

## **Georgia Southwestern State University**

### **Faculty Senate Agenda**

Thursday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 3:30pm

Nursing 106

Present: MacLennan, Jacobs, Wynn, Mukkavilli, Easom, Abbot, McKie, Mulleins-Foreman, Johnston, Stovall, Smith, Kaus, Brown, Tu, Le Jeune

Guests: Laughlin, Ross, Dahlgren, Whitley Hall

#### **1. Call to Order 334 PM**

##### **a) Approval of Agenda**

- i. Jacobs moves to approve. Carter Seconds. Approved Unanimously,

#### **2. Minutes**

##### **a) November 20, 2024.**

- i. Easom moved to approve, Carter Seconds.
- ii. Clarified that the deleted program was Video Game Music.
- iii. Approved Unanimously

#### **3. Senate Activity Updates**

##### **a) President's Cabinet Meeting Report (1/21)**

- 1) Virtual training for deans and evaluator training in January.
- 2) ASPIRE meetings next month. Drs. Abbot and Johnston meeting March 6<sup>th</sup>.
- 3) Welcome Dr. Ross
- 4) Science building is in process.
- 5) Modifying new student orientation to meet with faculty and meet major options.
- 6) Undergraduate Research Symposium on Friday April 18<sup>th</sup>. Proposals due March 14.
- 7) Investiture March 28<sup>th</sup> at 10am. Faculty are asked to be part of the procession. There will be events all week.

##### **b) report: UGS faculty council meeting**

- 1) Faculty Evaluations – is discussion of how to evaluate clinical activities. Also discussion of administrator evaluation.
- 2) Concern about ICE. Not interfere or hinder. Can direct to public safety.
- 3) Funding freezes concerns. Wait for now
- 4) AI-Policies. Need for institutional policies.

##### **c) Report: Transition committee meeting**

- 1) Interim provost process discussed and search.
    - i. Discussed makeup and process of committee
    - ii. Clarified that it is an advisory role. President will make final decision.
  - 2) Discussed how to frame conversations that balance liberal arts goals with career reediness.
- d) Update on Action Items Sent to Committees**
- i. Faculty Affairs
    - a. Probationary Credit Policy – still waiting on
    - b. USG Core Values Statement
      - i. They don't want to vote on.
      - ii. MacLennan will ask them to address

#### **4. Public Address**

- a) None.

#### **5. University Updates and Q+A**

- a) President Michelle Johnston

- 1) Updates on the provost position

- i. Dr. Abbot serving while also serving as dean. Thanks to other folks in college for supporting this dual role.
- ii. Wanted internal interim from either Deans and Dr. Davis. Any of these people who were interested in the position full time were excluded from the interim role.
  - a. Two interested in interim. Talked about vision and needs to determine the bet fit. Johnston selected Dr. Abbot
- iii. The search process has started under the direction of Dr. Cheokas. 16 members across all colleges and areas.
  - a. Bufkin Baker is the search firm selected. Working to build a strong pool
  - b. Want strategic thinker, innovative, consensus builder, integrity, collaborative, and expects excellence.
  - c. Want someone has experience for campuses in relation to our issues.
  - d. Candidates want more confidentiality deeper in the process.
  - e. Is a search team, not a selection committee. Analyze the strengths and weakness of candidates and can

label non-viable candidates. Not asking for rankings or a specific recommendation.

- f. Is a fast timeline, but doable. If going too fast, we will slow it down.
- g. Question: Do we have a vision for the whole office, particularly the many roles of Dr. Davis?: New provost will distribute the roles of Dr. Davis according to their vision.

## 2) Budget

- i. Governor fully funded growth request from the formula.
  - ii. Also 16.1 million for the science building
  - iii. Request options are larger than budget increases. \$2.1 million in requests and \$1.7 in availability (before required costs). We are allocating based on need. E.g. additional QEP need. 44% of surplus will be in personnel. 21 in operating (e.g. custodial contract). 14 is equipment.
  - iv. Budget hearing on Feb 25
  - v. State appropriations in April or May BOR meeting
- 3) Strategic plan. Work starts mid semester. Will start at mission statement. Work into next fall
- 4) NISS is working with data from us. In 3-4 weeks should have first draft of the report
- 5) Table talks this Friday. 1PM in person and 3PM online
- 6) Discussion of Handbook revisions at the request of the senate president
- 7) We will be figuring out the best way to talk about the professional futures of our students.
- i. Possible frame of faculty wellness as a key part of this frame.
  - ii. Question about survey about career ready competencies.

## b) Interim Provost Rachel Abbott

- 1) Dr. Milledge left. Posting a new position. Director of Professional and Experiential Learning Opportunities. Add more explicit career development to that office.
- 2) Enrollment up 6.5 YTD.
- 3) Retention fall to spring is up 5% YTD and 9% in University college.

- 4) ASPRIE. Working on it with Dr. Davis. Dr. Cheokas is leading list on LPPs. Not discussing 3 cycle programs at the meeting. That will be discussed at a later date. Meeting will cover comprehensive program reviews. Look at risk or newly below the threshold. 3 programs discussed.
- 5) NISS. Next step is campus stakeholder interviewers. Hope to have the playbook in April.
- 6) Discussion on LPP issues.

## **6. Committee Recommendations**

### **a) Academic Affairs**

- i. B.A. in Art – Program Deactivation. Jacobs moves to approve, Wynn Seconds.
- ii. All approve except Le Jeune and Brown.
- iii. ,

### **b) Graduate Affairs**

- i. Withdrawal Policy.
  - a. Carter moves to return to the committee to clarify the specific policy recommendations, Le Jeune seconds. Unanimously approved.
- ii. Nursing policy – Double Counting Courses
  - a. Le Jeune moves to approve and Stovall seconds. Passes with unanimous support.
- iii. Double Canes Program
  - a. -Jacobs moves to approve, Le Jeune seconds.
  - b. Passes with unanimous support.
  - c.

## **7. Senate Discussion Items / Future Action Items**

### **a) Senate Handbook revisions.**

- 1) Carter moves to approve, Le Jeune seconds. Passes unanimously

### **b) MacLennan moves to remove the word “equity” from the bylaws.**

Mulleins-Foreman seconds.

### **c) Le Jeune offers a friendly amendment to replace with “inclusivity.”**

MacLennan accepts.

- 1) Motion needs 2/3 as a bylaws revision
- 2) Fails
- 3) Voting For: for Smith, Le Jeune, Stovall, Wynn, Eaton, Mulleins-Foreman, Tu, Mukkavilli

4) Voting Against: Carter, Kaus, McKie, Jacobs, Brown.

8. MacLennan calls for an ad hoc Bylaws sub-committee – Le Jeune, Carter, Smith, Kaus, Mulleins-Foreman

9. **Announcements**

10. **Adjourn at 5:50 PM**

**Submitted by Jonathan Carter**