

Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes Dec 6th

I. Call to Order

Dr. Sharman – Call to Order- 10:15 am

Dr. Sharman recognized the FS visitors.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: Dr. Walt Mason, Dr. Yelena White, Dr. Tori Kearns, Mina Vora, Dr. Sandra Sharman, Dr. Reid Derr, and Jessica Todd

III. Greeting of Visitors

Visitors Present: Dr. Alan Brasher, and Dr. Carmine Palumbo

IV. Approval of minutes from last meeting

Yelena White brought up an issue regarding the wording of the Overload Policy. She felt that the Policy wording was inconsistent with what is in the meeting minutes. Dr. Sharman read the meeting minutes with regards to the policy and concluded that there was not a discrepancy between the minutes and the policy.

The FS meeting minutes were approved as written.

V. Open Issues

A: USG Funding- The FS discussed that the USG is “considering tying money to student success rates.”

B. Historical Information on EGSC Success Rates- The FS decided to defer this topic to next meeting when dealing with overload policy and success rates.

C. Gym usage- Walt brought up the fact that Plant Ops is still setting up gym on game days early, which creates problems for P.E. classes. There is a lack of communication between intramurals and athletics creating problems for P.E. classes (Plant Ops). In addition, Student Services is using tennis courts, etc... There are missing nets, so Walt is missing a court.

Sandra/Reid- recommended that Walt draft a short resolution to Dr. Boehmer asking that academics take precedent over athletics and intramurals. It was motioned that the FS authorize Walt to contact Dr. Boehmer so that he might contact Plant Ops concerning priority of academics. This motion was seconded and passed.

VI. New Business

a. Teaching Overloads

Tracy Woods not able to meet today until she confers with Dr. Boehmer about overload policy.

b. Fire Science

Walt will speak on behalf of Dr. Bartram.

There were questions of expertise and teaching faculty in relation to the program.

Number of students: 100 (online)

Walt discussed that the Fire Science classes would be taught by our faculty, and later the college would add faculty with specific expertise in Fire Science.

Reid expressed his view that Fire Science is beyond our expertise and the mission of our school.

Tori, Lena, and Walt argued that Fire Science is a great opportunity for EGSC, and that there is a need in our area. In addition, offering this program would make EGSC unique.

There was a motion to approve the Fire Science program. The motion was seconded. FS approved Fire Science as presented.

Reid expressed that he opposed the program.

c. Contact Hours

Dr. Sharman motioned to give Alan Brasher the floor to discuss his proposal regarding contact hours. The motion was seconded and passed.

Alan discussed the issue of LS; the longer it takes for students to complete their program, the less likely they will succeed.

The FS needs to start working on a proposal regarding contact hours; there has to be compensation in some format whether it is with the course load or a monetary compensation.

The FS agreed that it needs to get additional information from Alan over the Complete College Georgia plan.

Sandra asked, If we are an access institute, then why would we ever do away with Learning Support? [Alan brought up the fact that the Complete College Georgia plan will phase out Learning Support.]

Tori motioned that the FS pass the contact hours proposal submitted by Alan Brasher. The motion was seconded and passed.

d. Schedule Adjustments

The FS discussed Pat Homer's proposal, which proposes that we limit schedule adjustment to 2 days rather than 3 days.

The actual wording for the proposal was discussed by Walt and Reid. Reid suggested that the proposal read as follows: "The schedule adjustment period be reduced from the first three days of any given semester to the first two days."

Break- 5 min.

Before the FS reconvened from the break, Dr. Palumbo made a suggestion to the FS. He suggested that before approving any policy, the FS should research the policy manual and other relevant information, as well as get feedback from those they represent as the FS in order to be successful. Dr. Palumbo made this suggestion in regard to the Contact Hours Policy.

e. Academic Honesty Policy

Sandra suggested that the FS begin vetting this Academic Honesty Policy in place of things like Community Service as a penalty. Reid suggested that the FS look over the 3 pages of existing Academic Policy, which was sent by Mary Smith. Sandra commented that she would like to see an Ad Hoc Committee in regard to Academic Honesty. She suggested that possibly Pat Homer, Val Czerny, and Alan could serve on this committee. Reid asserted that the FS needs to make a motion for Sandra to approach Pat, Val, and Alan to formulate an Ad Hoc Committee. The FS made a motion for the above Ad Hoc Committee, and it was seconded (and passed).

f. Academic Freedom Policy

Reid recommended that the FS have a committee look into revising the Academic Freedom Policy and have Dr. Boehmer address it. Lena asked "Do other institutes have a similar policy? Is it something that we can change?" Walt inquired "What is USG policy regarding Academic Freedom?" Sandra suggested that Reid form a committee in regard to the Academic Freedom Policy. Reid made a motion to form a committee to exam and make proposals on Academic Freedom Policy. The motion was seconded and passed. Sandra asked Reid to Chair the Committee. Two committee members will be appointed.

g. Theatrical Stipend

The FS discussed Sebastian Verdis' proposal for a theater stipend. Questions were raised as to whether productions are considered part of the theater instructor's job description or if it is additional. Jessica asked about how stipends and productions are handled and compensated at other institutes. Sandra argued that there is legitimate rationale for compensation due to number of hours donated to a student production. Reid made a motion to approve. Motion was not seconded.

Next meeting: Jan 11th @ 10 am at Statesboro Campus.

VII. Adjournment
12:25 pm