

Grand Valley State University

Executive Committee of the Senate

Minutes of February 16, 2007

Present: David Bair, Teresa Beck (for John Peck), John Bender, Yatin Bhagwat, Gayle Davis (ex officio), Rob Franciosi (Chair), Joe Godwin (ex officio), Rita Grant, Alicia Havens (student), Joe Heigert, Robert Hendersen, Paul Leidig, Jean Martin, Kristine Mullendore (Vice-Chair), Jean Nagelkerk (ex officio), Karen Novotny, Robert Schoofs, Kathleen Underwood, Jereon Wagendorp, Don Williams

Guests: Jim Bachmeier, David Cannon

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decisions
1. Approval of Agenda	The agenda of February 16, 2007 was reviewed	The agenda of February 16, 2007 was approved.
2. Approval of Minutes	The Minutes of February 9, 2007 were reviewed.	The minutes of February 9, 2007 were approved as amended.
3. Report of Chair	<p>a) The Chair reported that the By-laws for the College of Interdisciplinary Studies will be presented for ECS review some time after Spring Break, and that the University Tenure Standards from the FPPC and a Proposal for a Personnel Process for the Biology Department are also expected.</p> <p>b) The Chair reported that he anticipates that Prospecluses or Final Plans for new programs in Environmental Studies, Chinese Studies, and Women and Gender Studies will be presented for review yet this year.</p> <p>c) The Chair reported how to handle the Faculty Handbook policy language requiring diversity and gender representation on personnel committees in light of Proposal 2 is still unresolved, but the University Counsel is expected to render a decision soon.</p> <p>d) The Chair reported that he and Senator Hendersen attended a meeting of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Faculty Council.</p> <p>g) The Chair reported that two Unit head and Dean meetings on implementing the faculty workload were held during this past week.</p>	
4. Report of Provost	<p>a) Provost Davis reported that AVRI will again be presenting a proposal regarding the creation of a "research" faculty rank.</p> <p>b) Provost Davis reported that she attended the American Council on Education Conference in Washington, DC. The theme of the conference this year was Accessibility and Affordability in Higher</p>	

	<p>Education.</p> <p>c) Provost Davis reported on the meetings that her office held with Unit Heads and Deans to discuss the implementation of faculty workload policies. All academic areas are charged with establishing baseline standards from which faculty can develop individual plans.</p> <p>d) The Provost had no new information on the state budget other than reminding ECS that the tax proposal that the Governor had presented was rejected by the legislature.</p> <p>In response to a question concerning rising healthcare costs and possible collaboration between universities in the State, Provost Davis reported that she was not aware of any concerted effort to establish a health care consortium, other than there might be conversations occurring at the President's Council level.</p>	
<p>5. Report of Student Senate President</p>	<p>a) Student Senate Vice President Alicia Havens reported that Student Senate President Foster went to Washington, D.C. to lobby for lower interest rates on student loans and costs of text books.</p> <p>b) The Student Senate is working with the counseling center to have more post graduate testing available at GVSU.</p> <p>c) The President's Ball was considered a huge success with over 3,000 in attendance.</p> <p>d) Ms. Havens reported that Student Senate President Foster will be attending a summit for university student senators designed to improve lines of communication between university student senators within the state.</p>	
<p>6. Report on University Facility Plans</p>	<p>The Vice President of Finance and Administration, Jim Bachmeier, presented information on university facility plans. Depending on what on the actual building schedule, the opening ceremonies for the projects currently underway may coincide with the University's 50th anniversary celebration.</p> <p>Mr. Bachmeier reported that the building projects approved by the Board of Trustees total approximately \$150 million. The projects, which are in addition to any proposal for a new library facility, include: the addition of a new wing onto Mackinac Hall; expansion of the Kirkhof Center; enhancements to infrastructure including the electrical system switch gear and loop; reverting previously converted classrooms in Padnos Hall back into laboratories; a new facility for Movement Science and Recreation; a new facility for Honors classrooms; and additional Housing Units for 450-460 beds.</p> <p>These additions and enhancements are being funded in a variety of</p>	

	<p>ways that include \$38-40 million in bonds, \$6 million from donors and \$16 million in university funds.</p> <p>In response to an inquiry regarding how current operations are funded, Mr. Bachmeier reported that generally student recreational activities are paid for with student fees. It was suggested that future press releases or statements should make it clear to the general public which projects are being funded by the allocation of GVSU resources and which projects are funded with state dollars specifically allocated for the project.</p> <p>Mr. Bachmeier indicated that Michigan House of Representatives and Senate approval of the library project (before the project was vetoed by Governor Granholm) bodes well for future funding approval for this project.</p> <p>Further discussion included responding to concerns raised about the allocation of other parking for faculty/staff/students when new facilities are built where parking spaces had previously been located and the impact of private housing developments on GVSU planning.</p> <p>In response to a question on how projects are prioritized for funding, Mr. Bachmeier responded that it depends on the type of building requested as well as the political/economic climate in the state at the time of the building project. A review of requests for additional building space, or reallocation of existing space, occurs regularly between Administration and Facilities Planning. In that regard, a discussion was held about the advisory role of the Faculty Facilities Planning Advisory Committee.</p> <p>The Chair thanked Mr. Bachmeier both for his presentation and for taking the time to meet with ECS. A presentation will be scheduled for UAS.</p>	
<p>7. New Business</p>	<p>David Cannon, Chair of Graduate Council, presented the changes made to their proposed revisions to the Graduate Council Bylaws in response to the ECS input provided at an earlier meeting. He reminded ECS members that the proposed policy revisions are intended to make the processes for reviewing graduate curriculum proposals by the Graduate Council more efficient.</p> <p>A recommendation was made to add "non-voting" after "ex officio".</p> <p>After discussion, a motion was made and seconded to approve the</p>	<p>MOTION: The Executive Committee of the Senate supports the Graduate Council Bylaws, as amended at this meeting, and recommends they be forwarded to the University Academic Senate for their approval. APPROVED: Unanimously</p>

8. Old Business	<p>Graduate Council Bylaws as amended at this meeting.</p> <p>The email from the Chair of the Faculty Salary and Budget Committee (FSBC) on the Emergency Overload Compensation Recommendation distributed earlier was discussed.</p> <p>A recommendation was made to return the proposed policy back to FSBC and that FSBC be charged to: propose language revision within the context of the new Faculty Workload Policy that identifies what is to be included in "medical" emergency and then to recommend policy language as opposed to a formula for determining appropriate compensation for emergency course overload assignment. FSBC will also be asked to propose language revision on the rate of compensation for course overload where there is no emergency.</p> <p>The meeting adjourned 4.59pm</p>	
9. Adjournment		