

# Grand Valley State University

## University Academic Senate

### Minutes of October 16, 2009

**Present:** Jamal Alsabbagh, Kirk Anderson, Princewill Anyalebechi, David Bair, Charles Baker-Clark, Dan Balfour, Christina Beaudoin, Teresa Beck, Suzeanne Benet (for Jim Sanford), Yatin Bhagwat, Matt Boelkins, Agnes Britton, Shawn Bultsma, Lawrence Burns (Vice Chair), Gayle Davis (ex officio), Nagnon Diarrassouba (for Shawn Bultsma), Kurt Fanning, Roger Ferguson, Julie Garrison, Joe Godwin (ex officio), Heather Harvey (Student Senator), Brian Hatzel, Robert Hendersen, Jon Jellema (ex officio), Paul Keenlance, Lauren Kaercher (Student Senator), Sharon Leder, Nancy Levenburg, Jeff Libra, Kristine Mullendore (Chair), Alex Nikitin (for Neil MacDonald), Harvey Nikkel, Mel Northup, Tonya Parker, Chuck Pazdernik, Paul Plotkowski (ex officio), Dawn Richiert, Ross Reynolds, Stephen Rowe, Ellen Schendel, Harold Schnyders, Bill Selesky (Student Senator), Lynn Sheehan, Wanxiao Sun, Autumn Trombka (Student Senate President), Kathleen Underwood, Marlen Vavrikova, Deana Weibel, Roger Wilson, Roy Winegar, Katalin Zaszlavik

**Guests:** Linda Masselink

The meeting was called to order at 3:04pm

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decisions	
1. Approval of Agenda	The agenda of October 16, 2009 was reviewed.	The agenda of October 16, 2009 was approved.	
2. Approval of Minutes	The Minutes of September 18, 2009 were reviewed.	The Minutes of September 18, 2009 were approved, as revised at this meeting.	
3. Report of Chair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) The Chair reported that at the last ECS meeting a topic was recommended for the Fall Forum of "Author Rights and Scholarly Issues". Dean VanOrsdel has agreed to participate and to have the University Libraries co-sponsor the Fall Forum with UAS.</li> <li>b) The Chair reported that she attended the Board of Trustees meeting today, and the Strategic Plan 2010-2015 was approved as submitted. She further reported that there is an updated accountability report posted on the Administration website.</li> <li>c) The Chair reported that the Fall Academic Advising Forum: "Partnerships for Student Success" is scheduled for Monday, October 26, 2009, and asked senators to attend and to encourage their colleagues to attend.</li> <li>d) The Chair reported that the T-Shirts distributed at the beginning of the UAS meeting were provided by Institutional Marketing as part of the new Grand Valley promotional campaign.</li> </ul>		
4. Report of Provost	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Provost Davis thanked Chair Mullendore for reporting on the approval of the Strategic Plan by the Board of Trustees. Provost Davis reported that the Annual Capital Outlay Report was also presented at the Board of Trustees with the new Library/Learning</li> </ul>		

	<p>Center as top priority, and a new academic/laboratory building as well.</p> <p>b) Provost Davis reported in advance of media coverage that GVSU has been trying to acquire a specific piece of real estate near the DeVos campus for many years and, because the negotiations have not been successful to date, the university is preparing to start eminent domain procedures if negotiations end unsuccessfully.</p>		
5. Report of Student Senate President	<p>a) Student Senate President Trombka reported that the Student Senate is monitoring activities in Lansing regarding the reinstatement of the Michigan Promise scholarship. Ms. Trombka further reported that another letter campaign to state representatives similar to last year's is planned for the library/learning center project.</p> <p>b) Student Senate President Trombka reported that student voice week is complete and data is being compiled. Ms. Trombka further reported that the Student Senate is exploring ways to add graduate students to the Student Senate.</p> <p>c) Student Senate President Trombka reported that the student senate platform was released and will be posted on the website.</p>		
6. Report from Standing Committee Chairs	<p>a) The material on the Faculty Salary and Budget Committee Annual Salary Recommendation that was distributed earlier was discussed. It was reported that this recommendation is, as it has been in past years, a requested salary increase of CPI Midwest plus 1.5%. As has been the case for the past five years, the recommendation is brought forward now because the budget planning process is underway at the university level.</p> <p>During discussion, and in response to a question from the floor, Provost Davis noted that administrator salaries at Grand Valley are in line with other public universities in Michigan, and further reported that all senior administrators at Grand Valley gave their entire raise back to the university.</p> <p>A Motion was made and supported to accept the FSBC Annual Salary Recommendation and forward the recommendation to Administration.</p>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> The University Academic Senate accepts the FSBC Annual Salary Recommendation and forwards the recommendation to Administration.</p> <p><b>APPROVED: 36 Yes; 9 No</b></p>	
7. Old Business	<p>a) The Motions approved by the Executive Committee of the Senate on the Faculty Personnel Policy Committee proposal to revise faculty personnel policy regarding eligibility to vote in faculty personnel actions involving promotions, tenure, and sabbaticals were presented to UAS.</p>		

	<p>Motion 1a, as stated on the agenda. It reads: <i>Revise the personnel policy such that only tenured faculty members are eligible to vote on faculty personnel actions involving contract renewals, tenure, promotions, and sabbaticals.</i></p> <p>It was noted in discussion that 1.b. would only be addressed by the senate if some form of Motion1a. were to pass.</p> <p>Discussion.</p> <p>In response to a question raised from the floor as to what happened to the various options for Motion language that had been discussed earlier, the Chair answered that at the October 2, 2009 ECS meeting it was determined that proposing multiple options would be unmanageable and confusing. ECS decided to present this main Motion in its present form and address any amendments to its content from the floor as they were proposed. Discussion.</p> <p>A Motion was made and supported to move to vote on the main Motion 1a. The vote was conducted by a show of hands.</p> <p>A vote was held on Motion 1a. by paper ballot with a tally of: 23 Yes; 18 No; 4 abstentions</p> <p>A discussion was held on Motion 1b as presented on the agenda. It reads: <i>Tenured and tenure track faculty members may be present and participate in the entire personnel review process, but only those eligible to vote will be counted in the quorum.</i></p> <p>Discussion.</p>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> The University Academic Senate moves to a vote on the main Motion 1a. <b>APPROVED: 43 Yes; 1 No</b></p> <p><b>MOTION 1a:</b> The University Academic Senate approves the Faculty Personnel Policy Committee proposal to revise the personnel policy such that only tenured faculty members are eligible to vote on faculty personnel actions involving contract renewals, tenure, promotions and sabbaticals. <b>APPROVED: 23 Yes; 18 No</b></p>	
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	<p>Various amendments were proposed to Motion 1b and discussed.</p> <p>By consensus UAS agreed that voting on these proposed amendments could be done by voice vote. The discussion focused on concerns that Motion 1b as originally stated might appear to apply to more than the unit personnel process. Concerns were also raised about the impact of the change in eligibility to vote on untenured tenure/tenure-track faculty members' ability to participate in collateral processes such as the CLAS Faculty Development Committee and involvement in reviewing sabbatical proposals. It was also noted that <u>Faculty Handbook</u> language will need to be created to incorporate any of the policies adopted today. It was further noted that <u>Faculty Handbook</u> language will also have to be approved by UAS before being taken to the Board of Trustees.</p> <p>Motion 1b as amended reads:  <i>Untenured tenure track faculty members may be present and participate in the unit personnel review process. Only faculty members eligible to vote will be counted in the quorum.</i></p> <p>Discussion.</p> <p>A vote was held on Motion 1b. by paper ballot with a tally of:  36 Yes; 5 No; 3 abstentions</p> <p>Following the vote, a question was raised from the floor about whether persons eligible to vote under present policy would be grandfathered into the process adopted today. The Faculty Personnel Policy Committee will be asked to make a recommendation in consultation with President Haas and Provost Davis concerning this issue, as well as to develop <u>Faculty Handbook</u> language for UAS consideration.</p>		
8. New Business	None.		
9. Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 4:56pm		

**MOTION 1b:** The University Academic Senate approves the Faculty Personnel Policy Committee proposal, as amended at the meeting: Untenured tenure track faculty members may be present and participate in the unit personnel review process. Only faculty members eligible to vote will be counted in the quorum.  
**APPROVED: 36 Yes; 5 No**