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GS Libraries Faculty Meeting Essence Notes

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GS Libraries Faculty Meeting  
March 4, 2018  
Essence Notes

Attending:

**Faculty Henderson Library:** Bede Mitchell, David Lowder, Jeff Mortimore, Debra Skinner, LiLi Li, Jessica Garner, Nikki Rech, Lori Gwinett, Jessica Minihan, Autumn Johnson, Lisa Smith, Ruth Baker, Leslie Haas, Natalie Logue, Kay Coates, Lizette Cruz.

**Faculty Lane Library:** Douglas Frazier, Beth Burnett, Ann Fuller, Melissa Jackson, Caroline Hopkinson, Vivian Bynoe, Lauren McMillan.

**Consent Agenda Proposal**

Since there was no consent agenda Jessica Minihan entered into the subscription review.

**Subscription Review**

The subscriptions up for review were Public Administrations Abstracts and SAE Technical Papers. After Jessica’s presentation all faculty members present were given the opportunity to fill out their ballots. Ballots are to be handed in to Debra Skinner.

**ACRL Diversity Standards**

Bede would like everyone’s thoughts and input on building Library Day around the ACRL Diversity Standards. Doug and Bede went to the Inclusiveness Design Workshop the week prior and Bede proposes doing something similar to what was provided at this workshop. Possibly have some small group discussions, identify one or two standards that would be the most urgent outcomes for Georgia Southern, and draft some actions items that the libraries can take in order to achieve these standards. This could lead to some strategic planning diversity initiatives that the libraries might need to take. Doug suggested bringing in a consultant on diversity that specializes in implementing these kinds of initiatives in a library setting. Everyone agreed in having a Library Day focusing on diversity.

**Budget Report**

Bede has no update yet on the redirection process. Provost has not recommended that anything be redirected from the library in terms of staffing.

**Department Reports**

Access services took the Freedom of Expression training offered by Legal Affairs. Jessica encourages everyone to take the training. Anyone who wishes to schedule this training for their department can send an email the secretary at Legal Affairs. Jessica and Ann have also
been working with Legal Affairs on the Patrons Rights and Responsibilities draft. They have made some comments and they still need to do some more work on the draft before they can finalize it.

Natalie wanted to share with everyone a change made to laptop circulation in order to better serve the Henderson Library patrons. There are now six laptops with 8 hour checkouts and ten laptops with one week checkouts. With these changes they have increased the amount of unique patrons they are serving. The access department has also updated all of their internal workloads and uploaded them into an internal wiki site.

There were no other department reports.

**Faculty Senate Report**

Ann Fuller gave the report. The president announced that the new president would be arriving on April 1st. Spring enrollment is down but retention is up. The president appreciates the work faculty is doing to retain students. Fall enrollment is up and/or flat. The president stated that the 10% reallocation of the budget was used to fund the ongoing salary study and other budget shortfalls due to decreasing enrollment. The study will be wrapping up at the end of February and addressing the findings of the study would be a multi-year process. It is a priority for 2020.

The president discussed a possible 2% merit increase again. She is advocating on behalf of Georgia Southern for several large projects, one of which is the renovation of the Pirate Athletic Center on the Armstrong Campus which they hope to turn into a new Student Success Center. The estimated cost is around five million dollars. She is also advocating for three million for the renovation of the Williams Center and for funds for the new engineering building.

The president stated that the new incoming president is very well prepared to implement the suggestions made by her and the president’s cabinet from their analysis of the CARS data. The president discussed commencement and stated that it was going to proceed with the changes that have been made. The Board of Regents will be holding their April meeting in Savannah. For that meeting there will be a collaboration between the GS Armstrong Campus and Savannah State.

The provost discussed the Comprehensive Curricular Review. They are looking at a three year process that will help with student success and retention. He discussed sequencing and removing bottle neck courses that impede students from completing their degrees. He wants to develop a comprehensive workload policy across all campuses. He also discussed scheduling. They are having issues with the one size fits all scheduling policy that was implemented. This policy has had a negative effect on enrollment on the Armstrong Campus. They are going to
revisit that issue and make possible changes to the scheduling, especially on the Armstrong campus.

There was also a discussion on teaching faculty promotion, tenure and transitional policy. The decision made was that faculty are under the tenure and promotion guidelines at point of hire. Those guidelines stay in place until the first promotion or achievement of tenure. Then faculty members move into the new guidelines for their role.

There was a discussion held about how to make announcements on deaths of faculty, staff or students. No changes were made to the present policy. Also discussed was the student ratings of instructors. For the time being no changes are planned but they will continue to look at it.

Other Campus Committee Reports

Lori Gwinett gave an update from the Planning, Budgets and Facilities Meeting. Rob Whitaker presented a PowerPoint that explained the issues of enrollment and the impact on the budget. He will be showing the same PowerPoint at the next faculty meeting. It explained the special fees that are dictated by the Board of Regents and the formula funding that is based on student enrollment hours. Students at Georgia Southern tend to average 13 hours and it should be well above that. This is one of the reasons why Georgia Southern is losing money. The shortfall of funds is contingent more on the hours per student than the actual number of students enrolled. Lori encourages everyone to try and attend the faculty meeting so they could view this presentation.

Since there was no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM.