
ORDER: The chair, President Mark Becker, called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the April 16, 2009 Senate meeting were approved with no changes.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR: President Becker acknowledged all the people involved in putting together the upcoming investiture ceremony, which will be held on October 19. He reported GSU’s retention rate for freshmen and sophomores is at an all-time record: 83%. The graduation rate has greatly improved as well. Dr. Becker recognized the hard work of everyone who helped in this effort. At yesterday’s BOR meeting, the new core curriculum for USG institutions was approved. Dr. Becker stated that this occurred primarily because of the energy and leadership of George Rainbolt. His remarks were met with applause. Dr. Rainbolt’s efforts have been recognized across the USG. Dr. Becker commented that over the 10 months that he’s been at GSU he has felt a palpable spirit on campus across the faculty, staff, and students, “that things are possible and that people are committed to making an even better and brighter future for this university.”

NEW BUSINESS: The Executive Committee recommends a “do pass” on the following agenda items:

1. **Policy on the assignment of credit hours** presented by the Academic Programs Committee; Sara Weigle, chair. This policy is a result of the last SACS accreditation visit. GSU needed a clear policy on how academic credit was assigned to various courses, particularly internships and clinical work. The question was called. The motion passed.

2. **Resolution on furloughs and RIFs** presented by the Budget Committee; Paul Alberto for Hugh Hudson, chair. This resolution urges the administration to hold additional tuition revenues until sufficient information is obtained regarding the extent of any additional state appropriations and that furloughs and RIFs be an action of last resort. The question was called. The motion passed.

3. **Temporary transcript annotation in cases of academic dishonesty** presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This came about as a request from the Student Discipline Committee. This will enable that committee to have increased flexibility in recommending a broader range of disciplinary actions. The question was called. The motion passed.

4. **Repeat to replace policy** presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This will allow undergraduate students completing their first degree at GSU to repeat a course and replace a lower grade with a revised grade. This policy can only be applied four times during a student’s undergraduate degree program. The question was called. The motion passed.

5. **Review of the academic calendar** presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. The BOR recently changed its calendar rules and this
change gives USG institutions more options when creating their academic calendars. The motion was seconded. Lauren Adamson suggested a friendly amendment. Since the calendar, as presented, would create problems for those classes with labs, she proposed that the two-day fall break be moved to Thanksgiving week. This will allow students to have that entire week off in November. Greg Abt stated that the students were in favor of this change to the calendar. The question was called on the amendment. The amendment passed. The question was called on the proposal as amended. The motion passed.

6. **Procedure for student access to SEI Results** presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee; Peggy Albers, chair. This policy addresses the procedures as to how active students will be able to view the quantitative responses to the five common items through Go Solar. The question was called. The motion passed.

7. **Amend the membership on the Admissions and Standards Committee** presented by the University Senate and Senate Bylaws Committee; John Duffield, chair. This will add the Academic Director for Student Retention to the committee. The question was called. The motion passed.

8. **Addendum to the April 16, 2009 Nominations Report** presented by the Nominations Committee; Shelby Frost, chair. This makes adjustments to committee memberships where senators have left and new senators have been elected to complete their terms. The question was called. The motion passed.

The chair reviewed the six information items included in the senators’ packets.

**SPEAKER:** Keith Sumas from the Office of Emergency Management gave a brief talk and update on the H1N1 virus.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Executive (Paul Alberto, chair): Today’s agenda items were approved at the last committee meeting. The committee will be establishing a task force to address questions and concerns about access for people with disabilities. The task force’s findings will be included in the strategic planning process.

Academic Programs (Sara Weigle, chair): The committee has met two times. It has approved several APR reports and has approved new concentrations and dealt with other programmatic items.

Admissions and Standards (George Rainbolt, chair): Dr. Rainbolt reported that GSU has over 30,000 students. He recognized Chief Enrollment Officer Tim Renick and Admissions Director Scott Burke for their work in increasing both the number and the quality of these new students. His remarks were met with applause.

Athletics (Teryl Frey, chair): The committee has met twice. It has heard reports from AD Cheryl Levik and faculty athletic representative Andy Sumner. The Athletic Department has hired 18 new staff members. The average gpa of the athletes for this past spring was 3.03. The five-year strategic plan for the Athletics Department should be available soon.

Budget (Bill Downs for Hugh Hudson, chair): The committee has established a subcommittee on ADP to gather information on the source and scope of problems encountered with its implementation. It will produce a report by the end of October.

Commencement (Mark Becker, chair): At the December commencement, two honorary degrees will be awarded.

Cultural Diversity (Christine Gallant, chair): The committee has met twice. It is involved in the system-wide initiative for all USG institutions to develop strategic diversity plans. The provost will be establishing a committee with members from this committee as well as the Faculty Affairs and the Executive Committees. Representatives from the Affirmative Action Office and others from the university community will be members as well. The diversity strategic plan will be included in the upcoming university strategic planning process.
Faculty Affairs (Peggy Albers, chair): The committee has met twice. It has been working on the evaluation of administrator procedures and a policy on 10-year clock stoppage and leave. Other issues are: phased retirement, the tuition exchange program, and maternity/ parental leave.

FACP (Risa Palm, chair): The committee has met three times. It has been focusing on the budget cuts mandated by the BOR. It has also focused on the preallocation of funds to the colleges for FY2011. The committee continues to monitor the budget situation.

IS&T (George Pullman, chair): The committee has met twice. It has reviewed the changes to the online submission for the tech fee policy.

Library (Deron Boyles, chair): The committee has met twice. It has completed the journal reduction process. There will likely be another round of journal reductions. The library has adjusted its policy on library use by non-GSU community members.

Planning and Development (P.C. Tai, chair): The committee has met three times. Provost Palm attended a recent meeting and explained how the strategic planning process would be implemented in the development of the 2010-2015 Strategic Plan. Dr. Palm encouraged committee members to attend the investiture ceremony in order to hear the strategic vision as outlined by President Becker.

Research (Rose Sevcik, chair): The committee has met three times. It has written and submitted the responsible conduct of research training policy. It has discussed the composition of the intellectual property review committee and agreed that 50% of the members must have direct experience with IP. It has also met with the VP for Research and his staff to discuss what is necessary for GSU to compete for large external awards.

Student Discipline (Marta White, chair): The committee has heard six cases fall semester. It forwarded the temporary transcript notion policy that was approved today. The committee has observed that there are inconsistencies across GSU, among faculty, about the academic dishonesty policy and procedures.

Student Life and Development (Elisabeth Burgess, chair): The committee has met three times. It has approved numerous student organization charters. VP Covey spoke to the committee on changes in his division. The committee also had a lively discussion of free speech and toured freshman housing.

University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee (John Duffield, chair): The committee met twice. It approved the item that is on today’s agenda.

OLD BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Since there was no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Nell Stone
Secretary to the Senate