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Student Teaching fee of $250

Michael Moore
Georgia Southern University

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Motion:

That the Senate recommend to the President that the Student Teaching fee of $250, to begin with the spring semester in 2005, for student teachers be suspended for the Fall of 2005 term until there has been faculty and student input at the appropriate forums for such input

Rationale:

Response:

10/19/2004: Michael Moore (COE) moved that the Senate recommend to the President that the Student Teaching fee of $250, to begin with the spring semester in 2005, for student teachers be suspended for the Fall of 2005 term until there has been faculty and student input at the appropriate forums for such input. The motion was seconded and Jeanette Rice Jenkins called on Moore to begin the discussion. Michael Moore said that a week and a half earlier, the College of Education had been informed by email that students were being notified that, due to budget cuts, a $250 fee would be charged to Student Teachers. Moore stated that he inquired as to the process by which this fee was approved. The process, he was told, was department request, Dean of Undergraduate Teacher approval, COE Dean approval, Provost approval, Presidential approval. Moore went on to say that there was no faculty or student input in this process
and that he was not necessarily against the fee. He said that the decision to impose the fee should have had faculty and student input. This was the basis of his motion.

He further stated that the fee should have been discussed, at least, in the Undergraduate Committee and should have been reported to the Senate as required by Section 9 of the Faculty Handbook. Judi Robbins (COE) asked Moore if it was not the case that the request was sent to the Dean of Undergraduate Teacher Education by a COE Standing Committee which had faculty on it.

Linda Bleicken then called on Amy Heaston of the Provost’s Office to give a detailed account of the process by which fee approval was granted. Amy Heaston (Provost’s Office) stated that she was formerly the Director of Field Experiences in Partnerships and that she was on the committee that considered this fee. Monies used to pay cooperating classroom teachers who work with student teachers formerly came from a Capstone Grants Program paid by Professional Standards Commission (PSC). In July, 2003 the PSC stopped paying this money. In August, 2003 a request was made to have the Demonstration Teacher Partner School Council examine the issue. In September, 2003 the Council, consisting of faculty from COE, CHHS, and 13 CLASS as well as representatives from the public schools, was convened. In October, 2003, the Council recommended four options for consideration by the Dean and these were communicated to the Dean in November. In January, 2004, the Department of Teaching and Learning decided to impose the student teacher fee. This decision was approved up the chain of command to the President’s level.

Rice Jenkins asked Amy Heaston if there was any information she could provide to address Moore’s concern that the process of imposing the fee did not come through the Undergraduate Committee which, he said, as being necessary in the Handbook.

Heaston replied that the student teaching fee did not affect curriculum or course content so that the course-fee policy was followed. Rice Jenkins asked Moore if he had anything further to add. Moore restated his position that while he was not against the fee, the process of imposing the fee should have had faculty and student input and should have come through the Undergraduate Committee. Rice Jenkins asked if there was any further discussion.

Ronnie Sheppard, the Chair of the Department of Teaching and Learning and speaking from the gallery, stated that his department had two faculty meetings at which the fee was discussed. He reiterated their perception that this was a course-fee issue rather than a curricular one and so the proper channels were used.

Linda Bleicken (Provost) pointed out that the natural extension we might draw from Dr. Moore’s concern is that any course fee proposal would need to go through the Undergraduate Committee and there are many fee proposals this would place an undue burden on this committee.
Chuck Johnson (COBA) called the question to end debate on this issue. The motion passed by voice vote.

Rice Jenkins then called for a vote on the Moore motion to suspend the Student Teacher fee effective fall, 2005 so that, in the interim appropriate channels can be involved in providing alternate solutions to the fee. The motion passed by hand count and Rice Jenkins announced that the count was 18 for, 17 against.

Attachment:

https://inside.georgiasouthern.edu/President/facultysenate/Archives/Index%20of%20Motion%20Requests,%20Discussion%20Item%20Requests,%20and%20Requests%20for%20Information/Fees/Student%20Teaching%20Fee%20of%20$250%20Memos.pdf

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