

**GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY**  
**Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes**  
**October 21, 2009**  
**4:00 to 6:00 p.m.**  
**University Union Ballroom**

\*\*Questions and clarifications may be directed to the Office of the Faculty Senate  
([fsoffice@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:fsoffice@georgiasouthern.edu)) or persons identified with each agenda item prior to Senate.\*\*

**2009-2010 Senate Executive Committee:** *Michael Moore (COE) Chair, Senate Executive Committee; Moderator, Faculty Senate; Jim McMillan (CHHS); Ardian Greca (CIT); Richard Flynn (CLASS); Lowell Mooney (COBA); Patricia Humphrey (COST), Senate Librarian; Jim Stephens (JPHCOPH); Fred Smith (LIB); Marilyn Bruce, Senate Liaison from the President's Office; Caren Town (CLASS) Senate Secretary*

**NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative:** *Chris Geyerman (CLASS)*

**Senate Parliamentarian:** *Bob Cook (CIT)*

**Voting Members in Attendance:** *Barry Balleck, Michael Braz, Thomas Buckley, Adam Jonathan Con, Jonathan Copeland, Windy Dees, Robert Fernekes, Richard Flynn, Adrian Greca, Michelle Haberland, Greg Harwood, Ming Fang He, Patricia Humphrey, Bob Jackson, Rebecca Kennerly, Clara Krug, Barbara Mallory, Jim McMillan, Teri Ann Melton, Lowell Mooney, Michael Moore, Kent Dean Murray, (Debra Sinclair for Thomas Noland), Patricia Price, (Dolores Rangel for Theresa Welford), Stephen J. Rossi, (Alison Rushing for Brenda Talley), (Jeff Tysinger for Lisa Schulz), Debra Sinclair, Fred Smith, Jr., Jim Stephens, Stuart Tedders, Caren Town, Laura Valeri, Patricia Walker, Mark Welford, LeVon Wilson, Samantha Young*

**Voting Members Absent:** *Frank Atuahene, Marie Botkin, Jean-Paul Carton, Dena Hale, Sonya Renee Huber, Youakim Al-Kalaani, Jun Liu, Allison Long, Mary Marwitz, Bruce McLean, David Rostal, Donna Saye, Don Stallings, Jim Whitworth, Bill Yang, Wen-Ran Zhang, Xialong Jonathan Zhang*

**Administrative Members in Attendance:** *Bruce Grube, Marilyn Bruce, Steve Burrell, Ron Core, Billy Griffis, Teresa Thompson, Ron Shiffler, Michael Smith, Stephanie Kenney, Amy Heaston, Bede Mitchell*

**Visitors:** *Josh Martin, Justin Little, Timothy Cairney, Candace Griffith*

**1. Approval of the Agenda for the October 21, 2009 Meeting.**

Michael Moore (COE), Senate Moderator, welcomed senators and guests to the second meeting and asked for approval of the agenda. The agenda was approved unanimously.

**2. Approval of the Minutes for the September 23, 2009 Minutes.**

Caren Town (CLASS), Senate Secretary, asked for approval of the [September 23, 2009 Minutes](#). The minutes were approved unanimously.

**3. Librarian's Report.**

Pat Humphrey (COST), Senate Librarian, asked for approval of Librarian's Report of [October 21, 2009](#).

Clara Krug (CLASS) asked what "separate travel from projects" meant in the Faculty Service Committee's report. Stuart Tedders (JPHCOPH) said that the committee decided to allocate \$500 for travel-based projects.

Michelle Haberland (CLASS) asked about the changes in summer stipends and travel reimbursements. She asked about the reasoning for the changes and if summer reimbursements couldn't be made to the last paycheck of the spring rather than the first paycheck in the fall. Fred Smith (Library), Chair of the Faculty Development Committee, said, "This has to do with payments coming during the summer at the end of the fiscal year, and accounting, and we were encouraged to do it that way by the Provost, who I think is just trying to accommodate the financial people. I brought up the idea, too, of paying before the end of the spring, but I just don't think that it would be allowable to pay for an action before it actually took place." Ron Core (Business & Finance) agreed that people can't be reimbursed for actions before they happen. The travel, or whatever is reimbursed, "has to fall between certain parameters so we can get it done before we have to close the books."

The Librarian's Report was passed unanimously.

- a. **Report from Undergraduate Committee: Bob Jackson (COBA)** said that the September meeting was cancelled for lack of business
- b. **Report from Graduate Committee: Bob Fernekes (LIB):** "The Librarian's Report includes the Graduate Committee minutes from the September 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. After approving the agenda, the meeting began with a SharePoint presentation and [a follow-up] demonstration [was] scheduled and completed at the October meeting. Under new business, the committee tabled the MS in Computer Science program proposal, which was subsequently approved in the October meeting. Under old business, the Graduate Committee approved a policy statement for dual-listed new courses, and revised Item 5 on the Curriculum New Course Form to provide further detail how student learning will be assessed. Under the subcommittee reports and updates, *A Vision for Graduate Education* will be on the agenda for the November Graduate Committee meeting for a vote."

Clara Krug (CLASS) asked when the rest of the faculty would have a training session in SharePoint. Michael Moore (COE), Senate Moderator, said that the Faculty Senate will have a demonstration of SharePoint at the November meeting.

#### 4. **President's Report: President Bruce Grube:**

The official ribbon cutting for Centennial Place was held last week. "If you've not had a chance to look in at that residential complex, please do. It is quite something." The ribbon cutting was followed by the Fall General Faculty Meeting.

Official enrollment for Fall 2009 is 19,086 students, up more than 1200 students from the previous fall. About a third of them came as newly-entering students. "One of the

pleasant surprises was the sophomore class is larger this year than it was the previous year and, of course, the meaning of that is simply that retention rates are up again, and we are projecting retention to be at 82%, so both the Fall enrollment and retention rates are at an all-time high for Georgia Southern.” The graduate student population is up “over 300 new students this fall. Finally, the average credit load carried by our students is up very slightly; it’s up 2 hundredths of a point, which may not sound like much, but when you spread it across 19,000 plus students that’s quite a few additional credit hours out there.” Attendance at receptions to recruit new students is up significantly this year.

**5. Report from Michael Moore (COE), Chair, Senate Executive Committee:**

**Motion Requests**

Michael Moore (COE), Senate Moderator, reported on the October 7<sup>th</sup> Motion Request by Clifton Price titled “[Eligibility of Full-time Lecturer and Temporary Faculty to Run for Senate Seats and Other Elected Positions](#).” The motion was: “I move for the Faculty Senate to recognize the eligibility of full-time lecturer and temporary faculty to run for elected faculty positions at Georgia Southern University.” The Senate Executive Committee, meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup>, voted unanimously to send the motion to the Faculty Welfare Committee for its recommendation. Moore sent the following email message to the chair, Sonya Huber:

“At the SEC meeting at 10/15 we voted to send the motion request from Clifton Price to the Faculty Welfare Committee for a recommendation.

I am attaching a document that has any and all references to temporary faculty in Senate business and a pdf of a memo from Dr. Grube from September 2007 clarifying the distinction between non-tenure track faculty and full-time temporary faculty. Muddying the waters is your own recent discussion as reported in our minutes on lecturers and senior lecturers and how this classification may play into the issue. I’ve copied this email to the President, Provost, and Marc Cyr who wrestled with this issue as our previous moderator and may serve you as a resource person.

As if we needed more complications, The BOR created a new website launched on September 21, 2009.” <http://www.usg.edu/policymanual/>.

Moore added, “It looks like a reformatting of the old manual; however, in a profession where sentence parsing is a fine art, you may want to take a look at these new parsings and see if they have any bearing on faculty classifications. We’ll await recommendation from the Faculty Welfare Committee, and after that then we’ll announce the recommendation to the Senate.”

**RFIs**

Moore reported on RFIs:

RFI on September 23<sup>rd</sup> from Jim Braselton on [Eligibility for Unemployment](#). Response from Paul Michaud.

RFI on September 24<sup>th</sup> from Kathleen Comerford on [Timetable for RFI](#)

[responses](#). Moore responded as Senate Moderator and added information in the [Faculty Senate Policies and Procedures](#) about requesting information.

RFI on September 25<sup>th</sup> from David Seaman on the [Faculty Club](#). The Senate Executive Committee responded.

RFI on October 7<sup>th</sup> from Leticia McGrath about [Campus Alerts](#). Response from Georj Lewis.

RFI on October 14<sup>th</sup> from Thomas Noland about [Open Records Requests](#). Moore submitted the RFI to Lee Davis, University Attorney, for a response. The response will be posted.

There will be a brief orientation on SharePoint at the next meeting.

The election for Moderator will be held next month at the next Faculty Senate meeting, and a message containing a description of the role of the moderator and seeking someone interested in being moderator in 2010-2011.

Moore said, “Finally, last meeting I was critical of ADP and spoke unkindly of the unworkable system we are trying to get to work. And although I haven’t been to visit my friendly ADP site in the last three weeks, I received this email before coming to today’s Faculty Senate meeting. ‘For security reasons, your ADP account has been locked. Please contact your administrator for assistance.’ They are out there and they are listening.”

Samantha Young (President, SGA) asked who could run for Senate Moderator, and Moore responded that the candidate must be on the Senate next year.

Pat Humphrey (COST) pointed out that the purpose of having a moderator election in November is so that the new moderator, if the elected and current moderator so choose, can have time to shadow the current moderator and learn the job.

**6. Report from Chris Geyerman (CLASS), NCAA Faculty Athletic Representative:**

Geyerman provided an update for the Senate with regard to the allegation of academic fraud in the basketball program. A contingent from Georgia Southern, led by Dr. [Bruce] Grube, and including Dr. [Ron] Core, Vice President [Lee] Davis, Athletic Director [Sam] Baker; Scott Pierce, Director of Audit and Advisory Services, who also chaired the investigative committee; Keith Roughton, Director of Compliance; and [Geyerman] appeared before the Committee on NCAA Infractions to present the institution’s responses to the basketball situation. “The committee is going to consider our responses and let us know what their decision is in six to eight weeks, which might be twelve weeks, but that’s what they said. When I hear what it’s going to be I’ll report it to the Senate.”

**7. Report from Michael Braz (CLASS), SPC Representative:** “No meetings. Hence, no report. I think our hiatus will be over as of next week.”

**8. Report from Trey Denton, Presidential Search Committee Chair:**

No report.

**Continuation of the Discussion on the Faculty Development Committee's Budget:**

Fred Smith (LIB) said the changes have to do with “some administrative difficulty for summer pay for ten-month faculty.” Amy Heaston (Provost's Office) said they are related to “the fiscal year and when we close out fiscal year and that some of the proposals that have been accepted, when they go through reimbursement.” Fred Smith (LIB) said “the main difference is that we will be able to fund those two summer stipends and summer travel, assuming that the Fall budget doesn't get wiped out, so we're going to have to have a disclaimer that says ‘if we have no budget, you won't be paid,’ but we don't expect *not* to have a budget. But the other thing is that . . . some years ago, there were checks issued during the middle of the summer and something about the accounting system makes it difficult to do that . . . . [T]he only way that we could work this out was to agree to put the extra money into the first check of the new academic year.” Michelle Haberland (CLASS) asked for clarification that the risk of not being funded is very small. Clara Krug (CLASS): “[I]f the money remains in the University accounts during the summer, does it not accrue interest to benefit the University?” Ron Core responded that “it's a complicated issue for how interest is earned by the University. Specific accounts do not earn interest.”

**9. Unfinished Business -- None.**

**10. New Business -- None.**

**11. Announcements: Vice Presidents**

Steve Burrell (Vice President for IT) reported on the campus calendar system and expressed appreciation for the large amount of work that has been done by various people. He also noted “the number, variety, and depth of activities that go on at the University on a daily basis” and encouraged people to work with Christian Flathman and his staff, particularly Marla Bruner, to get events into the campus calendar.

Clara Krug (CLASS) asked who she should contact if there is difficulty getting a response when trying to post items to the calendar. Burrell asked that people bring any problems to his attention.

**12. Announcements from the Floor – No Announcements.**

**13. Adjournment.**

**The next Senate meeting is November 16, 2009, 4-6 p.m., in the Russell Union Ballroom.**