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FACULTY SENTATE MINUTES

September 5, 2018

Present:

Mete Akcaoglu, Rocio Alba-Flores, Heidi Altman, Dustin Anderson, (President of the Senate), Tony Barilla (Alternate, Helen Bland (President-elect), Jan Bradshaw, Ted Brimeyer, Christopher Brown, Chris Cartright, Sungkon Chang, Daniel Chapman, Robert Costomiris, Meghan Dove, Katrina Embrey, Richard Flynn, Lori Gwinett, Andrew Hansen, Jim Harris, Chuck Harter, Patricia Holt, Robert Jackson, Carol Jamison (Senate Secretary), Kevin Jennings, Lucas Jensen, (Felix Hamza Lup for Wayne Johnson), Drew Keane, Amanda Konkle, Jennifer Kowalewski, Hsiang-Jui Kung, Alisa Leckie, Li Li, Yi Lin, LindaAnn McCall, Ed Mondor, Christy Moore, Tony Morris, Donna Mullenax, Dennis Murphy, Dziyana Nazaruk, Traci Ness, Marshall Ransom, Aimee Reist, Peter Rogers, Barbara Ross, (Susan Sanders for Marian Tabi), Hans Joerg Schanz, Jeffrey Secrest, Jared Sexton, Stephanie Sipe, Kristi Smith, Janice Steirn, Jorge Suazo, Bill Wells, Maliece Whatley, Meca Williams-Johnson (Senate Librarian), Hayden Wimmer, Thresa Yancey, Bill Yang, Jennifer Zettler, Shijun Zheng, Jarvis Steele (SGA)

Administrators:

Shelley C. Nickel, President; Carl Reiber, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Georj Lewis, Vice President for Student Affairs; Rob Whitaker, Vice President for Finance and Operations; Amy Ballagh, Interim Vice President for Enrollment Management; Chris Curtis, Vice President for Armstrong and Liberty Campuses; Mohammad Davoud, Dean, AEP College of Engineering and Computing; Greg Evans, Dean, Jiann-Ping Hsu College of Public Health; Delana Gajdoski-Nivens, Dean, College of Science and Mathematics; John Kraft, Interim Dean, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences; Curtis Ricker, Dean, College of Arts and Humanities; Bede Mitchell, Dean of the Library and University Librarian

Guests: John Barkoulas; Kirsten Dickens; Amanda Glaze; Chris Hanna; Brandon Quillian; Beth Durodoye (COE); Christine Ludowise (Provost's Office), Leticia Fonseca, Laura Mills, Maura Copeland (Legal Affairs), Morgan Clifton (COSM), Candace Griffith (Provost's Office), Leticia McGrath (CAH), Lauren Grizzell (Graduate Student), Amy Smith (Enrollment Management), Sara Bath (Registrar's Office), Ashley Walker (COGS), Michelle Cawthorn (COSM), Amy Heaston (President's Office), Delena Bell Gatch (OIE), Mark Whitesel (Dean of Students)

Absent: Dragos Amarie, Yasar Bodur, Cary Christian, Gina Crabb, Anoop Desai, Michelle Haberland, Lowell Mooney, Robert Pirro, Jamie Scalera, Jack Simmons, Chasen Smith, James Todesco, TimMarie Williams

I. CALL TO ORDER

Senate President Dr. Dustin Anderson (CAH) called the meeting to order on September 5, 2018 at 4:00pm. He then recognized Ashlea, David, and the ITS department for their technical help with the meeting. He also thanked Donna Mullenax for driving a van with faculty from the Savannah campus.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Dr. Robert Costomiris (CAH) made a motion to approve the agenda as written. A second was made by Dr. Richard Flynn (CAH) and the motion to approve the agenda was passed.

III. PRESIDENT'S COMMENTS AND PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES

Dr. Anderson began with brief comments about the new consolidated university. He spoke about faculty interactions, encouraging Senate members to share positive experiences and to show public bonding. He noted that we should celebrate the diversity that results from consolidation and work to see ourselves as one university. We should dispel notions that faculty are only interested in research or teaching on one campus or the other. Anderson offered as an example ROTC Cadre who consider one another brothers and sisters regardless of campus location. He encouraged faculty to embrace the newness and to pool intellectual resources to make something new. He called upon the Senate to come together and help lead these efforts to unify our campuses. He then talked about protocols and procedures for the new Senate, including some changes in technology. Meetings will start promptly at 4:00pm. On the Armstrong campus, they will be located in the Savannah Ballroom, and on the Statesboro campus, in the Nesmith-Lane Ballroom. New Business Items must be seen in advance, so they must be submitted to Senate for consideration in advance of meetings.

IV. LIBRARIAN'S REPORT: Meca Williams-Johnson (COE), Senate Librarian

Motion: Dr. Meca Williams-Johnson (COE) made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Librarian Committee's meeting for May 22, 2018. Alissa Leike (COE) seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: none.

Senate gave unanimous approval.

Motion: Dr. Meca Williams-Johnson (COE) made a motion to approve the Minutes of the Librarian Committee's meeting for September, 2018. Alisa Leike (COE) seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: none.

Senate gave unanimous approval.

A. General Education and Core Curriculum Committee Report –

Chair's Report– Dr. Michelle Cawthorn (COSM) reviewed the Committee's report. The committee explained that due to changes in the offices' responsibilities, the Vice President of Enrollment Management should replace the Vice President for Student Affairs a non-voting member of this committee. The committee also discussed Core Curriculum Assessment, but reports are not due until January. All other items were tabled until the October meeting.

Motion: Dr. Cawthorn made a motion to approve the minutes from the Committee's report. Dr. Robert Costomiris (CAH) seconded the motion.

DISCUSSION: none.

Senate gave unanimous approval.

Motion: Dr. Cawthorn put forward a second motion: "The Vice President of Enrollment Management be a non-voting representative on the GECC, not the Vice President for

Student Affairs.” Meca Williams-Johnson (COE) seconded the motion. Anderson noted that this will be an update to the Bylaws of this committee.

DISCUSSION: none.

Senate gave unanimous approval.

V. ACTION ITEMS

A. GSU Statutes:

Summary of discussion points: Candace Griffith (Provost’s Office) reported on the revised consolidated GSU statutes. She reported that Dianna Cone chaired the committee; the statutes had been vetted through a committee against the criteria they are now looking for a vote from faculty so that the statutes can move forward to SACs. Richard Flynn (CAH) asked if these statutes would be presented to the entire faculty. Dr. Anderson noted that if there was discussion on this item, the Senate should have it now. Robert Costomiris (CAH) stated that he believed the handbook required it go to the entire faculty for a vote, but didn't know if that had been done before. Diana Cone (Provost's Office) stated that she only organized the committee, and it revised the consolidated bylaws to make them compliant with Board policy. Trish Holt (COE) noted on the last page of the Article XIV, above highlighted area, approval by majority of faculty is specified. Richard Flynn (CAH), additionally, the need for faculty approval is stated in Article XV of the Amendments. This opened debate about how and when these statutes could be distributed to faculty before SACs review.

MOTION: Jim Harris (CEC) made a motion to table this motion. Janice Steirn (CBSS) seconded the motion.

Summary of Discussion Points: Anderson called for Discussion. Janice Steirn (CBSS) asked about the timeline. Terri Flateby (Institiutal Effectiveness) gave the September 17-19 dates for the SACS visit. Costomiris (CAH) asked if this couldn't be delivered electronically through Qaultrics yes or no question, with the responses tallied. Several faculty members argued that these Statutes could be distributed and voted on electronically, but they must be distributed within the week to meet SACS deadlines. Anderson noted that tabling the motion would allow the Senate to return to it in the October meeting. After discussion, this motion failed as a majority did not want to table the motion.

MOTION: Richard Flynn (CAH) “Senate authorizes sending ratification of these Statutes electronically to faculty for a vote.” This motion was seconded by Heidi Altman (CBSS).

Summary of Discussion Points:

Dr. Anderson asked Terri Flateby to walk through what this would look like. Discussion continued about how these Statutes might best be distributed and the timeline, with several faculty members suggesting that this could be done electronically. Carl Rebeir (Provost) assured faculty that the Statutes could be distributed promptly. Curtis Ricker (Dean CAH) suggested that the Statutes could be presented as ratification.

NEW MOTION AFTER DISCUSSION: Richard Flynn (CAH) moved “Faculty Senate send, electronically, the Statutes for Ratification by the Faculty” within the window discussed by the Senate. Trish Holt (COE) seconded. The Senate approved of this motion.

B. FACULTY HANDBOOK PRINTING

MOTION: Dr. Anderson, CAH, made a motion to approve a friendly amendment to a policy: “the Faculty Handbook is no longer distributed in hard-copy, with the understanding that a (printable) digital version of the Handbook will be posted on the VPAA website; an archive of the annual publication of the Handbook be created in Digital Commons; and a hard-copy will be created and stored as a Reference text in each campus' library and in the University Special Collections.” Dr. Janice Steirn (CBSS) seconded the motion.

Summary of Discussion Points: Discussion on this motion included a request by Robert Costomiris (CAH) to print additional copies for each departmental office. Jim Harris (CEC) argued that anyone wanting hard copies could print them. Kristi Smith (LIB) explained that Handbooks would become part of university archives.

This motion carried following Senate vote.

VII: SENATE EXEC COMMITTEE REPORT: Dustin Anderson

A. RFI on Merit Increase

Carl Reiber, Provost, offered two clarifications: limited term faculty will not be eligible, and, if in process of tenure and promotion, faculty will be eligible. Jim Harris (CEC) asked if merit increases were equivalent to raises, or if they were a one-time thing. The Provost responded that yes, “merit was added to base so would be a raise.”

B. RFI on Shooting Sports Center Fees

Maura Copeland (Executive Council) will attend the Planning Budget Committee Meeting on this issue, scheduled for next week.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

C. Summer Enrollment

Amy Ballagh (Enrollment Management) spoke about enforcing the summer registration policy. She argued that Banner doesn't have the capability to do so. It could be customized but that slows down efficiency. Another option is that advisors could monitor students when they register for more than seven credit hours, or the system could automatically drop a student from a course if they register for too many hours.

Richard Flynn (CAH) who submitted the RFI, argued that this policy was passed in 2015 for the Statesboro campus, but has not been enforced. After some discussion among Senate members about making changes to Banner, Carl Reiber (Provost) suggested looking at summer term from the broader perspective of strategy and budget. Do we have data about success or failure of students? Reiber proposed putting together a working group to collect and analyze data. Instead of capping credits, we should take a look at how we offer classes in summer and explore other options.

Dustin Anderson proposed the formation of an ad hoc group to work on this in consultation with provost's office and registrar; he suggested that we can revisit at the latest in February. Janice Steirn (CBSS) asked that we begin to collect data now so there can be a report at next meeting. Amanda Konkle (CAH) asked if the OWG discussed this policy with regard to the newly consolidation institution. Velma Burton

(Registrar) said that it did not. Dustin Anderson requested volunteers via email so serve on an ad hoc committee that will look into this issue and report in October. Other discussion points included whether using advisors to help set limits on student hours might help prevent students from violating these rules. Velma Burton argued that there is no mechanism to prevent students from over-enrolling in the summer.

D. SRIs: Campuses will use the same forms as last year. Forms will be consolidated by ad hoc committee for upcoming year. Christy Moore (WCHP) noted that data had expired and is gone for Armstrong campus. Ashlea Anderson (ITS) stated that Armstrong faculty can get this information through Laura Mills. Moving forward, we will use *Course Evals*. Christy Moore noted that Armstrong campus students will have a new process to learn. Ashlea Anderson stated that they will access the SRIs differently but will get email notification. Dr. Anderson noted that the difference was primarily in the way they are accessed, not through MyApps. A discussion of online SRI ensued. Richard Flynn (CAH) expressed concern that we are changing evaluations without senate approval. Stephanie Sipe (COB) suggested that if we make changes, there should be a committee that addresses training students to use technology and to make evaluations, to make students take them seriously. Dr. Anderson suggested this be taken in the following year since the AdHoc committee would be focused on the instrument revision.

E. USGFC Update: Dr. Anderson requested that any questions should be sent via email to forward to the USGFC representative.

VIII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Shelley Nickel

President Shelley Nickel thanked the Senate for our work. She asked Senate members to do all we can to ensure that GSU students have an excellent experience. She also reported the on the following:

1. Enrollment: Fall enrollment is at 26,700, and students are still dropping and adding. Overall enrollment is about 3% down and is uneven across campuses. Armstrong is down around 11%; Statesboro 2%; Liberty flat; online and dual enrollment flat. Consolidations created confusion, especially on the Armstrong campus. Our projected retention is 78.6%, so we did not lose students due to consolidation. We are working to build relationships with K12 for dual enrollment, and we are emphasizing the mini-mester that starts in October. Financial stability is built on enrollment, so this is an important issue.
2. Diversity: We recognize that there is work to do on all three campuses. Cornerstone is a consultant group that will “take the temperature of campus” as to how we can improve, acknowledge and celebrate diversity.
3. Academic regional plan. This is a result of consolidation, and the emphasis is on program expansion mainly on Armstrong and Hinesville campus. Savannah presents opportunity; we are offering BBA in Econ and Logistics; a 3 + 1 degree in mechanical engineering (three years at Armstrong and 1 in Statesboro), and a Masters in Public Health. New programs include Logistics Nexus and Tourism. We are partnering with Savannah State, which will offer a Homeland Security degree. Program building is based on what employers are saying students will need. We are responding to employers in area
4. Strategic Planning: Efforts were underway last year. We will continue to define goals and visions of the new university. Helen Bland and Julie Gerbsch are leading this effort. A final document will be submitted by May 2019.

President Nickel then answered questions:

Robert Costomoris (CAH) asked about a rumor concerning a financial aid issue. President Nickel responded that enrollment is an issue. We will have to tighten our belts. A financial aid issue was created over a couple of years in past. Auditors came to campus and there is a payback because of mistakes. Students got financial aid who shouldn't have, but President Nickel maintains that it is not a crisis.

Costomoris asked for the amount of money involved. Rob Whitaker (VP of Finance) stated that a little over 9 million was owed, and university resources were used to pay it back. Janice Steirn (CBSS) explained that some portion of the 9 million went towards students taking courses that weren't required for a degree. She stated that this sends a bad message that students can't take courses simply because they are of interest. Also, Steirn remarked that it sounds as if the university's plan is driven by what businesses want, and businesses don't care if our students know Oedipus or art or literature or why math can be beautiful to some folks. President Nickel responded, " Absolutely, I agree."

IX: PROVOST'S REPORT: Carl Reiber

Dr. Reiber spoke about areas he would like to see emphasized (mostly student success). Student success doesn't mean lowering the bar; students will rise to challenge. It doesn't mean just pass but rather give them tools to be successful and work with students into K12 grades. We should make sure we understand our students' mindsets; optimize recruiting, marketing, advising, mentoring. He also wants to expand undergraduate scholarship. He discussed Momentum Year, which defines the first year of a student's time at the university. The goal is to help them find a path to completion of degree. In addition to other programs mentioned by President Nickel, he noted the BK program (birth to five years).

X. ELECTIONS

A. Senate Parliamentarian: Dustin Anderson explained that the Parliamentarian enforces protocols of Senate, and we need two, one for Statesboro campus and one for Armstrong campus. We will hold elections, and we need nominations. Parliamentarians don't have the right to comment and vote except to break tie. No nominations came at the meeting. Robert Costomoris (CAH) asked if the Parliamentarian had to be a Senator. Dr. Anderson responded that that this position does not need to be held by a Senator. Janice Steirn (CBSS) argued in favor of Dr. Costomiris's idea because we don't lose a vote.

B. University Athletics Committee: Dr. Anderson stated that we need a volunteer to serve on that committee, Chuck Harter (COB) nominated himself; Chris Hanna (WCHP) Prof. Health (sports management), nominated himself.

MOTION: A motion was made by Heidi Altman (CBSS) that the Senate should vote these on two candidates. Janice Steirn (CBSS) seconded the motion. The Senate asked the nominees to step outside during the vote. Chuck Harter was elected. This will be a two year appointment.

C. SGA Liaison: Jarvis Steele, SGA President, explained that meetings are on Wednesdays, from 6:30 to 8 in Ballroom on Statesboro campus, and on Mondays 12:15 to 1:30, on the Armstrong campus. We need one representative to sit in on meetings, give faculty viewpoint, and help foster communication with faculty. Dr. Anderson will put out a broader call for a volunteer.

D. Georgia Southern Cares: This program gives money to faculty member undergoing financial hardship. Christy Moore (WCHP) nominated herself.

MOTION: By affirmation, the Senate accepted Christy Moore.

E. Intellectual Property: Dustin Anderson will send out a broader call on this issue.

XI. BUSINESS ITEM INFORMATIONAL SESSION

Dustin Anderson explained RFIs and how they should be submitted. Several Senators then brought forward the following:

- A. Kevin Jennings (CBSS) noted that the Armstrong campus was not happy with MWF courses. Campus faculty had asked for more information at an Armstrong Senate meeting last year. We got no follow up. Dustin Anderson suggested that Dr. Jennings should submit an RFI on this issue.
- B. B.Trish Holt (COE) noted that some colleges have equitable workloads across campuses, but not all. Dr. Anderson suggested that she should submit an RFI on this issue.
- C. Maliece Whatley (COB) suggested using clickers to vote, especially for contentious issues. Dr. Anderson stated that he did not want to add an additional layer of technology at this time, but can have anonymous votes by paper.
- D. Tracy Ness (COSM) requested that communication of changes could be clarified and aren't always clearly communicated. How do we move forward to make sure faculty know what has changed, for syllabus, etc.? Dr. Anderson noted that Tony Barilla chairs the committee to help with consolidation communications,

XII: ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM VPS: none

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned on September 5 at 6 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Carol Jamison

_____, Recording Secretary

Minutes were approved <<Date>> by
electronic vote of Committee Members