

Grand Valley State University

Executive Committee of the Senate

Minutes of February 20, 2009

Present: Teresa Beck, Yatin Bhagwat, Lawrence Burns (Vice Chair), Gayle Davis (ex officio), Roger Ferguson, Nancy Giardina (ex officio), Joe Godwin (ex officio), Robert Hendersen, Jon Jellema (ex officio), Nancy Levenburg, Kristine Mullendore (Chair), Mel Northup, Ellen Schendel, Steven Schlicker, Robert Schoofs, Autumn Trombka (student), Roy Winegar

Guests: Robert Adams (UCC Chair), Lynn Blue (Academic Affairs), Chelsea Ponstein (Lanthorn), Donijo Robbins (FSBC Chair), Dr. Vincent Tinto,

The meeting was called to order at 3:07pm

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decisions
1. Approval of Agenda	The agenda of February 20 was reviewed.	The agenda of February 20, 2009 was approved as amended, adding a Preliminary Report of the Task Force on New Units and Programs.
2. Approval of Minutes	Review of Minutes of February 13, 2009	The Minutes of February 13, 2009 were approved as submitted.
3. Report of Chair	<p>a) The Chair reported that a Student Senate proposal on the General Education Themes requirement is being discussed on Thursday at a meeting of the Chairs of UCC and GES, representatives from the Student Senate including the Student President Trombka, VP Nancy Giardina, and herself and the Vice Chair of the ECS.</p> <p>b) The Chair reported that three lengthy prospecti that include requests for waiver to Final Plan status were received from the College of Health Professions during the week before spring break. She further reported that because of this timing and their size that with the assent of ECS members via email communication that FSBC and UCC have begun review of the documents in an effort to expedite the review process to allow for the possibility of completing their review this academic year prior to ECS review. If any faculty members object to this exception to the usual routing process they are asked to contact the Chair and share their concerns.</p>	
4. Report of Provost	<p>a) Provost Davis thanked the Student Senate for their activities promoting the new library.</p> <p>b) Provost Davis reported that President Haas spent time with Governor Granholm and he is encouraged that the State is</p>	



	<p>reconsidering cuts in Higher Education. Provost Davis further reported that GV is in process of building budget models for 2009-2010.</p> <p>c) Provost Davis reported that additional faculty conversations with the Provost have been scheduled on the topic of curriculum and that a Blackboard site has also been created to share the information and conversations from those meeting with faculty members who are unable to attend and encouraged the faculty to use the Blackboard site.</p>	
5. Report of Student Senate	<p>a) The Student Senate President Autumn Trombka reported that the University Roundtable is please to have Assistant Vice President Nancy Giardina schedules as their guest speaker at the next Leadership Roundtable. The topic is second-year retention.</p> <p>b) Ms. Trombka reported that over 1,000 replies were submitted during "Student Voice" week. Results will be shared when compiled.</p> <p>c) Ms. Trombka reported that the Student Senate has sponsored a letter drive to the State Legislators promoting the need for a new library having students send the letter to their representatives from their homes to illustrate the state wide impact of meeting this university need.</p>	
6. Meet with University Guest	<p>a) The Chair was pleased to introduce University Guest, Dr. Vincent Tinto, who was on campus meeting with various constituencies and who had presented information on student retention at sessions earlier in the day.</p> <p>Dr. Tinto shared his thoughts on student success and that he views it as shared responsibility between student and faculty. One key component that he identified was setting the stage for students to ask and answer questions and learn how to get the information they need while establishing meaningful communities at the university. A brief question and answer session was held.</p> <p>Dr. Tinto was thanked for his time visiting ECS and sharing his work on this important issue.</p>	
7. Committee and Task Force Reports	<p>a) Nancy Giardina thanked the members of the Task Force for their help and represented an overview of the Preliminary Report from Task Force on New Units and Programs. She explained that the Task Force looked at how the process can become streamlined and</p>	

	<p>more aligned with current practice by identifying fundamental changes that are needed to the process. The Task Force also looked at ways to address items that wouldn't fall into the present processes. Discussion.</p> <p>A <u>motion was made and seconded</u> that ECS approves the 2008-09 Task Force recommendations for conceptual changes to the Procedures for Establishing New Units or New Programs as presented in the Task Force Preliminary Report of February 2009.</p> <p>The processes will be presented to UAS upon final revision.</p> <p>b) Preliminary Report from Task Force on Faculty Handbook changes – No Discussion.</p>	<p>MOTION: The Executive Committee of the Senate approves the 2008-09 Task Force recommendations for conceptual changes to the Procedures for Establishing New Units or New Programs as per the Task Force Preliminary Report of February 2009. The processes will be presented to UAS upon final revision. APPROVED Unanimously.</p> <p>The Preliminary Report from the Task Force on Faculty Handbook changes will be on a future ECS Agenda.</p>
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm	