

## FACULTY SENATE MINUTES

December 4, 2012  
2:30 – 4:30 P.M.

Assembly Room  
McFall Center

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Earley called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM

**ROLL CALL:** Secretary Wood called the roll and announced a quorum.

Absent: Gorsevski, Grunden, Lengel, O'Brien, and Rainey.

### COMMUNICATIONS

Chair of the Faculty Senate After greeting attendees, Chair Earley highlighted several items of interest:

SEC Update SEC met last week and approved as a minor change the updates to the Transfer Policy presented by the UAP taskforce. Among other changes, the transfer admission GPA was also lowered from a 2.50 to 2.00 to match the admissions GPA at all other institutions in the state and links were added to streamline how transfer students access information. He again thanked the UAPT for their work on these issues.

Smoke Free Campus Policy Task Force Next Earley thanked Senator Blass for agreeing to serve on the smoke-free campus policy committee and mentioned looking forward to a discussion of the draft of that policy.

Faculty Awards Ceremony The Chair reminded senators, if possible, to save the date of Wednesday, 10 April from 4:30 – 7:00 PM to help recognize those faculty receiving awards from the Senate, the Provost, and the President. He also urged attendees to nominate colleagues for the Senate awards and/or to encourage others to do so in order for there to be a robust pool of colleagues who do exceptional work to select from. (Submissions are due in the Faculty Senate office by Friday, January 11, 2013.)

Holiday Reception at University House Finally he expressed the hope of seeing each senator at the holiday reception hosted by the Senate and President Mazey on Monday December 10<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7:00 at University House. He closed by wishing everyone "a strong finish to the semester and a peaceful Winter Break."

### University President

Complete College America President Mazey brought to Senate's attention the Complete College America initiative and indicated that before long there will be a parallel Complete College Ohio initiative in which BGSU will be involved. She cited several statistics that put national efforts to raise the proportion of college graduates to 60 percent of the general population into context:

- As a whole, this country is less college-educated than in the 1970's.
- Less than half of enrolling students complete requirements for college graduation.
- Seventy five percent of today's students are juggling work and family obligations in addition to studying and fulfilling requirements such as experiential learning assignments.

New State Share of Instruction (SSI) Formula The President then highlighted some changes specified in the Ohio Higher Education Funding Commission recommendations (see

<https://www.ohiohighered.org/sites/ohiohighered.org/files/uploads/financial/ssi/Ohio%20Higher%20Education%20Funding%20Commission%20-%20Report.pdf> ), some of which will need to be fleshed out in more detail and all of which must be ratified by the legislature before taking effect in the upcoming biennium.

- In general, the SSI formula is oriented toward student success outcomes.
- The state subsidy amount for course completion will decrease from 61% in 2013 to 30% in 2014.
- IN 2014, 50% of state funding will be determined by degree completion, a significant increase from 2013's 18%.
- The amount determined by doctoral/medical degrees awarded will decrease from 20% to 9.7% in 2014.
- Other factors (e.g. the number of non-traditional and at-risk students in the population as well as the number of graduates receiving a STEM degree) will influence weighting within each of the criteria for success.
- The greatest impact on BGSU is likely to be the abolition of the "stop loss" provision, which limited the amount of state support an institution could lose or gain in a given budget cycle based on a three-year budget average.

Strategies for Adapting to Change in the SSI Formula Dr. Mazey mentioned the following points, which Rogers, Colom, and Houston would discuss more fully:

- Greater emphasis on enrolling non-traditional students (those aged 25 – 34).
- Ongoing innovation in delivery methods/access to educational opportunity.
- Becoming ever more student-centered and tailoring what BGSU offers to students' needs.

After responding to questions, President Mazey concluded by saying "We can turn this around and be as competitive as any other institution in the state".

Provost/VPAA Dr. Rogers deferred his remarks to the NEW BUSINESS portion of the agenda.

Graduate Student Senate Representative President Sleasman highlighted several issues of interest to graduate students.

- Grad student representation and participation in the smoke-free campus implementation committee.
- GSS appreciation of the positive response by President Mazey and BOT Chair Primrose in issuing an open letter with Bowling Green mayor, Dick Edwards. Such proactive efforts contribute greatly to making this an inclusive community.
- Revision of the non-academic grievance procedure for graduate students after some 20 years.
- The effort to identify and solve problems in the electronic submission process for theses and dissertations, beginning with a survey to elicit insights from students who have been through the process.
- The bookstore has extended the regalia sale for students graduating in May or August of 2013 until 12/21.

Undergraduate Student Government Representative USG Vice President Neely gave several updates.

- For the St. Baldrick's campaign sponsored by the Resident Student Association, 150 students, faculty, and staff shaved their heads in solidarity with children fighting cancer and donated the hair as well as raising over \$22,000 at the event.
- Six USG delegates will be attending the national Conference of Student Government Associations at Texas A & M to network with other student leaders, enhance their personal leadership skills, and generate new ideas for student government at BGSU.
- Next semester the process of vetting applications and interviewing applicants for the next undergraduate member of the Board of Trustees will begin.
- USG passed a resolution for one of the residence halls to offer students the option of Gender-Inclusive Housing.
- USG President Solis sent a letter of support for the tobacco-free campus initiative to President Maze. An undergraduate student will serve on the committee to make recommendations regarding implementing this initiative (chaired by Dean Carr).

BGSU-FA Liaison Dr. Coates reviewed the progress of collective bargaining thus far.

Fact Finding Following a mediation process, BGSU has now gone to fact finding on some issues. The fact finder's role is to compile a report based on the last position taken by negotiators on each side. Coates stressed that 1) not all issues automatically go to fact finding once this stage of negotiations has begun; 2) the fact finder's report is not binding; 3) each side gets to vote on the issues placed into this process; and 4) at least three of five votes must be positive for any issue to be resolved.

The four issues currently in fact finding include: domestic partners; post tenure review; intellectual property; and distance learning.

Additional Issues Additional issues which may go to fact finding in the future include the following:

- Fair Share Fee
- Tenure
- Retrenchment
- FIL
- Compensation
  - Benefits (Health care; Retirement)
  - Ancillary Benefits
- Parking

Coates advocated that Faculty Senate weigh in on aspects of contract negotiations that he views as within its purview such as governance and post tenure review.

## **REPORTS FROM SENATE COMMITTEES**

### Committee on Academic Affairs – David Border

- In its November meeting, CAA reviewed and forwarded to SEC modifications to the Transfer Admissions Policy with its support.
- The committee has a meeting December 5th.

Amendments and Bylaws (A & B) Committee – Erin Labbie Labbie informed Senate that “In the interest of shared governance, A&B worked to assist the development of language regarding grade appeals to be placed in the Undergraduate Handbook” following presentation of proposed policy changes and discussion of that topic at the November 2012 Senate meeting. A & B sent Sue Houston and Geoff Howes a draft of language that hopefully will help clarify the procedures and requirements for an appeal.

Committee on Committees – Sheri Wells-Jensen for Scott Magelssen Three updates were given:

Committee Vacancies Com Com has helped fill nearly all the vacancies for Senate standing committees and University committees

Committee Oversight of University Business

In the course of reviewing the organization and purpose of committees that have not met over the past two semesters, Com Com has become concerned about whether -- through attrition of committee activity or other circumstances -- oversight responsibilities conferred on committees by the *Charter* have been relinquished to administrators of the bodies that committees were meant to advise.

According to Com Com, some committees have requested help in establishing a new mandate or in proposing revised *Charter* language to better reflect the business they do conduct. Others have been taking steps to reconstitute their charge and make a new bid for the shared governance outlined in the *Charter*.

Com Com requests that committee members who feel that their committee’s work and oversight responsibility do not match what the Charter says the committee should be doing, please get in touch with Scott Magelssen or another member of the Committee on Committees.

Recommending Best Practices In order to streamline the filling of committee vacancies next academic year, Com Com expects to recommend some best practices:

- Holding elections for Senate committees and University standing committees earlier in the year.
- Announcing election results as soon as possible.
- Encouraging each committee to meet and elect a chair before the semester’s end and to notify Com Com who the chair is before summer.

Committee on Professional Affairs – Lowe McManus and Bill O’Brien The committee has begun planning for a State House reception on February 18, 2013 as part of the legislative day in Columbus.

Fiscal Affairs Advisory Committee – No report.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

HLC Update: Dr. Joe Frizado First Dr. Frizado noted that our Quality Initiative -- a project that by definition touches many parts of campus and garners significant improvements in the education of our students -- got an excellent review from the Higher Learning Commission. Our choice was the implementation of The Learning Commons. This type of initiative is reviewed on a ten-year cycle.

Vice President Frizado then reviewed progress toward the remainder of our regional re-accreditation process, including a timeline of steps leading up to the April 15<sup>th</sup> onsite visit to main campus and to Firelands.

- First draft Writing of the 35,000 narrative documenting how BGSU fits the five HLC criteria is well underway.
- Second draft The next step will be putting the draft into one voice and one style and inserting appropriate links. Then the draft will be circulated for comment.
- Third draft While access to the BGSU document on the HLC site is restricted to six authorized persons and will be closed as of 3/15/13, our University has negotiated HLC approval for hosting a local site that will make the document freely available for comment before the site visit.
- April 15<sup>th</sup> Onsite visit Meetings with the President, the Board of Trustees, and Faculty Senate are planned. In addition there will be meetings -- each focused on a specific criterion ( e.g. University mission and resource planning) -- that are open to faculty, staff, and other interested parties throughout the visit.
- HLC Report Approximately four to six weeks after the visit, evaluators will report back to the institution, issuing a ranking that indicates to what level our performance has met HLC criteria for re-accreditation and possibly noting any areas of concern that we would need to address in future.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Recruitment and Retention: Dr. Rodney Rogers, Vice President Albert Colom, Dr. Sue Houston Provost After thanking individuals and groups for their efforts in increasing support for student success (including the key role that faculty play in Preview Days), Provost Rogers spoke briefly about the significance of a changed SSI -- emphasizing course completion and graduation rates more than ever before -- to BGSU's need to remain competitive in getting, retaining, and graduating qualified students. He maintained that when put into perspective, our goal of attaining 25,000 FTE's is attainable. Moreover, attaining this goal will be key to having sufficient resources to invest in the infrastructure necessary to provide a quality education.

Emphasizing that BGSU is not alone among peer institutions in setting a goal of increasing enrollment, Dr. Rogers outlined the three basic efforts toward recruitment and retention:

- Targeting individuals within the pool of potential students with a higher academic profile.
- Increasing the percentage of non-traditional students (those older than the traditional 18-24 year olds, whose ranks are diminishing) and transfer students.
- Increasing the number of both full time and part time graduate students coming to Bowling Green.

Vice President for Enrollment Management V.P. Colom gave examples of strategies to recruit and retain qualified students within the context of increasing our enrollments.

- Raise Academic Profile of Students - Colom defined a high academic profile as a combination of factors likely to lead to success at BGSU, giving the following examples: high GPA; courses taken in high school; placement scores; leadership skills; attendance at an institution that offered a wide range of opportunities; and similar qualifications and personal qualities. He then enumerated several examples of strategies designed to increase our yield (i.e. the number of potential college students who apply, are accepted, and actually enroll at BGSU).

- Adjust scholarship offers to raise the academic profile of incoming students (for example, offer scholarships to honors students).
- Concentrate attention on academic fields with a large pool of highly-qualified students where yield rates have up to now been low (e.g. applicants to pre-professional programs).
- Personalize the admissions process for highly-qualified students. Find out what is expected for their success and supply it.
- Better articulate the value of a quality education to prospective students and their families.
- Target the pool of non-traditional Students (25-34 years of age)
  - Leverage existing matriculation agreements with two-year institutions and where possible, increase the number of them.
  - Provide a flexible format for orientation of new transfer students, including evenings and virtual options as well as daytime events.
  - Hold workshops for community college counselors so they can better advise clients of the best path to future enrollment at BGSU.
  - Emphasize outreach to key metropolitan areas throughout Ohio.
  - Support degree completion for “stop outs”—non-enrolled students who are one or two semesters away from degree completion.
- Align programs and resources with the Graduate Education Strategic Plan
  - Consider adding new professional programs that are interdisciplinary.
  - Encourage additional accelerated undergraduate and Masters’ degree programs (e.g. accelerated MA in Economics).
  - Strategically allocate existing and new scholarship monies.
- Increase the number of qualified international undergraduate and graduate students
  - Focus on countries and/or regions where we have an affiliation or partnership, leveraging faculty influence on prospective students.
  - Visit embassies of China, India, South Korea, South America, and the Middle East.
  - Utilize global alumni connections in recruiting.
- Expand use of alternative course delivery methods including online, hybrid, and evening or weekend scheduling.
  - Raise the visibility of existing alternative delivery options.
  - Employ additional types of instructional methods for existing programs.
  - Develop new programs utilizing alternative delivery methods.

Vice Provost for Undergraduate Education Dr. Houston spotlighted a wide range of recent efforts aimed at improving BGSU’s retention and graduation rates. She thanked the task forces that worked on revision of the Grade Appeals and Forgiveness policies in particular.

- Ongoing review of the efficacy of academic policies and procedures intended to identify and reduce barriers.
- Improved provision of feedback and support to student.
  - Successful launch and adoption of SuccessNet
  - Increasing use of The Learning Commons’ services by both graduate and undergraduate students.
  - Ongoing efforts to improve academic and career advising.
- The enhancement of Student Learning Assessment by providing resources for faculty to develop meaningful assessment measures.
- Encouragement of active learning pedagogies in large lecture sections by supplying learning assistants.

- The scheduling of linked courses facilitated by deans and department chairs so that de facto cohorts are developed in coordinated fashion.
- Expansion of first year seminars by means of a committee to examine goals and recommend implementation measures.
- Ongoing faculty support and faculty development facilitated by means of grants and the integration of centers.
- Continuing conversations among faculty focused on topics that rose to the top of a survey for improving general education.

ISSUES AND CONCERNS/SUGGESTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS None were raised.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 4:35 PM.

**NOTE: Senate meetings are open to the public. Supplemental materials supporting proposed action item(s) are sent to Senators only. Senators arriving after roll call are asked to report to the Secretary prior to the end of the meeting. Please use a microphone when addressing the body. Senators are expected to stay through adjournment.**