

Faculty Senate Officer Meeting (Friday, Nov 2nd 9:00 am)

Officers Present: Sandra Sharman, Reid Derr, Jessica Todd, and Dr. Boehmer

Informal meeting called to order.

Sandra Sharman began the meeting with a discussion of how discipline was handled in regard to a student assault on a security officer on the Statesboro campus (i.e. There were no criminal charges filed and students were moved to different classrooms). The way in which the situation was handled sends a weak message to students regarding accountability and consequences for their actions.

Reid agreed and commented that the way in which the situation was handled makes faculty feel vulnerable.

Dr. Boehmer discussed that in this particular case a decision was made by the victim, the security guard, to not press charges. Since he was the one who was hit, he must press charges. Questions were raised concerning what student conduct charge could be filed.

Reid commented that there has been no formal announcement made to faculty regarding the outcome of this situation. Faculty members are only hearing things through Tom C. who is on the committee/board. Security is a big issue and we are feeling it. Each year, faculty members are threatened.

Sandra added that another incident occurred this week. A female student in Mr. Verdis' class began mocking and berating him in front of the entire class. This type of behavior is interrupting the educational atmosphere of the classroom.

Based on the situations from above, Dr. Boehmer stated that it sounds like an official conduct or disciplinary procedure has not been done. In addition, he claimed that the physical structure of the campus is contributing to the problem (too many people in one small building).

A discussion of the roles of the Behavior Interventional Team and the Student Conduct Director arose. For instance, the Behavioral Interventional team should not be there to penalize students for judicial conduct. It should be involved if something about the situation suggests a continual threat. The Director of Student Conduct is responsible for seeing to matters relating to the judicial conduct of students.

Academic honesty policy: Dr. Boehmer is concerned about faculty individually addressing the problem of academic honesty in his or her classroom. He feels the Academic Honesty Policy needs to be addressed more globally. The college needs to have overall communication to see patterns in regards to academic honesty and to help facilitate discussion.

The issue regarding faculty expressing his or her opinions was brought up again. Faculty/Staff

should have no fear of expressing their opinions---their jobs are not contingent on their opinion.

Promotion and Tenure Process: Dr. Boehmer- wants to know the exact process and procedures for a Faculty member to be promoted from each step in his/her job title.

Dr. Boehmer is taking over the cell phone issue at the Statesboro campus.

Adjourned- 10 am

Faculty Senate Full Meeting – Nov 2nd- 10:15 am

I. Call to Order- Sandra Sharman

II. Roll Call: - Jessica Todd

Officers Present: Sandra Sharman, Reid Derr, Walt Mason, Yelena White, Tori Kearns, Jessica Todd, Mina Vora (few minutes late), and Dr. Boehmer.

Visitors Present: Bob Marsh and Dr. Goodman

III. Approval of Min.

Minutes were sent to Faculty Senate, and a motion to approve the read minutes was made by Sandra Sharman.

IV. Open Issues

a) ***Bob Marsh- Report from USG***

Main Points:

- Online class discussion
- Consolidation of schools to save money
- Work with Tech Schools
- Benchmarks and Standards
- Graduating Students/Matriculation and comparisons with schools in same category

Dr. Boehmer commented on the fact that it is highly likely that we will be expanding to offer a program in Augusta. It is a positive thing for us; it makes EGSC less susceptible to consolidation. *Georgia Regents* will be coming to Statesboro to see what the satellite campus looks like to promote what we could offer to Augusta.

Bob Marsh stated that one of the issues which came up in their small groups' discussions at the USG meeting was the process by which the President can veto decisions made by the Faculty Senate. What is the process for a President vetoing a Faculty Senate decision? In their small groups' discussion, the President gave a "no" response, but did not list a reason for his veto. The small groups did not find this acceptable.

Dr. Boehmer asserted that he has no problem with having a reasonable time line for saying yes or no to decisions made by the Faculty Senate.

Thank you to Bob Marsh. Report Filed.

b) FS Officer Meeting

Sandra reported what was discussed in the Faculty Senate Officer meeting with Dr. Boehmer (see page 1 of meeting minutes).

c). Financial Aid

Dr. Derr met with Karen Jones, Director of Financial Aid. Karen was adamant that the Financial Aid office needs firm deadlines. The Federal Gov. has new rules, and students have to go online and fill out their paperwork.

d). Admissions

Jessica met with Georgia Edmonds, Director of Admissions. Like Karen, Georgia was adamant that students be held to firm deadlines for each semester. Even though the Admission's Department has deadlines, current policy in regard to Admissions is that students can turn in their applications right up until the 1st day of classes, which creates problems for not only their department, but also Financial Aid. Ms. Edmonds would like any assistance that the Faculty Senate could provide with ensuring that Admissions deadlines are held firm.

In addition, Ms. Edmonds inquired about Faculty assistance to help with Military Credit.

Dr. Boehmer- important point about Military Credit- especially in regards to Augusta and Fort Gordon.

Report Filed

e) *Reid*- Restructuring Model per Dr. Goodman

f) *FS*- extend invitation to Dr. Brasher in regard to his proposal on contact hours. Jessica will send invitation.

V. New Business

a) Bob- Overload Policy

Faculty should have first choice or preference for overloads rather than part-time.

Reid commented that overloads affect the quality of education/teaching.

Sandra asserted that faculty have a vested interest in the college, so we should defer to employees because they have their lives tied to the college. They will put more effort into and invest more into their courses.

Dr. Goodman claimed that as the workload on faculty has gone up over the last few years, the success rate of students has went down.

Attendance, grades, etc... went down.

Tori suggested the need to partial out summer loads and teaching overloads. We need to separate the two issues in the proposal.

Yelena stated that late students are being put into faculty overload classes which are contributing to detrimental success rates. We need to change this. We need to put students in faculty classes and then late students in a part-time instructor's class.

Sandra- Question about Separation of Overload Policy:

Reid: We should separate overload policy; he is in agreement with Tori.

Issue of summer- separate issue.

Yelena asserted that faculty are not entitled to overloads, but if there is a need, then they should have preference. - In reference to Tom' s policy.

Change amendment- change wording- If there is a need, all full-time faculty members will be allowed to teach at least "two" overloads per Fall and Spring.

Dr. Goodman: In regards to Tom's #2 of Summer Teaching Policy: This is a Human Resource issue; Faculty cannot have 15 semester hours in the summer... it is against BOR policy.

Someone from the FS needs to talk to HR regarding rules and regulations concerning contracts and how it affects summer.

Walt- Wording of Amendment. #2

Yelena- wording of #2- 6 hrs with option of another class based on need and preference over part-time instructor.

Sandra asserted that we need to have a discussion over the requirements and expectations for summer faculty.

Reid- motion- remove Amendment #2 and put it on the schedule/agenda for next meeting. Walt will talk with HR and bring info. to our next meeting in Dec.

Reid- motion- to amend #3 - will get an opportunity to teach overload classes before any part-time faculty member.

Motion 2nded, and voted (passed).

Dr. Boehmer stressed that, as a college, we need enough faculty and compensation of faculty rather than relying on or placing emphasis on overloads. This is just a temporary fix (overloads) until we can get the faculty.

Bob Marsh and Dr. Boehmer, - 11:23am - left

Sandra- break - 11:23 am

Sandra- Call to order- 11:32

b) Academic Policies and Curriculum Committee Items

Learning Support- motion was approved.

BSED- motion was approved.

Exercise and Health Science- motion was approved.

Smart Phone Photography- motion was approved.

Revised Prerequisites for Math- motion was approved.

Revised Prerequisites for BIOL- motion was approved.

BS in Fire Science- move to next meeting. 1st item on Dec. agenda.

Dr. Goodman- 11:52 am - left

Executive Session Items

c) Academic Freedom

What is BOR policy?

Walt recommends checking policy before we get into discussion about changing wording. Table it until next meeting.

Yelena- We need Dr. Boehmer here to ask questions and get clarification on the Academic Freedom Policy.

Tori- Does Academic Freedom super-cede Constitutional Freedom?

Sandra- Reid write to Mary Smith about the BOR policy regarding Academic Freedom. Reid will need to research BOR first and then have specific questions for Mary. Perhaps at next meeting have questions for Mary.

Sandra- move discussion to next session, so we can research and prepare articulate items to discuss with Mary S.

d) Visitors to the Meeting

Have privilege of giving visitors limited floor privilege based on items.

VI. Adjournment

Sandra- adjourned- 12:17 pm