

Georgia Southern University

Digital Commons@Georgia Southern

Faculty Senate Index

Faculty Senate

10-26-2006

GSU Class Credit Given for High School Courses

Marc D. Cyr

Georgia Southern University

Follow this and additional works at: <https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/faculty-senate-index>



Part of the [Higher Education Administration Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Cyr, Marc D., "GSU Class Credit Given for High School Courses" (2006). *Faculty Senate Index*. 286.
<https://digitalcommons.georgiasouthern.edu/faculty-senate-index/286>

This request for information is brought to you for free and open access by the Faculty Senate at Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. It has been accepted for inclusion in Faculty Senate Index by an authorized administrator of Digital Commons@Georgia Southern. For more information, please contact digitalcommons@georgiasouthern.edu.

GSU Class Credit Given for High School Courses

Submitted by: Marc Cyr

10/26/2006

Question:

I have heard that there is a plan well underway to have various courses now taught by GSU faculty in GSU facilities taught instead by high school teachers in the high schools. So far as I have heard, this plan has been met with universal dismay by department chairs and those few faculty who have been consulted -- a consultation, from what I understand, that has taken the form not of Do you think this is a good idea? but rather This is going to happen and you need to be ready for it. What was the genesis of this plan? What is driving its implementation? What are the rationales behind it? What are the elements of the program (what classes, what faculty, what GSU oversight, etc.)? Why have our faculty, departments, and governance bodies (like the Senate) not been involved in its development, or its demise?

Rationale:

From what I've heard, at least two colleges -- CLASS and COST -- have, at least in this launch phase, classes that would be involved; more colleges may be involved now, certainly in the future.

This program appears to have bypassed the established channels of curriculum development, channels that involve faculty input and oversight.

This program appears to involve designating as "GSU faculty" teachers not hired in the usual way by the University, a way that involves GSU faculty input and oversight.

We are presently concerned that our students often arrive at GSU having been inadequately prepared by their high schools. This program seems designed to make that situation even worse.

Response:

I have received a response from Dr. Bleicken on this, which is posted as an attachment. I will also follow up with Gary Means of Continuing Ed for more information.

Pat Humphrey, Senate Moderator, Oct. 31, 2006

From Marc Cyr a request for information on a proposal to teach GSU classes at high schools using high school teachers as GSU faculty. That is the proposed Senior to Sophomore program which is being initiated by Continuing Education. Humphrey (COST) Senate Moderator stated that Dr. Bleicken had initially responded to Cyr's request and that she (Humphrey) had subsequently sent a more complete set of questions and answers to the Senate after meeting with Dr. Gary Means (Continuing Education) on November 9th. That information had also later been sent out to the gsfac list at the recommendation of the SEC.

In addition, Dr. Means had attended the SEC breakfast with Dr. Bleicken on November 17th and had fielded many more questions and concerns. The answer for now is that the program is very much in its infancy, possibly even its incubation stage. The plan is to have a couple of courses set up as a pilot for Spring Semester 2007 and then a more full implementation for the fall. There is indeed actually an accreditation body for this type of program, the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships, or NACEP. In order to be accredited, however, a program must have been in existence for five years. NACEP does have a provisional membership, however, for institutions such as GSU who are just beginning such a program.

Clara Krug (CLASS) asked at what point it might be appropriate for the Senate, if it is interested in doing so, to make an official statement about the Senior to Sophomore program.

Humphrey (COST) Senate Moderator answered that, since there had not been time to submit any kind of motion prior to the deadline for this meeting, it would be most appropriate to wait and submit any kind of motion for the February meeting. Cook (Parliamentarian) mentioned two types of motions. The two choices are to submit a statement with respect to the sentiment of the Senate (for example, "the Senate feels that such and such should have been done or should not have been done"), and then to have a motion that actually included some action or recommendation associated with it.

Krug (CLASS) asked for clarification. There would be two motions: one a statement about the sense or the sentiment of the Senate, and a second one about the actual program and whether the Senate endorsed it or not. At that time it would be appropriate to discuss this program fully. Cook said that it would.

Krug (CLASS) asked a question about an article that had appeared in the Savannah newspaper on November 2nd in which Superintendent of Schools Shearouse in Effingham County had indicated that there were already Senior to Sophomore courses planned there for spring semester. This seemed to contradict information presented to the SEC by Dr. Means on November 17th.

Humphrey (COST) Senate Moderator suggested that Dr. Bleicken or Dr. Means might like to update the Senate on exactly where the program stands as far as a pilot for spring. Means (CEPS) responded that the statement in the Savannah newspaper was an erroneous interpretation.

Cyr (CLASS) asked about the two options for compensation for the GSU faculty supervisors: a course off, or \$1,000. Would GSU faculty select the option, and, if the compensation turned out to be \$1,000, would they have the option of not taking the job?

Means (CEPS) answered that the proposal is that faculty liaisons receive \$1,000 per semester or one course release per year.

Bleicken (Provost) added that this would be a voluntary assignment. This would not be one that someone would be forced to do.

Cyr (CLASS) asked what would happen if nobody volunteers.

Krug (CLASS) reminded senators that the wording says that the liaison will be "appointed." It might prove difficult for a non-tenured person who was appointed to say no.

Bleicken (Provost) reminded senators that the current proposal is a draft. It has not reached its final form.

Mark Welford (COST) asked why anybody would even want to do this.

Bleicken (Provost) stated that there are many reasons to think about doing this, not the least of which is the fact that we currently have a great divide between our public schools and institutions of higher education. We are discussing ways to bridge this gap. One of them is to create better opportunities or more opportunities for interaction between our high school teachers and our college professors. That alone would certainly be something worthwhile.

Welford (COST) asked if this is a scenario "where everything is numbers driven."

Bleicken (Provost) suggested that, if anyone would like to have a full and substantive discussion about this, he/she call Dr. Means who has worked in this kind of program in other school systems for details about the full picture.