

Grand Valley State University

Executive Committee of the Senate

Minutes of October 24, 2008

Present: David Bair, Yatin Bhagwat, Gayle Davis (ex officio), Joe Godwin (ex officio), Brian Hatzel, Robert Hendersen, Jon Jellema (ex officio), Sharon Leder, Nancy Levenburg, Kristine Mullendore (Chair), John Peck (for Teresa Beck), Ellen Schendel, Steven Schlicker, Robert Schoofs, Autumn Trombka (Student Senate President), Roy Winegar

Guests: Mark Luttenton, Barbara Reinken, Paul Stansbie, Mark Staves, Andrew Topper

The meeting was called to order at 3:03

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decisions
1. Approval of Agenda	The agenda of October 24, 2008 was reviewed.	The agenda of October 24, 2008 was approved, as amended.
2. Approval of Minutes	Review of Minutes	No Minutes for review
3. Report of Chair	<p>a) The Chair reported that the proposal from AWRI is not yet ready for a presentation to ECS, so is being removed from the agenda.</p> <p>b) The Chair reported that the new faculty "Meet and Greet" dates and times are scheduled for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Thursday, October 30 from 4pm to 6pm in 1201 Kirkhof Center ▪ Wednesday, November 5 from 4pm to 6pm in 107C DeVos Center. <p>c) The Chair reported that the fora on "Standards and Quality of Graduate Education" are scheduled for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Wednesday, October 29 from Noon to 2pm in 205 D DeVos Center ▪ Thursday, October 30 from Noon to 2pm in 2270 Kirkhof Center <p>d) The Chair reported that there will be a reception after the UAS meeting on Friday, November 7.</p>	
4. Report of Provost	a) Provost Davis reported that she just returned from an academic officers meeting in Lansing, and further budget cuts are expected as the revenue for the State of Michigan is lower than projected.	
5. Report of Student Senate	a) Student Senate President Trombka reported that the annual University Leadership Roundtable is scheduled for Thursday, November 20 at 5pm in the Alumni house, with a focus topic of graduate studies.	
6. Report from Committees/Task Forces	The Graduate Council has a number of initiatives ready for ECS review. A proposal Graduate Faculty will be presented later in this meeting.	



7. Our Business	a) Prospectus from AWRI to become an academic unit	Item removed from the agenda
8. New Business	<p>a) The Prospectus (which requests waiver to Final Plan status) for establishing a Cellular and Molecular Biology (CMB) Department which was distributed earlier with several departmental letters of support was discussed. It was noted that the UCC memo indicating approval was contingent on receiving support letters, all of which have been received except for from the Chemistry department. Dr. Mark Staves presented an overview of the material and answered questions from the floor. Prof. Staves clarified that: 1) this proposal is not motivated by CMB's intention to move away from working with the Biology department, but rather to increase their status within CLAS to be on the same level as an independent major offering cross-disciplinary courses in advocating and accessing CLAS resources; 2) CMB would use the current university personnel process; 3) being a department allows for joint appointments; and 4) agreed to change the implementation date to Fall 2009.</p> <p>ECS members decide to act on this motion contingent upon receiving a support letter from the Chemistry department. Once the letter is received the Chair is to determine whether this matter is ready for UAS consideration or needs to be re-visited by ECS.</p> <p>A motion was made and seconded to support the waiver request from Cell and Molecular Biology and grant their proposal Final Plan status.</p> <p>A motion was made and seconded to forward the CMB proposal to the University Academic Senate for their consideration, including a cover letter from the ECS Chair clarifying the request and identifying questions raised. APPROVED Unanimously</p> <p>A motion was made and seconded to forward the CMB proposal to the University Academic Senate with a recommendation of support.</p>	<p>MOTION: The Executive Committee of the Senate supports the waiver request from Cell and Molecular Biology to grant their proposal Final Plan status. APPROVED Unanimously</p> <p>MOTION: The Executive Committee of the Senate forwards the CMB proposal to the University Academic Senate for their consideration, including a cover letter from the ECS Chair clarifying the request and identifying questions raised. APPROVED Unanimously</p> <p>MOTION: The Executive Committee of the Senate forwards the CMB proposal to the University Academic</p>

Senate with a recommendation of support.
APPROVED 12 yeas 2 nays

b) Dr. Paul Stansbie presented a brief overview of the Prospectus for an Adventure Tourism Minor which was distributed earlier, and answered questions from the floor. ECS members were reminded that this is the initial read of the prospectus and that the purpose is to determine if it is ready for review at UCC and FSBC.
Discussion.

A motion was made and seconded to recommend forwarding the Prospectus for an Adventure Tourism Minor to UCC and FSBC for their consideration.

c) The material distributed earlier from the University Libraries requesting a revision to their by-laws was discussed.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the request from the University Libraries to revise their bylaws. It was further agreed that the University Academic Senate does not need to review the request prior to implementation, since the requested revisions are procedural changes that are not revising policy.

At this time the Chair excused herself from the remainder of the meeting and Ellen Schendel chaired the remainder of the meeting in the absence of the Vice Chair.

d) The Prospecti from the College of Education that were distributed earlier proposing revisions to its four existing masters programs and adding three new master degrees were discussed. The Prospecti include a request for a waiver to have these proposals considered as Final Plans and forwarded to UCC and FSBC for their consideration. No new courses, resources, or positions are requested. Upon further discussion it was agreed that these prospecti are a repackaging and "unbundling" of existing programs.

MOTION: The Executive Committee of the Senate forwards the Prospectus for an Adventure Tourism Minor to the University Curriculum Committee and the Faculty Salary and Budget Committee for their consideration.
APPROVED Unanimously

MOTION: The Executive Committee of the Senate approves the request from the University Libraries to revise their bylaws, and agrees that the University Academic Senate does not need to review the request prior to implementation since the request changes are procedural changes that are not revising policy.
APPROVED Unanimously

A motion was made and seconded to forward all four prospecti to the UCC and FSBC for their consideration, with a recommendation to grant a waiver of these prospecti to Final Plan status. The Chair will be asked to clarify for the UCC and FSBC that these should be waived to final plans because they seem to require no new resources or courses.

e) Dr. Mark Luttenton presented an overview of the Graduate Assistantship Policy material that was distributed earlier. Upon discussion it was noted that the new policy splits out the procedures from the policies and more accurately reflects the current policy that is in place at Grand Valley.

Recommendations were made from the floor on how to strengthen this proposal before it is forwarded to UAS, including:

- clarifying assistantship procedures and the role the dean of graduate studies holds in the hiring of GA's
- how unresolved complaints are dealt with
- clarify language: in some places GA is used for "graduate assistantships"
- language proficiency for all graduate assistantship applicants, not just international students.

A motion was made and seconded to forward the Graduate Assistantship Policy material to the University Academic Senate, with editorial changes and clarifications made by the proposers as discussed.

MOTION: The Executive Committee of the Senate forwards the four prospecti from the College of Education to the University Curriculum Committee and the Faculty Salary and Budget Committee, with a recommendation to grant a waiver of these prospecti to Final Plan status.
APPROVED Unanimously

MOTION: The Executive Committee of the Senate forwards the Graduate Assistantship Policy material to the University Academic Senate, with editorial changes and clarifications made by the proposers as discussed.

APPROVED Unanimously

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:59pm.