are, the more effective they may well be.

Ron Core (VPBF) added that there was discussion on the web about the deadline and how long we had, and there was a misinterpretation that the language be on the table for public comment for 30 days. His office had called TRS and clarified we have up until the meeting date to voice those objections, so we're not limited to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of October.

Jill Lockwood (COBA) asked about the rationale for having the summer term being the first term of the budget year. She asked why summer term wasn't the last term of a year so that numbers could be drawn from a budget that is already in place instead of projected from one that is not known.

Ron Core (VPBF) explained that the fiscal year starts July 1<sup>st</sup>, and summer term doesn't end until after July 1<sup>st</sup>. The Board of Regents made the institutions be consistent and GSU was pretty well instructed that summer school would be the first of the fiscal year, since it crossed into the July 1<sup>st</sup> beginning of the fiscal year.

Jill Lockwood (COBA) recalled that the change occurred when GSU switched from quarters to semesters. Under the quarter system, she added, July 1<sup>st</sup> would have been right in the middle of our one and only summer term, but under the semester system we have a Term A and a Term B, and Term A ends in June; Long Term and Term B go past July 1<sup>st</sup>. She asked if a) is it possible to go back and have the summer be the last term, and b) is it desirable to do so?

Bruce Grube (President) added that this is not a decision we make on this campus. He added that if GSU could do what Lockwood suggested, the entire summer budget would somehow have to come out of this fiscal year, whatever the year is, and that would represent a whole other sort of fiscal crisis for us. He concluded that we're going to have to live with what we've got and try and figure it out as best we can on this campus.

Jill Lockwood (COBA) thanked Dr. Grube for clarifying the situation.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) announced that at the November 19<sup>th</sup> meeting, senators will be electing next year's moderator. He will send out a job description, but he asked senators to be thinking about running for the position. Self-nominations should be sent to Marc by November 10<sup>th</sup> so the Senate can consider the candidates.

**6. Report from, NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative, Chris Geyerman (CLASS) No report.**

7. **Report from SPC Representative**, Norman Schmidt (COST), announced that the Strategic Planning Council serves as a link between the President and his Cabinet and the faculty and staff. Last year the SPC sponsored a number of forums to discuss changes due to our reclassification to a doctoral research university. Also the SPC meets annually with each member of the President's Cabinet to keep the SPC informed as to recent changes in the University at the administrative level. This semester, Schmidt reported, the SPC is working on updating the Level II plan due to determine which items of the current Level II Plan have already been accomplished, which items need to be updated, and which items should be added to the current Level II plans. The general feeling is that the six themes from the original Strategic Plan are still appropriate and the committee is planning to work on revising these plans to present to the President's Cabinet later this semester.

8. **ELECTION: Senate Liaison with the SGA.**

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator moved to elect a Senate Liaison to the SGA, and announced a self-nomination by Michael Moore (COE), who was then elected unanimously.

**MOTION:** Jill Lockwood (COBA) passed out copies of her amended motion and referred senators to agenda item 9: "That the Faculty Senate appoint an ad-hoc committee to examine the bases and methods for, and impacts of summer curriculum/course selection and deletion, including impacts on faculty, students, and programs."

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator called for a second and opened the floor for discussion.

Jill Lockwood (COBA) explained that the rationale stemmed from experiences that the School of Accountancy had with summer classes last summer and acknowledged the School of Accountancy's understanding of the University's need to make a profit in the summer.

She then explained that the School of Accountancy had been told to cut two classes before registration for summer term ended because its profit goal was not being met, despite the two classes being viable and necessary for students who depend on summer classes to complete their program for graduation or prepare them for fall.

One of the classes, Lockwood added, was a class in its Fraud concentration in the School's Masters of Accountancy, which is starting to develop a national reputation. In an effort to attract students into the program, the School promises prerequisites in summer to students who transfer in so they will be ready in the fall. Because that class was threatened, the school ended up having people on twelve-month contracts teaching those courses as part of their loads, even though they weren't scheduled to teach them and had never taught them before.

The *Faculty Handbook* offers a guarantee of shared governance between the faculty and the administration, and her motion builds on that guarantee. The university's insistence that summer offerings have a 150% profit in the sum total of all of the classes taught is unreasonable. No business can operate at cost plus 50% profit. In addition, Lockwood argued, is it ignores contribution margin, which means that if you cancel something that is generating a profit, you lose that profit and we do not know how much cash that policy may be costing this University.

More importantly, however, we have a role and a responsibility towards our students. And that role is a shared role. The motion would allow faculty to work with Finance and the Provost in finding a formula that will maximize profits but also take care of our students.

Michael Moore (COE) also spoke for the motion and added that it is the responsibility of the University is to provide the best faculty members for its students and to rely on the promotion and tenure process to determine who our best faculty are. Offering the best faculty to teach each course is going to cost. But to cut classes because a faculty member makes too much money or keep the class and allow a less-experienced faculty member to teach it at a lower cost defeats our purpose of offering our students our best teachers.

After discussion, the motion passed unanimously. Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator added that he will be working with the SEC to put this committee together and asked for volunteers, adding that ad hoc committee members need not be members of the Senate

#### **9. Unfinished Business**

None.

#### **10. New Business**

Sonya Huber-Humes (CLASS) asked to share a request for information, and Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator clarified that a request for information needs to be submitted on the web.

#### **11. Announcements: Vice Presidents**

None

#### **12. Announcements from the Floor**

Linda Bleicken (Provost) announced that the College of Public Health received news on Friday that the Council on Public Health had approved the Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health's application to begin the accreditation process, explaining that the application was good enough for JPHCPH to be considered in terms of public health programs at other accredited schools and colleges of public health, such as Harvard, Emory, the University of Texas, Berkeley, et al. She asked senators to join her in congratulating CPH colleagues.

Diana Sturges (CHHS) asked to add to the disruptive behavior discussion earlier in the meeting. A Faculty Learning Community in the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning will be launching a survey that will deal with disruptive behavior and class management issues in about two or three weeks. Her group has designed the survey and received IRB approval; they will share the results later on. She encouraged as many faculty and students as possible to take part in the survey.

Michael Reksulak (COBA) announced an economic forum on campus on Wednesday at 6:00 p.m in the Nessmith-Lane Building. Experts in finance and banking and one expert in economics will talk about the recent developments.

### **13. Adjournment**



**GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**  
**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**  
**November 19, 2008**  
**4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**  
**Russell Union Ballroom**

\*\*Questions and clarification may be directed to the Office of the Faculty Senate ([fsoffice@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:fsoffice@georgiasouthern.edu)) or persons identified with each agenda item prior to Senate.

**2008-2009 Senate Executive Committee** Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS); Dr. Richard Flynn (CLASS); Dr. Pat Humphrey (COST); Dr. Jim McMillan (CHHS); (Dr. Brenda Marina for Dr. Michael Moore (COE) and Senate Librarian)); Dr. Michael Reksulak (COBA); (Dr. Cheryl Aasheim for Dr. Jim Whitworth (CIT)); Dr. Jim Stephens (JPHCOPH); Mr. Charles Skewis (LIB); Senate Secretary Ms. Ellen Hendrix (CLASS); Senate Liaison Ms. Marilyn Bruce.

**Senate Parliamentarian** Bob Cook (CIT).

**SPC Representative** Norman Schmidt (COST); **SPC Apprentice** Michael Braz. (CLASS)

**NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative** Chris Geyerman (CLASS).

**SGA Representative** Sam Gaston.

**Voting Members in Attendance** (June Alberto for Diana Sturges); John Averett, Jean-Paul Carton; Adam Jonathan Con; Jonathan Copeland; Terry Diamanduros; Les Furr; Tim Giles; Ardian Greca; Mary Hadley; Kymberly Harris; Greg Harwood; Sonya Huber-Humes; Bob Jackson; (Dena Hale for Jill Lockwood); Barbara Mallory; Kent Murray; Tom Noland; Patrick Novotny; David Rostal; (Jeff Tysinger for Lisa Schulz); (Jim Stephens for Alison Scott); T. Maria Smith; Fred Smith, Jr.; Brenda Talley; Patricia Walker; LeVon Wilson; (Mark Yanochik for Tom Noland).

**Voting Members Absent** Frank Atuahene; Youakim Kalaani; Allison Long; Mark Mohr; Onyile Onyile; Patricia Price; Donna Saye; Patrick Wheaton; Jonathan Zhang.

**Administrative Members in Attendance** Linda Bleicken; Ron Core; Steve Burrell; Teresa Thompson.

**Visitors** Gary Means; Ron Shiffler; Sue Moore; Tim Mack; Charlie Hardy; Bede Mitchell; Thomas Case; Amy Heaston; Godfrey Gibbison; Candace Griffith; Chris Caplinger; Gary Gawel; Dick Diebolt; Clifton Price; Samantha Young; Joshua Martin.

Dr. Marc Cyr, Senate Moderator, called the meeting of the Faculty Senate to order at 4:00 p.m.

1. **Approval of the Agenda for the November 19, 2008, Meeting. Dr. Marc Cyr (CLASS), Senate Moderator:** After announcing that Bob Johnson would be presenting the Undergraduate Committee report and Linda Bleicken would be delivering the President's Report, the agenda was approved.
2. **Approval of the October 20, 2008, Minutes: Ellen Hendrix (CLASS), Senate Secretary:** Ellen Hendrix asked that the minutes be amended to show that Chris Geyerman, the NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative, was not at the October meeting. The minutes were then approved unanimously. She reminded faculty senators to sign in and to identify themselves and their college affiliation when speaking.
3. **Librarian's Report of November 19, 2008: Michael Moore (COE), Senate Librarian (Patricia Humphrey [COST] substituted for Michael Moore):** Marc Cyr reminded senators that approving the Librarian's Report indicates only awareness of what has taken place in committees, not approval of committee actions. The report was then approved unanimously.
  - a. **Report from Undergraduate Committee: Bob Jackson (COE) presented in the absence of Patrick Wheaton (CLASS):** The Undergraduate Committee met on October 22<sup>nd</sup> and approved two new courses, nine course revisions, one course elimination, three program deletions, and six program changes. The Senate accepted the Undergraduate Committee report.
  - b. **Report from Graduate Committee: Richard Flynn (CLASS) presented in the absence of Jill Lockwood (COBA):** The Senate approved the Graduate Committee minutes for October 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008.
4. **President's Report: Dr. Bruce Grube (Linda Bleicken, Provost, reported in Dr. Grube's absence):**

#### **Kiplinger's Top 100 Best Values in Public Colleges**

Dr. Bleicken announced Georgia Southern's inclusion in Kiplinger's Top 100 [Best] Values in Public Colleges, a distinction provided to those 100 colleges and universities in the United States who are deemed to have a combination of academic distinction and affordable tuition.

Dr. Bleicken also reported on her conversations with faculty on what being a Doctoral Research University means based on her visits with departments last spring. In reviewing the summary of those conversations, Dr. Bleicken discovered E. K. Schien's framework fit quite well the themes that emerged. She then shared the information and raw data with the Deans, Chairs and President's Cabinet.

Because Georgia Southern is only as distinctive as its academic departments and academic programs, Dr. Bleicken added that colleges and departments need to be

able to talk articulately about what makes us different, what is that makes Georgia Southern a place that students should not miss and also that prospective faculty or prospective administrators should always be willing to see. She has asked Deans and Chairs to initiate conversations to this end. In order to keep the conversation going, she announced that she would host a faculty luncheon on January 23, 2009. The agenda is still being defined.

**5. Report from Marc Cyr (CLASS), Chair, Senate Executive Committee:**  
The Senate Executive Committee Report:

**Motions**

Marc Cyr noted that two motions were approved for inclusion on today's agenda: Approval of Amended USG Faculty Council Bylaws and Policy on Limiting Course Withdrawals from the Academic Standards Committee.

**Agenda Request**

Marc Cyr suggested that the request by Chris Caplinger's First Year Experience Task Force would make the February agenda since policy has to be in place before it can be updated.

**Request for Information**

Provost Bleicken responded to Sonya Huber's RFI regarding projected teaching loads for temporary faculty by noting that the Senate discussed the issue in 2004 and adopted the current language in the *Handbook* based on the Board of Regent's guidelines. GSU has established a 12-hour load for faculty. The current wording in the *Handbook* streamlines the previous long and laborious passage which enumerated distinctions between temporary and permanent faculty. In the current wording, "faculty" is interpreted by the administration to refer to tenure track and tenured faculty only. GSU plans to institute University-wide, 15-hour per semester class loads for all temporary faculty — a load already in place in some departments. Whether this is a temporary adjustment or will be a standard practice is unknown at this time.

Linda Bleicken (Provost) clarified that it isn't 15-hour course load; it is a 15-hour workload, and a 15-hour workload is what all faculty have, given tenure-track and tenured faculty's obligation to service and scholarship. She added that it is not the institutions intention to assign a 15-hour course load to all temporary faculty members. That decision lies within the purview of the Chair and the Dean; however, a 15-hour workload applies to all faculty. Temporary faculty members are hired with the expectation that they are going to teach but without an explicit expectation that they are going to be evaluated on either service or scholarship.

Marc Cyr (Chair) Senate Executive Committee had asked Provost Bleicken for clarification on whether or not temporary faculty get written contracts. Cyr reported that temporary faculty do not work with a written contract, but instead with a directive (a PA, or Personnel Action) to personnel offices to give them pay and benefits.

Linda Bleicken (Provost) cited Section 800 in the BOR *Policy Manual* as one that is actually under discussion by a group of Provosts assembled by the University System office because the section has been confusing to many for years. At this time, the committee has not resolved the matter.

Marc Cyr (Chair) Senate Executive Committee thanked Dr. Bleicken and moved to an RFI he had submitted on behalf of faculty concerning summer tuition revenue, specifically asking how summer revenue is allocated and how summer revenue figures into fiscal year budgets.

Linda Bleicken (Provost) responded that she and Vice President Core were close to having an answer, adding that two final figures vary about \$10,000, which isn't significant in a 7 million plus budget, but she wanted to make sure her final figures were accurate.

Marc Cyr (Chair) Senate Executive Committee again thanked Dr. Bleicken. He then stated that the Faculty Welfare Committee has reported that the office of Judicial Affairs is bringing forward new policies based on those produced by Virginia Tech after the tragedy. Faculty Welfare is pursuing its charge to look into how we handle disruptive students and is working on producing amendments and/or additions to that policy. The committee is waiting on Judicial Affairs to supply information essential to the committee's work.

Marc Cyr (Chair) Senate Executive Committee reported that the TRS Board had voted to maintain the current automatic COLA raises. He then reported that the Senate had just received President Grube's response to the motion passed last month to establish an ad hoc committee on summer issues, but he was not sure how to proceed given the provisions in GSU *Statutes*, Article 5, Section 5. Cyr felt that President Grube's response was implicit disapproval of the ad hoc committee recommendation even though disapproval was not explicitly stated in the response. However, given the statute does not give an option between approval and disapproval, by announcing in its stead two forums to be held by the Provost to discuss summer issues and noting that he will reconsider the recommendation should faculty remain unsatisfied after these forums, Dr. Grube's response implies disapproval of the ad hoc committee recommendation. Cyr then asked if anyone had questions.

Sonya Huber (CLASS) reiterated her understanding of the RFI concerning course load for temporary faculty as a 15 hour workload as determined by the Dean and the Chairs so that she could report to CLASS faculty. Marc Cyr (Chair) Senate Executive Committee confirmed her understanding.

Ellen Hendrix (CLASS) asked what options the Senate had given President Grube's implicit disapproval of the ad hoc committee.

Marc Cyr (Chair) Senate Executive Committee responded that he was not sure given that President Grube wasn't there to clarify that language and asked Dr. Bleicken if she could clarify President Grube's thinking.

Linda Bleicken (Provost) was not sure that President Grube's response was an approval or disapproval, adding that she thought it was recognition of faculty misunderstanding and misinformation about summer school in general. The forums, she felt, would at least put the facts out in an accessible way to all faculty and would be an attempt to be as transparent as possible to as broad a group as possible. She acknowledged that the forums were her suggestion. After the forums, she added, an ad hoc committee would be considered if faculty remained concerned.

Marc Cyr (Chair) Senate Executive Committee stated that the Senate's problem was procedural at that point, citing Statute 5, Section 5, Article 5, Section 5: "Upon receipt of a recommendation from the Faculty Senate shall within 30 days, either approve or disapprove the recommendation." He added that the Senate would need clarification by Friday. He then asked Parliamentarian, Mr. Bob Cook, for input and outlined the three options the Senate would have had it been clear the recommendation had been disapproved: 1) To do nothing and in effect accept the disapproval, 2) To rescind the previous motion by a majority vote and not have the President disapprove it, or 3) To vote by a two-thirds majority to not accept the President's disapproval and to send it to the entire faculty for consideration and recommendation. Without President Grube present, Cyr felt the Senate was in a parliamentary conundrum.

Bob Cook (CIT) Senate Parliamentarian explained that the Senate could do nothing without consequence since the *Bylaws* don't require the Senate Executive Committee to appoint ad hoc committees within a particular timeframe, so assuming that the two public meetings and distribution of information was done in a timely fashion, then the SEC could make a recommendation to actually staff the committee. If the Faculty Senate decided to withdraw the previous motion, then the Senate would allow the public meetings. If after those meetings the Senate is still not satisfied, then the motion could simply be put back on the floor. Withdrawing the motion also would not put President Grube into a situation of disapproving something before information has been disseminated.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Executive Committee responded that Mr. Cook's interpretation assumes that the motion had been disapproved, adding that the parliamentary problem facing the Senate was that President was not there to confirm disapproval. Cyr recommended that the Senate not act on the issue at all at that time.

Bob Cook (CIT) Senate Parliamentarian added that the Faculty Senate could pass a motion to establish the ad hoc committee at a future meeting if necessary. If it's then approved by President Grube, the committee exists; if it's disapproved, then the Senate could make another statement with respect to the committee, at which time presumably everyone would have an informed opinion to back up the motion.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Executive Committee agreed.

Chris Geyerman (CLASS) asked if the Senate had to know if the motion has been approved or disapproved in order to withdraw it. He explained that if that knowledge isn't required in order to withdraw the motion, and since the public meetings were going to take place anyway, it would seem expeditious to withdraw the motion, have the public meetings, then we put the motion back on the table if there still is discontentment among the faculty with regard to the clarity for summer school policies and procedures.

Pat Humphrey (COST) agreed, stating that there is nothing in the *Bylaws* that prevents us from calling a special meeting above and beyond the normally scheduled meetings should we decide we need to do so to reinstitute the committee.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Executive Committee added that the Senate could vote to pull back the motion because of a lack of clarity. Doing so, he added, could not be recorded as acceptance of the President's disapproval because the Senate does not know if it has been disapproved.

Richard Flynn (CLASS) questioned the time frame of the President's statement that more information about the forums would be available on the Provost's web site.

Linda Bleicken (Provost) assured the Senate that the information could be up within the next two weeks.

Marc Cyr (Chair) Senate Executive Committee then concluded the SEC's report.

**6. Report from Chris Geyerman (CLASS), NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative:**

Chris Geyerman circulated factual data of the GSR report and then reported as follows:

**Grade Checks**

Chris Geyerman asked faculty to cooperate with personnel from the Athletic Department when they send out grade checks even though the procedure varies from coach to coach. He added that the University Athletic Committee had discussed faculty's request that the procedure be standardized and have conferred with Keith Roughton, Director of Compliance Services. They are looking at Grades First software which will interface with BANNER and make the process much more convenient for faculty members. At that time, faculty will receive one email for a progress check on all athletes in their classes. They have purchased software to report on 150 student-athletes, which is enough to include the majority of the football and basketball teams as well as other selected student athletes. They hope to have the software up this spring.

### **Southern Conference**

Chris Geyerman reported on an online interactive class called “My Playbook” that is designed to influence student-athletes’ behavior and attitudes toward alcohol and drug use. The program is currently undergoing a pilot study at approximately 100 Division II athletics departments. He will find out more this spring to determine whether it is something Georgia Southern might want to implement.

### **APR**

Chris Geyerman stated that the NCAA instituted APR several years ago now and is now in full effect. The two sports that seem to struggle most are men’s football and men’s basketball. As a consequence, the NCAA has formed a basketball enhancement group and a football enhancement group. The basketball enhancement group is considering requiring all student-athletes that play men’s basketball to go to summer school starting the summer before they enroll in the fall, which could, according to Geyerman, lead to unintended consequences. Therefore, the Council of Presidents of the Southern Conference have drafted and sent a letter to this group and the NCAA and the faculty athletics representatives of our conference opposing that requirement because it doesn’t keep the best interest of the student-athlete in mind.

### **Graduation Success Report**

Chris Geyerman distributed a copy of the Graduation Success Report for Georgia Southern University in October. The student-athlete graduation success rate is significantly higher because it is figured according to a different formula. The primary distinction between the two is that the federal graduation rate includes students who transfer to other institutions but do graduate. Therefore, the federal rate for Georgia Southern would be 50%, but our graduation success rate would be 100%. In men’s swimming, Georgia Southern has a 100% GSR, and a 50% fed rate, even though Georgia Southern no longer has men’s swimming. The numbers reveal that there was an even number of men swimmers when the sport was dismissed. Half stayed here and graduated; half of them have graduated here, but all of them have graduated. No questions came from the floor, so Geyerman concluded his report.

- 7. Report from Norman Schmidt (COST), SPC Representative:** The Norman Schmidt reported that the SPC is currently going through the Level II Strategic Plans and noting progress that the University is making toward achieving these plans. Once the SPC has finished, Dr. Bartels, chair of the SPC, will present these recommendations to the President’s Cabinet for further action. He added that the SPC will review the Crane Report on GSU and what affects that has had on the campus in its December 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator then moved to the first action item, an election for someone to succeed him as chair of the SEC and Moderator next year.

- 8. ELECTION: Chair of the SEC (Moderator) 2009-2010**

Pat Humphrey (COST) nominated Michael Moore of the College of Education for Senate Moderator. The nomination was seconded. After receiving no nominations from the floor, Michael Moore was elected unanimously.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator then called on Pat Humphrey for a Motion for approval of the USG Faculty Council Bylaws.

**9. MOTION: “Approval of Amended USG Faculty Council Bylaws”**

Pat Humphrey (COST) formally recommended that the Senate approve the amended University System of Georgia Faculty Council Bylaws as amended by the committee on August 20, 2008.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator then asked for and received a second before opening the floor for discussion.

Pat Humphrey (COST) explained that the initial version of the Bylaws was introduced to the Senate last April. However, those initial Bylaws were turned down at the Board of Regents level because the big four (Georgia, Georgia Tech, Georgia States, and the Medical College of Georgia) were not in favor. Associate Chancellor Susan Herbst then reconvened the committee behind the USGFC and they drafted revised Bylaws. Three of the big four have approved the revised Bylaws. She added that a provision in the current draft of the Bylaws is that any vote taken by the USGFC requires a majority of the institutions in all three tiers in order to pass. She then recommended approval of the motion.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator clarified that research is one tier, four-year institutions are another, and two-year schools are a third. Georgia Southern belongs among four-year institutions. For a motion to pass, there would have to be a majority among each tier so any tier can veto any move. This was based upon the fact that the four big schools have the majority of the faculty and their voice is commensurate with the numbers of their faculty members.

After opening the floor for further discussion and receiving none, the motion passed unanimously. Marc Cyr then turned the called upon David Rostal (COST) for a motion.

**10. MOTION: “Policy on Limiting Course Withdrawals”**

David Rostal (COST) reported that the Academic Standards Committee had met and recommended that the Senate approve the motion of the policy on limiting the number of course withdrawals to five.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator asked for a second and then asked Patricia Humphrey to talk about the rationales for the motion.

Pat Humphrey (COST) explained that the motion had come up during an Academic Standards Committee meeting in May. Then the progress of the motion



was delayed because an academic policy requires approval of the full senate. According to the motion, students would be limited to five withdrawals through their tenure as undergraduate students with a few exceptions. Summer courses do not count because they are compressed enough that students should have an out. Other reasons include military and medical withdrawals. In addition, students would have the option of appealing to the Dean for an extra exemption. The idea is to make students use their time more wisely and move through more expeditiously.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator then opened the floor for discussion.

Patricia Walker (CLASS) asked about the phrase “in cases where students completely withdraw from the University, they may petition in writing to the Dean,” asking why completely withdrawing would not be an automatic exemption and if it could become one?

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator called upon Chris Caplinger for clarification.

Chris Caplinger (Director) First Year Experience explained that such cases would likely be approved by the Dean of Students, but the phrase was added so that students did not have an incentive to withdraw from all classes in order to get around the exemption policy. As written, the motion takes away the incentive to withdraw and does not encourage what the policy is trying to limit.

Les Furr (CHHS) added that CHHS faculty had also questioned the wording “students may completely withdraw from the University.” They wondered if students who changed their major and wanted to drop classes related to the previous major but continue with the University could be covered in this same clause.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator suggested that situation might be covered under “grounds to petition?”

Chris Caplinger (Director) FYE agreed.

Richard Flynn (CLASS) asked if the policy assumed that classes dropped during drop/add would not be included.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator responded that those classes are not recorded as withdrawals.

Barbara Mallory (COE) briefly questioned whether summer is a term or a semester.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator clarified that summer semester is an overarching term that includes both Long Term, Short Term A and Short Term B.

Bob Jackson (COBA) asked if the courses and the credits earned in the summer are worth less than in regular semester since they are an exception.

Chris Caplinger (Director) FYE explained that the committee had thought about the implication but concluded that summer is different in that students are less likely to really know exactly what they are getting into, but research also shows that going to summer school is very positively correlated with graduation. The policy, therefore, promotes summer attendance.

Linda Bleicken (Provost) added that the recommendation came from the First Year Experience Task Force, a faculty committee. She also noted that a preliminary analysis of the number of classes that students actually drop is small, stating that perhaps less than 10% of students actually drop more than five courses.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator then called for a vote and the motion passed unanimously. He then asked if Georgia Southern had received any information yet on pay raises.

Dr. Ron Core (VPBF) replied that he had heard nothing out of the Board office on budget reductions, pay raises, or anything at this point.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) Senate Moderator then asked for announcements from the floor. Receiving none, he moved to adjourn.

- 11. Unfinished Business**-None
- 12. New Business**-None
- 13. Announcements: Vice Presidents**-None
- 14. Announcements from the Floor**-None
- 15. Adjournment**