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Child Care Facility

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Senate response:

Senator Steven Weiss (CLASS) presented a statement on the need for childcare facilities at Georgia Southern University. The statement, read by Dr. Charles Gossett, Department of Political Science, was as follows:

“Georgia Southern University professes a commitment to providing the best quality teaching and learning environment for students and employees. We believe that one way in which Georgia Southern can put that commitment into action is through the provision of on-site facilities for assisting students, staff, and faculty with their responsibilities to provide care for dependent children and adults in their households. A childcare facility designed to meet our community’s needs would include high quality care in a drop-in child care center for children of all age part-time and fulltime child care for younger children, and after-school care for school-aged children, provided at affordable rates for all members of the Georgia Southern community—students, staff, and faculty.”

“The practical effects of offering such services would include increased productivity on the part of faculty and staff, fuller participation of student parents in campus life, and enhanced recruitment opportunities for the University as a whole. The less tangible (but no less important) effects would be improved morale in both the work force and student body and a deserved reputation as a progressive and socially responsible place to work and study. By offering child care at Georgia Southern University, the administration sends the message that our community is concerned for the welfare of all its members, including its children.”

Following discussion on the subject, the Senate requested an update from Dr. Grube on the University System Task Force’s activities on the child care issue; that details of proposals to develop a child care facility at the University be posted on the University’s web page; that an informational public forum be held on the subject to allow stakeholders and interested publics to ask questions and make recommendations on child care proposals; and that the item appear on the December Senate agenda.