

Grand Valley State University

Minutes of the University Academic Senate

October 22, 2004

Present: Majd Al-Mallah, David Bair, John Bender, Yatin Bhagwat, Agnes Britton, Doug Busman, Gayle Davis (ex officio), Kurt Fanning, Rob Franciosi (vice chair), Linda Goossen, Richard Hall, Brian Kingshott, Paul Leidig, George Lundskow, Neil MacDonald, Kristine Mullendore, Jean Nagelkerk (chair), Steve Nizielski, Karen Novotny, Charles Pazdernik, John Peck, Avi Reichert, Allison Reynolds (student), Ross Reynolds, Lisa Rigsby, Bill Rogers, Ellen Schendel, Mack Smith, Paul Stansbie, Peggy Vandenberg, Wendy Wenner (ex officio), Don Williams

Guest: Judy Whipps

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decisions
1. Approval of Agenda	The agenda of October 22, 2004 was reviewed.	The agenda was approved as submitted.
2. Approval of Minutes	The minutes of September 17, 2004 were reviewed.	The minutes of September 17, 2004 were approved, as amended.
3. Report of Chair	<p>a) The Chair reported that ECS is working on strategic planning and are currently at the brainstorming stage. Once drafted, ECS will forward a proposal to UAS for their review and send on to Administration.</p> <p>b) Two faculty forums regarding Personnel Policy were held. Karen Novotny is the ECS link to FPPC & the CLAS personnel task force.</p> <p>c) Nanette Reynolds, Special Advisor to the President, offered to facilitate a focus group on committee representation for faculty of color.</p> <p>d) Two faculty dialogues were held today to provide input into the Governors' Cherry Commission. This commission seeks strategies to increase the number of college graduates in Michigan.</p> <p>e) The three Professional Science Master Final Plans are at the UCC stage. A written response from UCC is expected before the next UAS meeting.</p> <p>f) The Chair extended thanks on behalf of the senate to President Murray for inviting the UAS members to be his guests at a Laker Football game.</p> <p>g) The Chair met with Provost Davis and President Murray to discuss the budget and the priority of increasing the number of regular faculty.</p> <p>h) The Chair reported that a Report on Faculty Governance Initiatives will be added as an agenda item at a Board of Trustees meeting.</p>	
4. Report of Provost	<p>a) Provost Davis asked for Senate support for and participation in a UCLA faculty satisfaction survey.</p> <p>b) There is a 50/50 chance that GVSU will get another budget cut when Governor Granholm prepares the 2005-06 state budget in January 2005.</p>	The University Academic Senate supports GVSU faculty participation in the UCLA faculty satisfaction survey.
5. Report of Student Senate President	<p>a) The Student Senate reported that as a body they oppose Proposal Two.</p> <p>b) The Student Senate encourages faculty to offer mid-semester evaluations.</p>	

	<p>c) The Student Senate participated in a Higher Education Dialogue for input into the Cherry Commission.</p> <p>d) In the "Battle of the Valleys" competition, Grand Valley was defeated by Saginaw Valley. GVSU students raised over eight thousand dollars for the event.</p>	
<p>3. Report of Standing Committee Chairs</p>	<p>No Report</p>	
<p>4. New Business</p>	<p>a. The Chair provided an overview of why the issue of Dean representation on committees is before UAS as an information item. Discussion. A <u>motion</u> was made prohibiting assistant deans, associate deans, or deans of any rank from serving on any level of faculty governance committee at the unit, college, or university level.</p> <p>b. Nominations were received for representatives to the University Governance Committee Task Force. Linda Goossen, who is the UAS representative, will convene the first meeting. A <u>motion</u> was made to appoint Cindy Beel-Bates, Teresa Beck, Susan Bosold, Patricia Parker, and Christine Sannes to the University Governance Committee Task Force.</p> <p>A further recommendation was made to have an additional representative who is male serve on the committee.</p> <p>c. The Department of Liberal Studies Final Plan was approved at ECS and forwarded to UAS for review. A <u>motion</u> was made for UAS to accept the Final Plan for the Department of Liberal Studies, and to clarify the structure of joint appointments, the transfer of tenure lines from existing departments, and the composition of the Liberal Studies unit and college personnel committee. Discussion.</p>	<p>MOTION: UAS recommends prohibiting assistant deans, associate deans, or deans of any rank from serving on any level of faculty governance committee at the unit, college, or university level. Approved: Unanimously</p> <p>MOTION: UAS appoints Cindy Beel-Bates, Teresa Beck, Susan Bosold, Patricia Parker, and Christine Sannes to the University Governance Committee Task Force. Approved: Unanimously</p> <p>MOTION: UAS accepts the Final Plan for the Department of Liberal Studies, which will clarify the structure of joint appointments, the transfer of tenure lines from existing departments, and the composition of the Liberal Studies unit and college personnel committee. APPROVED: Unanimously</p>
<p>9. Ideas for Future Fora</p>	<p>d. Lisa Haight presented the on-line version of the Faculty Handbook and highlighted the search capabilities and the new Provost's Office website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Workload equity and enlarging regular faculty - The next level - Graduate versus Undergraduate 	
<p>10. Adjournment</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 5:00pm</p>	

Liberal Studies Departmental Status – Final Plan: Clarification of ECS Questions

1. Rationale for Departmental Status (See pages 2-4 in Final Plan)

Departmental Status will provide the following:

- Stable faculty for program growth
- Teaching faculty for course coverage
- A wider interdisciplinary faculty for student advising
- Facilitate joint appointments for faculty to pursue interdisciplinary projects
- Provide interdisciplinary expertise for department and for the university
- A broader base of faculty for university required administrative duties and departmental planning work.

2. Requirements of Major (See pages 1-2 and 54-60 in Final Plan)

- Six Core Courses:
 - LIB 100 Introduction to Liberal Studies
 - PHI 102 Ethics (other Ethics course may be substituted)
 - COM 202/203 Critical Interpretation; Argument and Analysis
 - LIB 400 Visionary Thinkers
 - LIB 491 Practicum
 - LIB 495 Senior Seminar
- Emphasis Area: At least 18 credits from at least two departments; 15 of those credits must be upper level courses. Courses in emphasis areas are selected in consultation with Liberal Studies advisor.
- Integrative Electives: At least 9 credits. Courses may explore an additional interest area, or may be additional courses related to the emphasis area.

3. Rationale for Structure of Major (See page 4 in Final Plan)

Because this plan does not change the requirements of the Liberal Studies major for our students, the rationale for the structure of the major was not included in the final plan, except to note that the construction of the Liberal Studies major is comparable to similar programs nationally.

The Liberal Studies major is designed for maximum interdisciplinary flexibility and so has a smaller number of required Liberal Studies courses than most majors. This is intentional, as students are urged to take a wide variety of interdisciplinary courses around their Emphasis Area. This flexibility has generally worked well for our students for over 20 years, however the Liberal Studies Committee has been discussing changing one more of the core courses to a Lib Studies course. As we continue our Strategic Planning we will continue to look at curriculum issues. The flexibility of our major allows many or most of our students to have either a second major or a minor in addition to the Liberal Studies major, and we consider this one of the strengths of the program.

4. Process for Selection of Core Faculty (See page 6 in Final Plan)

- Tenure-track positions: Selected via a national search, requirements will include interdisciplinary research and teaching expertise. Search will be conducted by tenure/tenure-track faculty currently participating in well-functioning Liberal Studies Committee.
- Joint appointments: procedure described on page 6. These positions will come from within the university, and will be negotiated by deans according to procedure developed by the Faculty Personal Policy Committee.