

Grand Valley State University

Executive Committee of the Senate

Minutes of March 23, 2007

Present: David Bair, John Bender, Rob Franciosi (Chair), Rita Grant, Alicia Haven (Student), Joe Helgert, Robert Hendersen, Paul Leidig, Kristine Mullendore (Vice Chair), Jean Nagelkerk (ex officio), Karen Novotny, John Peck, Robert Schoofs, Kathleen Underwood, Jeroen Wagendorp, Wendy Wenner

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decisions
1. Approval of Agenda	The agenda of March 23, 2007 was reviewed	The agenda of March 23, 2007 was approved.
2. Approval of Minutes	The Minutes of March 16, 2007 were reviewed.	The minutes of March 16, 2007 were approved as submitted
3. Report of Chair	<p>a) The Chair reported that several faculty members have raised concerns as to when, how and why a decision was made to limit the distribution of the paper hard copy of the 2006-7 catalog to selected GVSU faculty and staff. He is looking into this and will report back as information is gathered.</p> <p>b) The Chair reported that he was part of a group who met with Dee Fink, the Claiming a Liberal Education Consultant who visited campus this past week.</p> <p>c) The Chair reported that a decision has been made to divide Commencement into two ceremonies beginning in April 2007. Don Williams has agreed to be the mace bearer for the afternoon ceremony as a CLAS representative; Yatin Bhagwat has agreed to represent the Professional Schools for the morning ceremony.</p> <p>d) The Chair announced that there will not be an ECS meeting on Friday, March 30, 2007.</p>	
4. Report of Provost	<p>a) Assistant Vice- Provost Jean Nagelkerk reported on behalf of Provost Davis that four candidates for the Dean of the College Professions have been on campus and interviewed.</p> <p>b) Dr. Nagelkerk reported that the economic figures for the State are worse than previously thought and GVSU is still waiting for the final decision on the State appropriation budget. She noted, however, that GVSU is in good financial shape thanks to the careful budget planning by Administration.</p>	
5. Report of Student Senate President	<p>a) Alicia Haven, Student Senate Vice President, reported that Student Senate is working hard to increase the number of students who participate in the Student Senate elections.</p> <p>b) Ms. Haven reported that the Student Senate is also working to inform and assist students with registration that is being done via the new Banner system for the upcoming year.</p>	

<p>6. New Business</p>	<p>c) The Student Senate Political Action Committee went to Lansing to advocate for increased funding for Higher Education for the 2007-08 Academic Year.</p> <p>d) Ms. Haven reported that the Student Senate is hosting a Forum on the new library on Monday, March 26, 2007 from Noon to 3:00 pm to obtain student input.</p>	
<p>a) The recommended changes to the Faculty Handbook regarding the Leadership of UAS/ECS that had been distributed were discussed. The current Faculty Handbook language in <u>Chapter 2.01.C.iii. Officers reads:</u></p> <p><i>"The ECS shall elect the Chair and Vice-Chair of UAS/ECS from its membership. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair by the newly elected members of ECS is held the last week of winter semester. The Vice-Chair shares governance responsibilities with the Chair and presides over meetings in the absence of the Chair."</i></p> <p>Currently, there are no guidelines in the Faculty Handbook on how the election for Chair and Vice-Chair is conducted or how to handle the situation when either the Chair or Vice-Chair is unable to complete their terms. The following language revisions are proposed by the Chair and Vice-Chair to address this. The proposed new language is in italics:</p> <p>"2.01.C.iii. Officers: The ECS shall elect the Chair and Vice-Chair of UAS/ECS from its membership. Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair by the newly elected members of ECS is held the last week of winter semester. <i>Candidates for Chair and Vice-Chair may be nominated by any member of the ECS. Nominations may be made from the floor, but it is the responsibility of the Chair and Vice-Chair to ensure that there are qualified candidates. The Vice-Chair shares the governance responsibilities with the Chair and presides over meetings in the absence of the Chair. If for any reason the Chair is unable to serve a full term, the Vice-Chair will become the Chair for the unexpired term. If for any reason the Vice-chair is unable to serve a full term, ECS will during a regular meeting nominate and elect one of its members to serve as Vice-chair for the unexpired term.</i>"</p> <p>Discussion.</p> <p>It was suggested that the language regarding the responsibilities of the Chair and Vice-Chair in securing nominations was not clear and that it should be stricken and re-proposed at a later time when greater clarity could be achieved. The Chair and Vice Chair agreed that the phrase "but it is the responsibility of the Chair and Vice-chair and Vice-Chair to ensure that there are qualified candidates."</p>		

	<p>be stricken from the proposed revisions.</p> <p>It was also noted that the phrase "shares the governance responsibilities with the Chair" was similarly unclear and proposed that that language be stricken and replaced with "assists with the governance responsibilities of the Chair". There was also agreement to that modification to the proposed language revision.</p> <p>It was moved and seconded to approve the proposed revisions to the Handbook language to Section 2.01 C.iii Officers as modified in discussion and forward it to the University Academic Senate recommending it for their action.</p>	<p>1</p> <p>a) MOTION: The Executive Committee of the Senate approves the proposed changes to the Faculty Handbook Section 2.01 C.iii Officers as modified and recommends that they are forwarded to the University Academic Senate for their action. APPROVED: Unanimously</p>
<p>7. Old Business</p>	<p>b) Material regarding the Strategic Planning for faculty governance begun earlier was distributed for review and discussion. The senators split into groups to develop objectives for each of the goals. Additional material on the objectives for the goals, that were proposed by these sub-groups but not acted on, will be distributed for action at a later meeting.</p> <p>a) The revised Bylaws for the College of Interdisciplinary Studies were distributed. Kathleen Underwood identified the changes that were made and presented them to the senators for their consideration.</p> <p>It was <u>moved and seconded to approve</u> the College of Interdisciplinary Studies Bylaws and forward them to the University Academic Senate for their action. Discussion</p> <p>The Chair reported that a written recommendation from the University Counsel on what language is considered in violation of Proposal Two has been requested. The Senate will use these guidelines when reviewing Bylaws.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>a) MOTION: The Executive Committee of the Senate approves the College of Interdisciplinary Studies Bylaws and recommends that they are forwarded to the University Academic Senate for their action APPROVED Unanimously</p>
<p>8. Adjournment</p>	<p>The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm</p>	

Core Values

In working to further Grand Valley's mission, University Academic Governance draws upon the following shared beliefs:

- Faculty are central to all academic and curricular matters
- Faculty are integral to decision-making at the university
- Academic Governance must be representative, accountable, and transparent
- Open and lively communication is essential to university life
- The continual pursuit of excellence by faculty is the best means for advancing the university's mission, vision, and values
- Academic Governance works to ensure effective use and equitable distribution of university resources

MISSION

UAS is the primary advocate for faculty, proactively establishing and applying standards of excellence for educational programs and policies.

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