

# Grand Valley State University

## Executive Committee of the Senate

### December 09, 2005

**PRESENT:** David Bair, Gayle Davis (ex officio), Kurt Fanning (for Yatin Bhagwat), Rob Franciosi (Chair), Rita Grant, Paul Leidig, Jean Martin, Kristine Mullendore, Jean Nagelkerk, Steve Nizelski (for John Bender), Karen Novotny (Vice Chair), John Peck, Ellen Schendel, Robert Schoofs, Kathleen Underwood, Jeroen Wagendorp, Don Williams

**GUESTS:** Teresa Beck (Chair of the Faculty Personnel Policy Committee), Gwenden Dueker (Psychology)

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decisions
1. Approval of Agenda	The agenda of December 9, 2005 was reviewed.	The agenda of December 09, 2005 was approved.
2. Approval of Minutes	No Minutes for Approval.	
3. Report of Chair	<p>a) The Chair reported that the Final Plan for the Education Specialist Degree in Leadership and the Final Plan for the Major in Exercise Science will be ready for review next semester.</p> <p>b) The Chair announced that the UAS meeting on January 20 has been changed to an ECS meeting and the February 3 ECS meeting has been changed to a UAS meeting. The ECS meeting on January 27 is cancelled so members can attend the National Survey of Student Engagement (NSSE) and the Faculty Survey of Student Engagement (FSSE) data presentation.</p> <p>c) The ECS Retreat with the Chairs of the Standing Committees is scheduled for Friday, January 13, 2006 at the DeVos Center. The sole topic will be faculty workload.</p> <p>d) The Chair reported that the Academic Policies and Standards Committee is expected to present their report on the university repeat course policy by the end of the Winter 2006 semester.</p> <p>e) The Chair reported that faculty representatives on the Center for Scholarly and Creative Excellence planning group are Ellen Schendel, Kim Ranger, Bob Smart, Claudia Sowa, Jeff Ray, and John Schuster-Craig.</p> <p>f) The Chair reported that Yatin Bhagwat and John Bender are returning to ECS after their Fall sabbaticals.</p>	
4. Report of the Provost's Office	<p>a) Provost Davis reported that she is meeting with the Dean's Council on Monday, December 12 to discuss faculty workload issues, and present the information from the for a and FPPC report.</p> <p>b) Provost Davis reported that commencement will be held on</p>	

	<p>Saturday, December 10, 2005.</p> <p>Provost Davis reminded ECS that the GVSU Football Team was playing for the national championship on Saturday, December 10, 2005.</p> <p>d) Provost Davis announced that GVSU was highlighted in an article in The Chronicle of Higher Education. Copies of the article will be distributed to ECS members.</p>	<p>Copies of the article from The Chronicle of Higher Education will be distributed to ECS members.</p>	
<p>5. Report of Student Senate</p>	<p>No Report</p>		
<p>6. New Business</p>	<p>a) <u>Parental Leave Policy</u>  Gwenden Dueker reported to ECS that a group of concerned faculty and staff had met to discuss the GVSU policy on parental leave. The group would like to gather feedback from the campus community and then develop a policy that would work for all employee groups. Discussion.</p> <p>Teresa Beck, chair of FPPC, recommended that the University Counsel's office should be involved to help write the policy and provide legal advice.</p> <p>Provost Davis reminded the group that any change in administrative policy would have to be approved by the Board of Trustees.</p> <p>The Chair requested that the group develop a white paper to identify the principles and rationale, and present those findings to ECS at a later date.</p> <p>b) <u>Health and Wellness Task Force Proposal</u>  Material on initiating a Health and Wellness Task Force was distributed. The proposal was developed by FSBC and Sue Sloop in the Work/Life Office of Human Resources as a way to proactively contain rising health care costs. Discussion.</p> <p>A recommendation was made to identify the resources that are already available campus-wide, and to evaluate the elements of programs that are successful and can be adapted for GVSU.</p> <p>The ECS recommendations will be conveyed to FSBC for revising the proposal before submitting to Administration. Faculty are encouraged to contact Kristine Mullendore for further information.</p>	<p>A white paper will be developed to identify the principles and rationale for a change to the GVSU Parental Leave Policy, for presentation to ECS at a later date.</p> <p>The ECS recommendations will be conveyed to FSBC for revising the proposal before submitting to</p>	

7. Old Business	<p>a) <u>Faculty Workload</u> Emerging issues and proposed models will be reviewed next semester.</p> <p>b) <u>Communication between UAS and Faculty</u> No Discussion</p>	Administration.
8. Strategic Goals	<p>a) <u>Faculty Life</u> Ensure fair and equitable workloads Enhance faculty authority within University Generate tangible ways to encourage new ideas and initiatives</p> <p>b) <u>Communication</u> Coordinate &amp; showcase existing faculty resources Improve communication between governance and faculty Examine structures of governance to see what works and what doesn't</p>	
9. Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm	