

# Grand Valley State University

## University Academic Senate

### Minutes of February 25, 2011

**Present:** Princewill Anyalebechi, Danny Balfour, Christina Beaudoin, Scott Berlin, Yatin Bhagwat, Agnes Britton, Shawn Bultsma, Maria Cimitile (ex officio), Gayle Davis (ex officio), Gerald DeHondt, Cory DiCarlo, Kurt Fanning, Roger Ferguson, Joe Godwin (ex officio), Cynthia Grapczynski, Robert Hendersen, Jodee Hunt, Jon Jellema (ex officio), Lauren Kaercher (Student Senator), Sharon Leder, Nancy Levenburg (Vice Chair), J.J. Manser (Student Senator), Jarrett Martus (Student Senate President), Linda Masselink (for Lynn Sheehan), Douglas Montagna, Kristine Mullendore (Chair), Yasha Nash (Graduate Student), Harvey Nikkel, Mel Northup, Chuck Pazdernik, Jeffrey Potteiger (ex officio), Dawn Richiert, Jeffrey Rothstein, Jim Sanford, Ellen Schendel, Steve Schlicker (for Matt Boelkins), Cynthia Smith, Wanxiao Sun, Jodi Tyron, Keith Watts, Deana Weibel, Roger Wilson, Roy Winegar, Roger Wilson

**Guests:** Roger Gilles, Carol Griffin, Mark Luttenton, Robert Smart, John Stevenson, Brad Wallar

The meeting was called to order at 3:01 p.m.

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decisions	
1. Approval of Agenda	The Revised Agenda of February 25, 2011 was reviewed.	The revised agenda of February 25, 2011 was approved as submitted.	
2. Approval of Minutes	The Minutes of January 28, 2010 were reviewed.	The Minutes of January 28, 2011 were approved as submitted.	
3. Report of Chair	a) The Chair reported that the Faculty Governance Strategic Planning committee has been meeting regularly and that she will present an update before the end of the year. b) The Chair reported that the New Program Council met to discuss the Speech-Language Pathology Masters, Arabic Minor, and Ed.D. proposal, all of which were supported for Proposal development. The Chair further reported that under the new process that a memo will be sent to ECS members, deans of the proposed program, Provost Davis and the New Program Council members to record who was present and any concerns that were brought up at those meetings, to supplement the new online process. c) The Chair shared information on the Multiracial Association of Professionals. Further information can be found at map-gr.com.		
4. Report of Provost	a) Provost Davis reported that early reports on the state budget indicate Higher Education funding is proposed to be cut by 22% instead of the 15% cut anticipated previously. Provost Davis reported that several meetings have been held with deans and unit heads regarding finances and		

	planning, differential tuition, and academic rigor, with additional meetings planned.		
5. Report from the Student Senate President	<p>a) Student Senate President Jarrett Martus reported that the Student Senate 2011-12 budget was approved.</p> <p>b) Student Senate President Jarrett Martus reported that another letter writing campaign to the legislature is underway, urging a halt to further cuts in higher education funding.</p> <p>c) Student Senate President Martus reported that Sustainability is the topic for the University Roundtable scheduled for March 24, 2011. Further information will be sent directly to faculty.</p> <p>d) Student Senate President Jarrett Martus reported that discussions are continuing with Graduate Students to develop models for ensuring their input on initiatives undertaken at Student Senate and other committees or councils. Yasha Nash was introduced as the Graduate Student representative to UAS.</p>		
6. Report from the Standing Committee Chairs / Task Force	<p>a) The Research &amp; Development Committee <u>Faculty Handbook</u> language revisions that were distributed earlier were discussed.</p> <p>A <u>Motion was made and seconded</u> to approve the Research &amp; Development Committee <u>Faculty Handbook</u> language revisions as presented at this meeting.</p> <p>b) The Undergraduate Research Council material that was distributed earlier was discussed.</p> <p>A Motion was made and seconded to approve the proposed changes to the <u>Faculty Handbook</u> language regarding the Undergraduate Research Council as presented at this meeting</p> <p>c) Material was distributed regarding possible revisions to the General Education program and the methods being employed for holding university-wide discussions on the proposal's contents, including the possibility of reducing the current General Education Themes requirements from three courses to two. Discussion.</p> <p>Provost Davis reported that she has discussed this idea</p>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> The University Academic Senate approves the Research &amp; Development Committee <u>Faculty Handbook</u> language revisions as presented at this meeting. <b>APPROVED Unanimously</b></p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> The University Academic Senate approves the proposed changes to the <u>Faculty Handbook</u> language regarding the Undergraduate Research Council as presented at this meeting. <b>APPROVED Unanimously</b></p>	

	<p>with the deans and unit heads and found widespread support including support from the chairs of the University Curriculum Committee and General Education Committee.</p> <p>It was acknowledged that the original goals of the Themes to offer multidisciplinary but integrated courses has proven difficult to implement and problematic to schedule for both students and academic units. A question was raised from the floor on whether it is possible to appropriately consider a reduction in the Themes course requirements and have it announced and implemented before students begin to register for classes.</p> <p>A <u>Motion was made and seconded</u> for the University Academic Senate to support Provost Davis in changing from a three-course Themes requirement to a two-course Themes requirement. Discussion.</p> <p>The preceding <u>Motion was Withdrawn</u> before a vote was taken in order to honor established procedural steps regarding providing advance notification to faculty members about agenda items for the University Academic Senate.</p> <p>The Chair turned the meeting over to the Vice-Chair after having recognized Bob Hendersen to be able to consult with <u>Robert's Rules of Order</u> on a procedural question. Discussion continued.</p> <p>The Chair resumed her role and presided over the meeting.</p> <p>A straw vote was taken and indicated that there was no opposition to changing from a three-course to a two-course Themes requirement.</p> <p>A <u>Motion was made and seconded</u> to suspend discussion and proceed to other items on the agenda,</p> <p>d) The recommendations from Faculty Personnel Policy Committee for revisions to the <u>Administrative Manual</u> regarding promotion to Full Professor rank that were distributed earlier were discussed.</p> <p>A <u>Motion was made and seconded</u> to approve the</p>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> The University Academic Senate suspends discussion on the proposed revisions to the General Education program and proceeds to other items on the agenda. <b>APPROVED with 1 No vote</b></p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> The University Academic Senate</p>	
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	<p>recommendation from the Faculty Personnel Policy Committee for revisions to the <u>Administrative Manual</u> regarding promotion to Full Professor rank as presented at this meeting.</p> <p>A <u>Motion was made and seconded</u> to call for a special UAS meeting for March 4, 2011 and to place the proposed reduction in the General Education Themes requirement as the agenda item.</p> <p>e) Graduate Council Policy Proposals and Rationale.</p>	<p>approves the recommendation from the Faculty Personnel Policy Committee for revisions to the <u>Administrative Manual</u> regarding promotion to Full Professor rank as presented at this meeting. <b>APPROVED Unanimously</b></p> <p><b>MOTION:</b> The University Academic Senate calls a special meeting for March 4, 2011, and to place the proposed reduction in Themes requirement as the agenda item. <b>APPROVED by Voice Vote</b></p> <p><b>No Discussion</b></p>	
7. New Business	<p>The Juvenile Justice Minor Final Plan and supporting material that was distributed earlier was reviewed.</p> <p>A <u>Motion was made and seconded</u> to approve the Juvenile Justice Minor Final Plan and supporting material.</p>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> The University Academic Senate approves the Juvenile Justice Minor Final Plan and supporting material . <b>APPROVED Unanimously</b></p>	
8. Old Business	None		
9. Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.		