

Grand Valley State University

University Academic Senate

Minutes of September 18, 2009

Present: Jamal Alsabbagh, Kirk Anderson, Princewill Anyalebechi, Charlie Baker-Clark, Dan Balfour, Christina Beaudoin, Teresa Beck, Yatin Bhagwat, Matt Boelkins, Agnes Britton, Shawn Bultsma, Lawrence Burns (Vice Chair), Maria Cimitile (ex officio), Gayle Davis (ex officio), Kurt Fanning, Roger Ferguson, Julie Garison, Joe Godwin (ex officio), Julie Guevara (ex officio), Brian Hatzel, Robert Hendersen, Jon Jellema (ex officio), Paul Keenlance, Sharon Leder, Nancy Levenburg, Shaily Menon (for Neil MacDonald), Kristine Mullendore (Chair), Harvey Nikkel, Mel Northup, Charles Pazdernik, Paul Plotkowski (ex officio), Ross Reynolds, Dawn Richiert, Stephen Rowe, Jim Sanford, Ellen Schendel, Harold Schnyders, William Selesky (Student), Lynn Sheehan, Gary Stark (ex officio), John Stevenson (ex officio), Wanxiao Sun, Kathleen Underwood, Deana Weibel, Roger Wilson, Marlen Zaszlavik

The meeting was called to order at 3:03pm

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decisions	
1. Approval of Agenda	The agenda of September 18, 2009 was reviewed.	The agenda of September 18, 2009 was approved as amended.	
2. Approval of Minutes	The Minutes of April 17, 2009 were reviewed.	The Minutes of April 17, 2009 were approved as submitted	
3. Report of Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) The Chair reported that due to the weak economy a decision was made not to provide hospitality for the ECS/UAS meetings. b) The Chair reported that an Email was sent from BlackBoard to all faculty senators to make sure they are correctly enrolled as users. If an email was not received, contact Lisa Surman Haight, Senate Assistant c) The Chair asked for a Reaffirmation of the Senate Rules of Parliamentary Procedure under Faculty Handbook 2.01.A.1.c.viii. As no objection to the reaffirmation was voiced, they are reaffirmed. d) The Chair reported that Jeanne Arnold, VP for Inclusion and Equity asked the University Academic Senate to co-host a session in January 2010 with the Deans Council for Conversations on Change discussing issues regarding inclusion and equity that are part of the Inclusion Implementation Plan. Additional information will be presented as the date nears. e) The Chair reported that H1N1-outbreak planning discussions are ongoing with several initiatives in place to assist in keeping the university community healthy. The Chair of the APSC, Cynthia 		

	Beel-Bates is the contact person if questions arise.		
4. Report of Provost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Provost Davis reported on the Student Enrollment Profile and noted that the credit hours have increased 2.2%. Grand Valley has the largest-ever overall enrollment at 24,408. Provost Davis further reported that while new freshmen enrollment is down 4.1%, Grand Valley is doing well in terms of increasing the rate of progression and retention. b) Provost Davis reported that unless there is a catastrophic event at the State level it looks promising that the salary program will be able to be fulfilled. c) Faculty are asked to encouraged their students to enroll in MapWorks, which is a tool to help identify students having difficulty with their studies or at-risk. d) Provost Davis reported that the memorial for Dean Oliver Wilson is scheduled for Friday, October 2 at Noon in the Grand River Room. 		
5. Report of the Student Senate President	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Student Senate Vice President of Educational Affairs, William Selesky, reported that the Battle of the Valleys campaign raised over \$19,000 for the kids' food basket. b) Mr. Selesky reported that the Student Senate is gathering student opinions on a variety of topics. Results will be presented when available. c) Mr. Selesky further reported that most of the student seats on the faculty governance committees are filled. d) Mr. Selesky reported that the student senate supports the use of MapWorks. <p>In response to a question from the floor, Mr. Selesky reported that the Student Senate is already addressing concerns voiced by students regarding police relations and Minors in Possession of alcohol along with student concerns about attendance policies if they become ill from the H1N1 virus.</p>		
6. Report from the Standing Committee Chairs	<p>No Reports</p> <p>The Chair announced that a report from the Task Force on New Units and Final Plans may be received next week and discussed at ECS.</p>		
7. Report from Julie Guevara	Julie Guevara, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs presented the Draft Strategic Plan 2010-2015 document and requested a UAS endorsement of that document. An overview of the work was presented.		

	<p>This draft Strategic plan distributed to UAS is a draft that has been shared throughout the university community to obtain feedback. After addressing any concerns a final form of the draft will be presented to the Board of Trustees at its next meeting when it will be presented for the Board's final approval. Dr. Guevara noted that she is continuing to receive comments and welcomes additional feedback on ways to improve the plan, such as those she received during the discussion at UAS.</p> <p>Dr. Guevara further reported that a value of Sustainability was added, the Vision statement refined, and the Community and Diversity (renamed Inclusion) values separated.</p> <p>Discussion.</p> <p>A motion was made and seconded for the University Academic Senate to endorse Dr. Guevara's request.</p>	<p>MOTION: The University Academic Senate endorses the Grand Valley State University's Strategic Plan for 2010-2015. APPROVED: Unanimously</p>	
<p>8. New Business</p>	<p>a. Reaffirmation of the Senate Rules of Parliamentary Procedure under Faculty Handbook 2.01.A.1.c.viii. See report of Chair, item c.</p> <p>b. The Guide to Practice for the Senate and its Standing Committees and Robert's Rules Use Guide that were distributed earlier were approved for continued use.</p> <p>The Chair encouraged Senators to work with their colleagues and deans offices to form a plan that will support distribution of UAS materials so the campus community is informed of current activities.</p>		
<p>9. Old Business</p>	<p>The Chair presented an overview of the FPPC proposal to revise faculty personnel policy regarding eligibility to vote, as well as the multiple documents that were distributed earlier.</p> <p>Senators raised questions regarding University Counsels' previous statement that a university-wide policy was legally required, and expressed interest in: information indicating that other institutions have students involved in the personnel review process; evidence that the data from the 2008-09 survey didn't show an overwhelming response that the current process isn't working; and the value of having a voice for junior faculty.</p>		

	<p>At least one member voiced support for the option that junior faculty be allowed to vote only after having a renewal of their own contract. Additional discussion concerned the possibility of untenured faculty begin vulnerable to vote in certain ways on the faculty reviews and whether untenured faculty inherently have a conflict of interest in the renewal and tenure process. One member noted that the survey results of the tenured and the untenured faculty expressed similar concerns where they have concerns.</p> <p>Potential motion options were presented by the Chair for future senate action.</p> <p>A <u>motion was made</u> to follow past practice and procedure, and not vote on any motion options at the present meeting. Support. Discussion.</p> <p>A <u>motion to call the question was made</u>. Support In the absence of an objection to moving for a vote on the question being called, the Chair moved a vote on the motion. Yes 15; No 19 MOTION FAILS</p> <p>The following motion was made and supported from the floor. <i>“Having considered the proposals and materials submitted by the Faculty Personnel Policy Committee and the Executive Committee of the Senate, the University Academic Senate supports continuing its consideration of revisions to that policy regarding who will be eligible to vote in personnel actions involving contract renewal, tenure, promotion and sabbaticals”</i></p> <p>Discussion. There being no further objection the motion was voted on by paper ballot in accordance with a previous request to have a paper ballot vote on this topic Yes 25; No 12 MOTION PASSES</p>		
10. Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 5:02pm		