

# Grand Valley State University University Academic Senate Minutes of February 24, 2017

- Present:** Deborah Bambini, Christina Beaudoin, James Bell, Matthew Boelkins, Shawn Bultsma, Matthew Christians (for Chuck Pazdernik), Alisha Davis, Danielle DeMuth, Kurt Fanning, Shirley Fleischmann, Ella Fritzemeier (Student Senate President), Karen Gipson (Chair), Douglas Graham, Malayna Hasmanis (Student Senate), Christopher Haven, Jason Herlands, Jon Hodge, Beth Hopkins (Student Senate), Naoki Kanaboshi, Sok Kean Khoo (for Georgette Sass), Sean Lancaster, Fred Lawrence (Graduate Student Association President), Jonathan Leidig, Claudia Leiras, Nancy Levenburg, Salvador Lopez-Arias, George Lundskow, Kin Ma, Douglas Montagna, Kristine Mullendore (for Jacquelynn Doyon-Martin) Harvey Nikkel, Felix Ngassa (Vice Chair), Mary O’Kelly, Sean O’Melia (Student Senate), Tonya Parker, Elizabeth Psyck, Karyn Rabourn, Kathryn Remlinger, Ross Reynolds, Samhita Rhodes, Dawn Richiert, Nancy Schoofs (for Joy Washburn), Paul Sicilian, Melissa Tallman, Christopher Toth, Dan Vaughn, , Deana Weibel, Jennifer Winther, Donald Zinman
- Absent:** Wendy Burns-Ardolino, Kevin Strychar, Jody Vogelzang,
- Ex Officio:** Gayle Davis, Ed Aboufadel, Fred Antczak, Suzanne Benet, Kathy Gulembo, Paul Plotkowski, Eileen Sullivan
- Guests:** Marty Abramson, Natalie Armstrong, Marie McKendall, Vandana Pednekar-Magal

The meeting was called to order at 3:00pm

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decisions
1. Approval of Agenda	The Agenda of February 24, 2017 was reviewed.	The Agenda of February 24, 2017 was approved.
2. Approval of Minutes	The Minutes of January 27, 2017 were reviewed.	The Minutes of January 27, 2017 were approved.
3. Report from Chair	The Chair reported on the work of ECS in February, including Faculty Handbook language, a charge to the Equity and Inclusion Task Force (EITF) regarding immigration issues, survey on faculty time, charge to APSC re posting syllabi on department websites. She further reported that the original search committee has been maintained for the Provost search; candidates are expected on campus in April. Future agenda items and schedule were announced.	
4. Report from Provost	Provost Davis reported on various issues in the news, including guidelines regarding transgender restrooms, deliberations at the state level to eliminate a state income tax (which was defeated), and the governors recommendations for funding. Question were addressed from the floor.	
5. Report from Student Senate	Student Senate President Fritzemeier reported that Student Senate election packets are available and a nomination form is also online for Student Senate.	
6. New Business	a. Marie McKendall presented an overview of the Faculty Personnel Policy Committee memo and recommendation regarding All-But-Dissertation (ABD) Faculty that was distributed earlier. Discussion.	

A motion was made and seconded to change a line to say “Time spend at the Instructor rank will count towards tenure ~~and but not towards~~ promotion.” Discussion.

A motion was made and seconded to change “Instructor” to “Assistant Professor”, remove “as an instructor” and add “while in ABD status” after “The teaching load” and delete the entire last paragraph. Discussion.

A motion was made and seconded to send the recommendation back to the Faculty Personnel Policy Committee to reconsider the concerns raised at meeting.

- b. Vandana Pednekar-Magal presented background information on the School of Communications restructuring efforts and identified concerns the faculty in the School of Communications have with the process.

Dean Fred Antczak stated that he and Provost Davis made an administrative judgment regarding the restructuring of the School of Communication.

Discussion was heard regarding the process and on the Executive Committee of the Senate statement that was distributed earlier, which reads:

*“The Executive Committee of the Senate (ECS) believes that the 2016-17 restructuring of School of Communications was not conducted in a manner consistent with the principles of shared governance. Shared governance relies on transparency and mutual accountability.*

*We believe that the process of this reorganization was inconsistent with the implications of section 2.01.A.1.a.ii of the Faculty Handbook. Furthermore, the Unit Head selection processes stated in section 1.04.B of the Faculty Handbook were not*

**MOTION:** The University Academic Senate supports changing the sentence “Time spend at the Instructor rank will count towards tenure ~~and but not towards~~ promotion.”

**APPROVED with 1 No; 4 abstentions**

**MOTION:** The University Academic Senate supports changing “Instructor” to “Assistant Professor”, removing “as an instructor”, adding “while in ABD status” after “The teaching load” and deleting the entire last paragraph.

**APPROVED YES 20; No 19; Abstentions 10**

**MOTION:** The University Academic Senate supports sending the recommendation back to the Faculty Personnel Policy Committee to reconsider the concerns raised at meeting.

**APPROVED with 1 Abstention**

	<p><i>followed.</i></p> <p><i>In the interest of maintaining the healthy and vibrant shared governance system in which we take pride, ECS urges that the procedures in the Faculty Handbook be followed at all times.”</i></p> <p>A <u>motion was made and seconded</u> to support the statement of the Executive Committee of the Senate. Discussion.</p> <p>c. Eileen Sullivan gave a presentation on student retention and factors related to academic success.</p>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> The University Academic Senate supports the statement from the Executive Committee of the Senate.  <b>APPROVED 30 Yes 12 No 6 Abstentions</b></p>
7. Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm	