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## SEC Motion to Discharge the ad hoc Committee on Student Ratings of Instruction/Consolidation Operational Working Group

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Senate Executive Committee

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Approved by the Senate: 3/6/2017

Approved by the President: 3/7/2017

# SEC Motion to Discharge the ad hoc Committee on Student Ratings of Instruction/Consolidation Operational Working Group

Submitted by: Richard Flynn for the SEC

2/23/2017

## **Motion:**

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The SEC moves that now that the ad hoc Committee on Student Ratings of Instruction has completed its charge "to draft or recommend for purchase a new Student Rating of Instruction designed to measure teaching effectiveness" and has presented its report to the Senate, the committee be dissolved with our thanks. and that the final report of be forwarded to the appropriate Operational Working Group under Faculty Affairs to consider in their consolidation of faculty evaluation policies in the Georgia Southern-Armstrong Consolidation.

## **Rationale:**

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Procedures and instruments for the evaluation of faculty and the faculty handbook will be revised by an Operational Working Group under Faculty Affairs during the Georgia Southern-Armstrong Consolidation. It would be premature to implement the recommendations of the ad hoc committee. Nevertheless, the Consolidation Operational Working Group may well find their report informative in their deliberations.

## **Response:**

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This motion was split into two motions:

## Consolidation Operational Working Group

### **MOTION**

The SEC moves that the final report of the ad hoc committee on Student Ratings of Instruction be forwarded to the appropriate Operational Working Group under Faculty Affairs to consider in their consolidation of faculty evaluation policies in the Georgia Southern-Armstrong Consolidation.

### **RATIONALE**

The Consolidation Operational Working Group may well find their report informative in their deliberations.

## SEC Motion to Discharge the ad hoc Committee on Student Ratings of Instruction

### **MOTION**

The SEC moves that now that the ad hoc Committee on Student Ratings of Instruction has completed its charge "to draft or recommend for purchase a new Student Rating of Instruction designed to measure teaching effectiveness" and has presented its report to the Senate, the committee be dissolved with our thanks.

### **RATIONALE**

Procedures and instruments for the evaluation of faculty and the faculty handbook will be revised by an Operational Working Group under Faculty Affairs during the Georgia Southern-Armstrong Consolidation. It would be premature to implement the recommendations of the ad hoc committee.

## **Senate Response: 3/6/2017:**

Moderator Flynn read the motion:

The SEC moves that now that the ad hoc Committee on Student Ratings of Instruction has completed its charge "to draft or recommend for purchase a new Student Rating of Instruction designed to measure teaching effectiveness" and has presented its report to the Senate, the committee be dissolved with our thanks and that the final report of the committee be forwarded to the appropriate Operational Working Group under Faculty Affairs to consider in their consolidation of faculty evaluation policies in the Georgia Southern-Armstrong Consolidation.

The motion was moved and seconded.

Finbarr Curtis (CLASS) asked if only the first motion proposed by the ad hoc committee would be forwarded, or all three.

Moderator Flynn clarified that not the motions, but the entire 72 page report would be forwarded to the Operational Working Group.

Curtis asked if that meant that the OWG could then consider the other best practices issues even though those weren't in the charge of the ad hoc committee.

Moderator Flynn hoped they would.

Curtis liked the first part of the motion, but given that the senate might vote against the SRI motion, he opposed voting to send it to the OWG no matter what.

Lisa Abbott (CLASS) clarified that the whole report, not just the proposed SRI form, would be sent to the OWG so that they have this research.

Ted Brimeyer (CLASS) feared that forwarding the report would be interpreted by the OWG as signifying Senate approval of its recommendations.

Moderator Flynn thought the motion did not make that implication.

Jonathan Hilpert (COE) said that while that might be true, the motion doesn't offer senators the opportunity to split their votes regarding the motion's two parts, discharging the committee and forwarding their report. He offered a friendly amendment to split the motion into two to allow a more "nuanced" vote.

Moderator Flynn asked if Hilpert wanted to make that motion.

[Name unintelligible] (CLASS) said the motion on the floor had to be dealt with first, adding that forwarding the report would only give the OWG valuable information to work with; its recommendations would not be rubber stamped as “final decisions.”

Hilpert (COE) understood that, but still wanted senators to have the opportunity to vote to dissolve the committee, and a separate vote against moving the document forward to the Organizational Working Group.

Karen McCurdy (Parliamentarian) said that if it was the will of the Senate to have two votes on the two clauses of the current motion, a motion to amend would need to be made and passed, and then the two motions voted on separately.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) said he understood that, but thought the split was an odd move given that there was nothing in the current singular motion directing that the OWG do anything with the report, and that not forwarding it would simply deprive them of three years' worth of information gathering.

Hilpert said Cyr might find it odd, but others might not, and moved to split the motion. He noted that he intended to vote “yes” on both sections, but liked the idea of separating them.

The motion to amend was seconded and Approved without opposition.

The motion to discharge the committee was Approved without further discussion.

Flynn then put the motion to forward the ad hoc committee's report to the OWG up for discussion.

Barbara King (CLASS) suggested a further amendment, that the report be forwarded with any reservations that the Senate might have. Someone unidentifiable noted that not all had reservations. King said the amendment could be to vote on sending it with or without reservations.

Meca Williams-Johnson (COE) said the upcoming discussion and vote on whether to adopt the proposed new SRI would provide information to the OWG. Flynn noted, though, that only people at GSU currently had access to the minutes.

King made her motion and it was seconded. She asked for a hand count vote. Moderator Flynn agreed.

Matthew Flynn (CLASS) asked if the report was already publicly available information. Moderator Flynn said yes; it was up on the current business of the Senate website and you can get a copy that is not password protected.

Marc Cyr (CLASS) was unclear if they were about to vote on forwarding the report, period, or on whether or not we would forward it with or without reservations. Moderator Flynn said, first, it was just to forward it, then corrected that to being on whether to forward with or without reservations noted. Then King said, "Basically it's one of two options: complete forward or just forward with reservation, a vote between those two options." Karen McCurdy (Parliamentarian) said, "You must decide, Barbara, which way you want it because we can't vote on either/or. The body must have something to vote on, so you have to choose how you want the wording of the amendment to be, and then the Senate will vote on that wording."

[Secretary's note: Portions of the discussion at this point are inaudible, so the recording is fragmentary.]

King said, "I'd like to amend the motion that it be forwarded without an official endorsement, is that [inaudible] for informational purposes." It was seconded. [Secretary's note:

At this point, some speakers fail to identify themselves and some portions are inaudible, so the recording is fragmentary.]

A hand-count vote on the amendment gave 10 in favor, an unexpressed number opposed, and Moderator Flynn declared the motion to amend to have failed. He read the next proposed motion: "The final report of the ad hoc Committee on Student Ratings of Instruction will be forwarded to the appropriate Operational Working Group under Faculty Affairs to consider in their consolidation of faculty evaluation policies in the Georgia Southern-Armstrong Consolidation." A hand-count voted showed 26 in favor, 6 opposed. The motion was Approved.