

## Detailed ECS and UAS Notes from 02/09/2024

### Report from the Chair

- *On the COACHE Survey:* All faculty are reminded to participate in the COACHE [Faculty Job Satisfaction Survey](#), which has been launched and will remain open for several weeks. The findings from COACHE will be available this summer, and in Fall 2024, GVSU faculty will be engaged to review the findings and to start to make changes. Details can be found on [our GVSU COACHE website](#).
- *On Democracy 101:* Upcoming events are February 28, and March 27.
- *On the Theme for the 2024 UAS Newsletter:* The theme for the 2024 UAS Newsletter will be *The Role of Shared Governance in Co-Creating Laker Readiness*. All faculty who would like to contribute an article should contact Chair Ngassa and plan to submit their articles by the deadline of April 1.
- *On the Next UAS Special Meeting of February 16:* The February 16 UAS special meeting will be an in-person meeting in CHS 233, with a virtual option. There is only one agenda item, “Continued Discussions on Admission Standards and Conditions”.

### Report from the Provost

- *On Educating Adult Learners at Scale Initiative:* I appreciate the concern and passion of the senators around the work presented last week. I would like to use my time here to add a few clarifications. As pointed out in *Lakers Ready*, BOT will not be voting on this. There is no specific action required by the BOT regarding this initiative. President Mantella will provide an update and information about the work to our Board of Trustees while we work collectively to ensure quality while we serve our learners.
- *On Whether this is a New Program:* This is not a new program. Adult Education will be expanding our offering and capacity (locations, modalities) of existing programs that have already been approved through shared governance. Any additional programs will be explored in collaboration with the colleges.
- *On the Administrative Model:* While the administrative model has been defined, there is still ample room for input as this evolves. This is why this was brought to UAS. The adult education unit will not be in AA, it is elevated to the president level to assure proper cross institutional support to this important initiative. Kara will maintain deep connections with AA.

### Report from the Student Senate President

- *On Spring Elections:* Student Senate is beginning its Spring elections process. Petitions to get on the ballot may now be circulated, so if there are any students you believe would be good fits, please encourage them to run! I have decided to run for re-election as Student Senate President, which is exciting, so I hope to continue working with faculty governance next year.

### New Business: ECS

- *On the Inclusion and Equity Framework Presentation:* On behalf of the Activation and Accountability Leadership team, AVP Kowalski-Braun, AVP Alisha Davis, and AVP Sean Lancaster presented on the updating of the framework, which was last updated in 2015. This is the beginning of the updating process, and they will return in six to eight months with another update. Urban Curry Consulting has partnered with GVSU on the updating of the framework. Feedback was gathered from faculty and staff over the summer, and there is an active student engagement cohort participating in the updating process. There are plans to create a glossary and Toolkit to help with clarity. There is an Equity and Inclusion Institute at GVSU that has provided internally-facing and externally-facing workshops.
- *On the Discussion of Retention of BIPOC Faculty:* Concerns were raised that the activities listed in the EIC report, such as affinity groups and connections with HBCUs, are not broad enough for the retention of BIPOC faculty. It was noted that the EIC report is not a comprehensive list of all initiatives to support and retain BIPOC faculty. A motion was supported to place the retention of BIPOC faculty on the agenda for the ECS summer retreat.

- *On the Debrief of the Teach-In:* The Teach-In started from a bias incident and UAS responded by creating the Teach-In in 2013. It has been remarkable to see faculty, staff, and students working together to create and attend sessions. 1000-1500 individuals attend each year. The Teach-In committee has expanded from 4 people to 12 people, and this has been beneficial for broader viewpoints and decision-making. The committee has already been working on the event for next fall and will put out call for proposals by March 1<sup>st</sup> and then another call in the fall. Dates for the next Teach-In are 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2024.
- *On the Discussion of the UAS Response to the White Paper on Educating Adult Learners at Scale:* The motion to put this discussion on the agenda for UAS was unanimously supported.

#### **New Business: UAS**

- *On the Discussion of the UAS Response to the White Paper on Educating Adult Learners at Scale:* A number of concerns were raised about the white paper. One concern was that decisions about the programs being provided to adult learners do not appear to be made within Academic Affairs. It was clarified that the programs themselves will remain in their colleges, but the administrative portions of providing the programs to adult learners will be handled by the new framework. Many aspects of what was described in the white paper are already being done by VP Van Dam's Office. UAS members appreciated acknowledgement of the miscommunications that have occurred around this framework. The BOT will not vote on this, but it will be presented to them as information. Faculty expressed concern about control over the programs and decisions on whether or not to allow programs to be delivered within the new framework. Specifically, untenured and affiliate faculty may not feel free to say, "no." Additionally, course materials created using GVSU resources are considered GVSU's intellectual property, so GVSU can use the materials created by faculty. It was noted that the white paper did not seem to include any risk assessment. There was a question about whether the urgency of sending a response to the white paper immediately was needed. The UAS response to the white paper was drafted asynchronously via Google Docs. At the end of the discussion, UAS passed the following motion: "The University Academic Senate fully accepts the White Paper response, having the response available to all faculty, send the response to the Senior Leadership Team, and to the Board of Trustees." The motion was approved unanimously. As requested by the motion to share the response with faculty, you can have access to Chair Ngassa's memo to the President and the BOT that includes the response to the white paper by going [here](#).