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Description automatically generatedFaculty Senate Meeting held via MS Teams

October 4, 2021, Meeting Started at 11:22am EDT

Senators in attendance: Ann Showalter, Anthony Stinson, Augustine Ayuk, Brian Hunt, David Williams (Chair), Deborah Gritzmacher, Eric Bridges, Erin Nagel, Eugene Ngezem, Joshua Kitchens, Ken Nguyen, Kendolyn Smith (Vice Chair), Larry Menter (Secretary), Laura Herndon, Mario Norman, Mark Watson, MeriBeth Stegall, Rebecca Morgan, and Sharon White.

Non-Senators in attendance: Ramon Stuart (President), Jill Lane (Interim Provost), Adam Kubik, Adel Novin, Alan Xie, Anthony Hannah, Antoinette Miller, Barbara Musolf, Bennett Nworie, Byron Jeff, Carol White, Celeste Walley-Jean, Christie Burton, Dmitriy Beznosko, Feechi Hall, Gail Barnes, Jennifer Parrott, Joie Hain, Kayla Stanford, Keira Davis, Keith Miller, Kevin Demmitt, Khamis Bilbeisi, Kimberly Johnson, Marko Maunula, Michael Sitvarin, Michelle Nelson, Nichelle Gause, Reza Kheirandish, Robert Pfeiffer, Rosann O'Neill, Samuel Maddox, Stacey Reynolds, Terri Summers, an Stacey Reynolds.

1. Remarks from President, Dr. T. Ramon Stuart – From N GA (From the Road)
   1. Budget Conversations – University came in shy of enrollment targets. Over $500,000. We will slow down hiring. Prioritize. Keep people employed v hiring new folks. VPs will be working on this. Work on enrollment increase as well as retention. Soon we are having an enrollment summit to work on strategies to Increase it. Possible date is 10/15.
      1. Replacing Faculty - use same process that is in effect
   2. Review processes at the University to see if most efficient.
   3. Ramping up external engagement –Thanks to our U.S Senators got word last week that they have funded $455K of the PBI (Predominantly Black Institution) grant money. We can continue the work that the grant funded.
   4. Questions?
      1. Slow enrollment due to absence of new students or retention? Mix of both. Don’t have numbers yet. How do we compare to sister institutions? Entire sector is down for enrollment.
      2. He talked to the Chancellor about our recent resolutions.
2. Remarks from Provost, Dr. Jill Lane
   1. Process update – Emeritus status process is hodgepodge. Will go through it and formalize it in writing. FAC Committee will look at it.
   2. SACS 10-year review coming up in 2024. Compliance report 2023. So will need to start working on it. Surveys – new QEP to be developed. Reaffirmation Team to work on this.
   3. Covid 0.1% positive rates on campus. 89% have been off campus. No in-class transmission.
   4. Retention & Enrollment – Academic support strategies are important. We launched a referral support tool in D2L. Majority of referrals are for missing assignments and low grades. Working on efforts for initiatives to work on retention for upper classmen.
   5. Two PBI Grants getting. Formula grant ongoing $445K & competitive additional grants $600K Only CSU and GA State Perimeter have qualified.
   6. Questions?
      1. Work on Transfer students as well.
      2. Any discussion of getting funds from new infrastructure bills in Congress? Getting Community College funds? Reconciliation bill in Congress – includes some funds for PBI institutions on earmarked on annual funding.
      3. Dual Enrollment – how did we lose grant? It has been recalculated to qualify us.
3. Update on results of recent E-Vote; next steps
   1. All passed – only 1 unanimously. Will next forward to the Chancellor.
4. Subcommittee Updates
   1. APC – Ken Nguyen is Chair and ready to go.
   2. FAC – Meetings scheduled and ready to go
   3. SAC – No updates
   4. UCC – Meets this Friday @12:00 o’clock. Committee Chair Carol White noted that nothing is on the agenda at this time.
5. Discussion: suggestions for improvement
   1. Dissemination of minutes – Whether Senate is doing as good as it’s doing. What can we do better? And start doing? Survey what faculty want?

* Send out faculty reminders.
* Minutes distributed more timely. Minutes – all faculty list mail and still post on Teams.
  1. Issue of workload of Chair – Possibly separate some of the duties – USG Faculty Council rep, for instance. Good for one interested in governmental affairs. Perhaps change the bylaws to accommodate this.
  2. Discussion of suggestions of how to communicate more – things we can do better – interaction -
     1. Make sure we are following bylaws for meeting minutes for faculty senate and committee minutes. Post meeting times and minutes.
     2. Use teams page for the committees and post in the faculty senate page that’s open to all.
     3. List of Senate members and committees – Could be put in Teams page.
     4. Generally – Survey faculty much more often on their thoughts on Faculty Senate or Faculty Affairs Committee issues.
     5. After discussion about Senators updating their constituents on Senate business. The following volunteered to be the liaisons:
        1. Eric Bridges – CoAS
        2. Anthony Sims – CIMS
        3. Larry Menter - CoB
        4. Kendolyn Smith- CoH
     6. Solicitation of concerns from colleagues – Surveys? Who will do work on the design and implementation of a survey? The following volunteered to work on this:
        1. Ann Showalter – CoAS
        2. Josh kitchens – CIMS
        3. Adel Novin – CoB
  3. Perhaps in the spring go hybrid? Physical and online meeting. Use the Board room meeting room. Worked pretty well for other meetings.
  4. Minutes are in the chat will be voted on at the next meeting. Send the minutes to your colleagues and solicit from them.

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 11:56pm EDT.

Minutes Recorded by Larry Menter, Secretary