

MINUTES
UNIVERSITY SENATE
April 19, 2012

PRESENT: Senate members: Peggy Albers, Paul Alberto, Julie Ancis, JoAnn Bacon, Daun Baunach, Mark Becker, Gary Bingham, Jacobus Boers, Faye Borthick, Deron Boyles, Michelle Brattain, Margo Brinton, Fred Brooks, Elisabeth Burgess, Brendan Calandra, Allison Calhoun-Brown, Debby Cannon, David Caudill, David Cheshier, Conrad Ciccotello, Chris Connelly, Sara Cook, Doug Covey, Lisa Cranwell-Bruce, Harry Dangel, Julie Dangel, John Decker, Kim Darnell, Michael Decker, Cheryl Delk-LeGood, Dan Deocampo, Monica Diaz, Dabney Dixon, Irene Duhaime, Vedica Eastman, Crawford Elliott, Florian Enescu, Richard Fendler, Chris Fenn, Mary Finn, Laura Fredrick, Patrick Freer, Peggy Gallagher, Vijay Ganji, MaryAnne Gaunt, Gerald Gay, Mark Geil, Morna Gerrard, Stuart Gerber, Charles Gilbreath, Maria Gindhart, Lynda Goodfellow, Audrey Goodman, Shif Gurmu, Skye Hardesty, Steve Harmon, Robert Harrison, Brenna Helmstutler, Kerry Heyward, DeAnna Hines, Kevin Hsieh, Hugh Hudson, Fenwick Huss, Olga Jarrett, Jennifer Jones, Steve Kaminshine, Paul Katz, Nancy Kropf, Peter Lindsay, Greg Lisby, Jun Liu, Leigh Anne Liu, William Long, Peter Lyons, Carrie Manning, Steve Manson, Layli Maparyan, Leslie Marsh, Walter Massey, Frances McCarty, Kathryn McClymond, Mark McFarland, John Medlock, Siva Nathan, Tim Nichols, Risa Palm, Dominic Parrott, Joe Perry, Chester Phillips, George Pierce, Bruce Pilling, Jerry Rackliffe, Mike Raderstorf, George Rainbolt, Bala Ramesh, Vincent Rehder, Lesley Reid, Don Reitzes, Tim Renick, Mary Ann Ronski, Stephen Rosner, Josh Russell, Vjolca Sadiraj, Shari Schwartz, Nan Seamans, Rose Sevcik, Christine Skwiot, Mary Stuckey, Andrew Sumner, P.C. Tai, Yuki Takatori, Melissa Paige Taylor, Cherian Thachenkary, Brian Thoms, Jowanna Tillman, Gertrude Tinker-Sachs, Volkan Topalli, Bronislaw Verhage, William Walsh, Tai Wang, Irene Weber, Michael Weeks, Sara Weigle, Dan Weiskopf, Elizabeth West, Marta White, Russel White, Ben Williams, Katherine Willoughby, Peggy Wilmoth, Carol Winkler. **Guests:** Eric Blacknall, Brian Crowe, Rebecca Stout.

ORDER: The chair, President Mark Becker, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the March 15, 2012 Senate meeting were approved with no changes.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR: President Becker reported that the BOR concluded their April meeting with the primary issue being the budget. The governor's request that formula funding be restored was approved. Tuition did increase for the research institutions; however, the amount of the increase is different for each institution. There will be no fee increases. GSU will be moving to the Sun Belt Conference starting 7/1/13.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Election of the 2012-2013 Executive Committee. President Becker opened the floor for nominations. The names were recorded as nominated:

Don Reitzes, College of Arts and Sciences
Lynda Goodfellow, School of Nursing and Health Professions
Laura Fredrick, College of Education
Kris Varjas, College of Education
Siva Nathan, College of Business
Mary Finn, School of Policy Studies
Rose Sevcik, College of Arts and Sciences

The nominations were closed. Dr. Becker asked the senators to complete their ballots. The ballots were collected and tallied. While waiting for the results, the chair continued with new business.

- B. The Executive Committee recommends a "do pass" on the following agenda items:

1. **Amend the Senate Bylaws, Article VIII: Committees** presented by the University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee; Greg Lisby for John Duffield, chair. The changes proposed adjust the membership of the Planning and Development Committee, add a duty to the Athletics Committee, and adds the Institute of Public Health to the Budget Committee. The question was called. The motion passed.
2. **Create an Office of Sustainability** presented by the Sustainability Committee; Dabney Dixon, chair. This will create an Office of Sustainability headed by a Director of Sustainability who will report to the Senior Vice President for Finance and Administration. The question was called and the motion passed.
3. **Policy on electronic master's theses and doctoral dissertations** presented by the Library Committee; Deron Boyles, chair. This motion requires all students who produce a master's thesis or doctoral dissertation

to upload the final version to GSU's Digital Archive as a condition of the award of the degree. Programs requiring extra time to submit these documents will have no more than five years to meet the submission requirement. The question was called and the motion passed.

4. **Amend the P&T Manual to add a mechanism for faculty input at the University level** presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee; David Cheshier, chair. This will create an advisory panel of senior faculty to provide input to the Provost on promotion and tenure cases. This will add transparency and legitimacy for the most difficult decisions made at senior level. The floor was opened for discussion. Cherian Thachenkary proposed a friendly amendment to table this motion at this time. Since it was not considered a friendly amendment by the chair, Dr. Thachenkary made a motion to table the proposal. This was seconded. A vote was taken and the motion to table did not pass. Hugh Hudson stated that this item was discussed thoroughly by the committee over the last year and that all colleges were well represented. The question was called. The motion passed.

- C. Nominations Report presented by the Nominations Committee; Don Reitzes for Shelby Frost, chair. The report was presented as distributed. The question was called and the motion passed.

The chair reviewed the three information items that were included in the Senators' packets.

SPEAKER: Honors College Dean Larry Berman gave a presentation about the recently created Honors College. He gave an overview of his vision for the college. He wants to provide the university's most talented undergraduates a community that fosters discovery, innovation, and boldness while preserving and building on the breadth of opportunities, experiences, and access possible at a large public university.

The chair announced the names of the six Senators who will be serving on the Executive Committee: Don Reitzes, Rose Sevcik, Kris Varjas, Laura Fredrick, Mary Finn, and Lynda Goodfellow.

The chair recognized Don Reitzes who asked for Senate support for the following proclamation: Whereas, Paul A. Alberto has served with honor and distinction as a member of the Senate Executive Committee for fourteen years and; Whereas, he has ably and effectively chaired the Senate Executive Committee for eight years; We, the University Senate, express our appreciation and thanks for his many years of dedicated service and leadership. The motion was approved unanimously with applause.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Since there was no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Nell Stone
Secretary to the Senate