

## Detailed ECS Notes from 11/10/2023

### Report from the Chair

- *On the Teach-In:* The 11th Annual Teach-in was held Wednesday 11/8 and Thursday 11/9 in a hybrid format. Initial reports indicate that nearly 1,200 people attended over two days.
- *On the Next ECS Meeting of November 17:* The November 17 ECS meeting will be an in-person meeting and will include the following agenda items: Faculty Salary and Budget Committee (FSBC) Memo on Annual Salary Adjustment Request for 2024-2025; Faculty Facilities Planning Advisory Committee (FFPAC) Memo on Active Learning Spaces; FFPAC Memo on Classroom Issues and Innovations; FFPAC Memo on Lost and Found; Pew Faculty Teaching and Learning Center Advisory Committee (Pew FTLCAC) Memo on Assisting FTLC with Goals; Pew FTLCAC Memo on Supporting Faculty Best Practices for Online Pedagogy and Content Delivery; Pew FTLCAC Memo on Relationship with FTLC; and Review of FARES III Task Force Proposed Bylaws Language.

### Report from the Provost

- *On PCEC:* The Provost met with PCEC faculty and staff, and search committees and the reorganization committee are being finalized.
- *On the Presentation by Robin Wall Kimmerer:* The Provost attended the presentation by Robin Wall Kimmerer, a native botanist, who spoke about combining different sources of knowing, including science, human and cultural history. Close to 2000 people attended.
- *On the GVSU Parent Reception in Lansing:* The Provost attended a reception for parents of GVSU students in Lansing.
- *On Recreational Therapy Accreditation Site Visit:* The Provost met with the accreditation site visitors for recreational therapy. They praised the program and faculty and were extremely impressed by everything they have seen. This praise of faculty is consistent with all of the site visits. They stated that the program is one of the top programs in the nation. They tried to recruit away our faculty and they failed.
- *On Talking with CECI Faculty:* Thanks was expressed for Provost Mili coming to talk to CECI faculty and deans; it was appreciated that she heard their concerns, and they appreciated hearing her perspective.
- *On Retention:* A question was asked about the retention numbers, and it was noted that faculty are concerned about admitting students without having support systems in place. The Provost shared that if there is a particular profile of student that is not likely to be successful, we need to refine our admission criteria and also look at supports. It was noted that the Test-Optional and Holistic Admissions Taskforce has resubmitted their report, which will be discussed at ECS on 12/8/23.
- *On Dining Options Downtown:* A member of ECS noted that there are few dining options on the Pew Campus. Starbucks and the Plaza Café on the Pew Campus are closed, leaving only Einstein Bagel and Erbert & Gerbert's.

### Report from the Student Senate President

- *On Restructuring Student Senate:* Student Senate plans to have a restructuring proposal ready on November 30. They are reserving a portion of seats to be divided proportionally by college. The Student Senate President will be directly elected by students. They are adding a judicial branch to manage some processes, such as elections and conduct procedures and updating governing documents so Student Senate can focus more on problem-solving for students.
- *On the State of the Student Senate:* On January 25 at 4:30 the State of Student Senate address will be held.
- *On Communication with Students:* Student Senate has been in communication with VP Jesse Bernal and VP Stacie Behler on how to roll out the end product next semester and discussed ways university can communicate better with students, as many students don't read all the way through their emails.
- *On the Public Safety Meeting:* An ECS member reported attending a public safety meeting with the Student Senate President and noted that the Chief of Police said that we have the third most cameras on any campus in the US and also our police have body cameras. There is an increase in small crimes, so lock your cars to prevent theft.

## New Business

- *On the Academic Policies and Standards Committee (APSCC) Memo on Academic Review and Dismissal:* The goal of the memo is to not consider academic review for dismissal at the end of spring/summer semester, as it is a shorter semester, and it may not be in the best interest of the students to be dismissed after this shorter semester. It is more appropriate for a student's academic dismissal evaluation to occur at the end of the Fall or Winter semesters when the student has taken a larger number of courses and has an increased potential for raising their GPA to 2.500 or greater. The motion to support the APSC recommendation on Academic Review and Dismissal and forward to UAS with a recommendation of support passed.
- *On the APSCC Memo on Academic Grievances:* The goal of the memo is to review the timeline for academic grievances and make recommendations. The main recommendation states that appeal of decisions must take place 15 working days after receipt of notification. The motion to support the APSC recommendation on Academic Grievance and forward to UAS with a recommendation of support passed.
- *On the APSCC Memo on Repeat Course Approval Policy:* The goal of the memo is to review the repeat course approval policy. APSC recommended that a "student may repeat any course three times (for a total of 4 attempts) without approval from an academic advisor. Some programs may have stricter guidelines on course repeats, and these program guidelines take precedence." The motion to support the APSC recommendation on Repeat Course Approval Policy and forward to UAS with a recommendation of support passed.
- *On the Faculty Facilities Planning Advisory Committee (FFPAC) Memo on Campus Safety Night Walk:* FFPAC proposed that Campus Safety Survey be discontinued and replaced with an expansion of the GVSU Department of Public Safety (GVPD) Campus Safety Night Walk, an annual event in which the GVPD leads an after-dark tour of the GVSU campus for university administrators, Student Life personnel, FFPAC representatives, and representatives from Student Senate. The walks serve as an opportunity to identify emerging safety concerns and learn about the considerations and strategies that guide the GVPD's work to create a safe and secure environment for all Lakers. For the Fall 2023 semester, the following walks were scheduled: Tuesday, October 3 in Allendale; Thursday, October 5 at the DeVos Center in Grand Rapids; Wednesday, October 11 at the DeVos Center for Interprofessional Health in the Health Campus; Monday, October 16 in Allendale; and Wednesday, October 18 at the DeVos Center in Grand Rapids. The motion to support the FFPAC recommendation on Campus Safety Night Walk and forward to UAS with a recommendation of support passed.
- *On the Affiliate Faculty Advisory Committee (AFAC) Memo on Affiliate Faculty Retirement:* AFAC was charged with reviewing eligibility for retirement benefits for affiliate faculty and make recommendations. Because other benefit-eligible faculty and staff across GVSU who were hired prior to 1/1/2014 receive the Official Retiree healthcare supplement, AFAC is asking that Affiliate faculty who were hired prior to 1/1/2014 and have reached the 75 number (age plus years of service) receive the same Official Retiree healthcare supplement as all other GVSU faculty and staff who meet the Official Retiree status. In addition, AFAC is requesting that the University consider Affiliate faculty who have retired and met these qualifications between the implementation of the Official Retiree status for Affiliates in 2017 and the implementation of this proposed policy change. The motion to support the AFAC recommendation on Affiliate Faculty Retirement and forward to UAS with a recommendation of support passed.
- *On the Consent Agenda for UAS:* The idea of a Consent Agenda was presented. This could help with efficiency and also ensuring that there is enough time for full discussions on items needing a robust discussion. Every item, even if there is no discussion, takes about five minutes, leaving less time for the items that need more discussion. ECS discussed that there have been concerns about UAS being merely a "rubber stamp" for what ECS does, which is not the intention for UAS. The consent agenda would not be about "rubber stamping," it would be about encouraging more discussion on more substantive items. If we were to have a consent agenda, we would need a rule written into the bylaws, and would need to be very judicious about what to include on a consent agenda and have a low threshold for elevating items to discussion. Items that have had objections discussed at ECS should not be on a consent agenda. ECS would leave this to UAS to decide about whether or not a consent agenda is supported and what the parameters would be if we adopt a consent agenda. This will be discussed at the December 1<sup>st</sup> UAS meeting in order to get an idea about

whether or not there is support for this idea, then a small group will be formed to create a document to describe what it would look like if there is support.

- *On the Taskforce on Realignment of Governance Structure Consistent with Current University Structure:* ECS discussed the nominations for serving on a taskforce on governance structure. Members selected will be officially revealed at the next ECS meeting, and the charge and timeline will be discussed.