

East Georgia State College Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes

April 6, 2022

12 p.m. Meeting being Zoomed to all Faculty Senate members

Type of meeting: Regular Meeting

Meeting Facilitator: Laura Chambers, President

- I. Open Pre-meeting discussion
- II. Call to order (12 p.m.) – regular meeting – sixth meeting of 2021-22 academic year
- III. Roll call – Laura Chambers, Armond Boudreaux, Darlene Dickens, Deborah Lee, Sue Bragg, John Gleissner, and Breana Simmons

Present: Laura Chambers (President), Armond Boudreaux, Deborah Lee, Darlene Dickens, John Gleissner (Secretary), and Breana Simmons (Parliamentarian).

Absent: Sue Bragg

Having 6 of 7 members present this represents a quorum and normal business may take place.

- IV. Greeting of Visitors – Dr. Schecter joined the meeting.

President Schecter presented the Senate with some information concerning his opinion on Seniority and the assignment of classes.

The President felt that Seniority doesn't have a place in the assignment of classes, and would like to see a method for giving the Faculty classes based on abilities. The President felt that with the current Faculty make-up, there may be a gender bias as well as an age difference in the selection of classes.

Senator Simmons reminded the members about Seniority being used to select faculty for summer assignments. The more senior the faculty members would have their first choice in teaching roles during the summer sessions.

Senator Dickens said that she personally experienced a senior faculty member being given a summer class over her request.

Senator Boudreaux questioned about the nature of the selection process if it were performance driven.

Senator Gleissner mentioned that the use of Seniority for the selection process was considered a reward for length of service.

Senator Simmons suggested that a method of Peer Evaluation could be used to determine the level of competence and performance.

Senator Gleissner wonder if some measure of popularity could also be used as a means of attracting enrollment.

President Schecter supports the use of peer evaluation and showed the members a Venn Diagram that he was familiar with in his previous positions.

Senate President Chambers requested that the Senators receive a copy of the diagram and any other resource material that could be reviewed for the purposes if class assignment for faculty or peer evaluation of faculty.

President Schecter agreed to send the Senate a copy of the documents.

President Schecter presented the Senate with his opinion on face-to-face (f2f) instruction versus online instruction. He believed that the institution and the students would be best served by emphasizing f2f instruction and that online should only be used by students requiring distance learning modality and that some evening classes could be held via synchronous instruction for students enrolled solely using online courses.

Senator Simmons reminded the members that it may have been previously proposed that only fully online students may take online courses.

Senator Boudreaux suggested that the school allow faculty to determine the modality of the courses and that some courses should only be taught f2f. Especially courses with a high degree of discussion where immediate interaction between instructors and students was necessary to emphasize information or material.

The Senate thanked Dr. Schecter for the discussion and felt that much more discussion should be held concerning the implementation of a peer review evaluation and determining class assignments.

V. Approval of minutes from March meeting and Adoption of Agenda

Motion was made to approve the minutes and meeting agenda.

Hearing no discussion, the motion was passed by 6 votes and 1 absent.

VI. Committee Reports – APCC (Chambers)

a. Syllabus Template Subcommittee (Boudreaux)

Motion was made to accept the findings of the subcommittee.

Discussion of the changes was made by the subcommittee chair and copies would be sent to the VPASA for comment.

Motion was passed by a 6 votes and 1 absent.

Motion was made to send the results of the subcommittee to send the proposed changes to the VPASA for comment and discussion.

Hearing no discussion, the motion was passed by 6 votes and 1 absent.

b. Faculty Annual Report Template Subcommittee (Simmons)

Motion was made to table the approval of the findings of the subcommittee.

Hearing no discussion, the motion was passed by 6 votes and 1 absent.

VII. Open Issues

Motion to close the current open issues was made.

Hearing no discussion, the motion was passed 6 votes and 1 absent.

VIII. New Business.

a. APCC item: Updated SLOs (Chambers)

Motion was made to approve the Updated SLO's proposal.

Hearing no discussion, the motion was passed by 6 votes and 1 absent.

b. APCC item: Online Business Administration (Chambers)

Motion was made to approve the recommended proposal for the Online program in Business Administration.

Hearing no discussion, the motion was passed by 6 votes and 1 absent.

c. Faculty Concern: Athletics (Simmons)

Motion was made to draft a letter of concern to the VPASA and Athletic Director concerning the attendance of Softball players and athletes in general in face-to-face (f2f) classes.

Senator Simmons gave a summary of the concerns by some of the faculty that the athletes were missing up to 14 classes of instruction. This represented an absentee rate of 31% for 45 class meeting courses and a 46% rate for 30 class meeting courses.

Senator Simmons volunteered do complete the letter of concern for the Senate.

The motion was amended to include the sending of the letter upon approval to the VPSASA and Athletic Director.

Hearing no further discussion, the motion was passed by 6 votes to 1 absent.

d. Faculty Concern: APCC Membership (Boudreaux)

Motion to approve changes to the APCC membership via the Faculty Senate bylaws was made.

Discussion from Senator Boudreaux concerning an addendum to the letter sent to the faculty concerning the voting on the change in the bylaws for APCC membership.

The motion was amended to include the addendum to the bylaws for APCC membership be added to the call for Faculty approval.

The motion was further amended to constitute membership in the APCC committee of one science and math faculty, one humanities faculty, and one social sciences faculty along with the faculty senate president and the campus coordinators.

The motion was further amended to send the proposed composition of the APCC to the current APCC for approval.

Hearing no further discussion, the motion with amendment was passed by 6 votes and 1 absent.

e. Faculty Concern: Syllabus Policy Proposal (Boudreaux)

Motion to send the changes in the syllabus template to the APCC was made.

Discussion from Senator Boudreaux continued the discussion from item VI.a. The discussion concluded that the changes would be sent to the APCC for comment and approval.

Hearing no further discussion, the motion passed by 6 votes and 1 absent.

f. Office Hours Committee (Chambers)

Motion to send the AVPAA a request for clarification and comment on the number and purpose of office hours along with the mode of contact.

Discussion centered on the number of office hours and the mode of contact. Were the faculty still responsible for 10 f2f office hours? Were the faculty allowed to hold virtual office hours through a reoccurring Zoom meeting open to students and announced through the course D2L website? If so, how many hours? And could those virtual hours be held with the instructor not on campus?

Hearing no further discussion, the motion passed by 6 votes to 1 absent.

IX. Unfinished Business

a. Faculty Concern: Changes to the Faculty Annual Report (Chambers)

Motion to table discussion on the annual report was made until the next meeting.

Discussion was made concerning the subcommittee was still working on the document and its template.

Hearing no further discussion, the motion passed 6 votes to 1 absent.

b. Faculty Concern: Survey of Faculty Concerning Issues with Faculty Senate Procedures of Conducting Business (Boudreaux)

Motion to table discussion on the survey of faculty concerns about issues with Faculty Senate procedures concerning announcement of meetings and presentation of the meeting agenda so faculty could attend the meeting.

Hearing no further discussion, the motion passed 6 votes to 1 absent.

c. Delay of Faculty Senate Elections (Chambers)

Motion to delay Faculty Senate elections till after the bylaws can be voted on.

Discussion looked at dates of earliest elections.

Motion was amended to include the following dates for the election of Senators.

Bylaw Vote conclusion – April 8.

Nominations for Senators – open April 11, close on April 25. There would be elections for Senators 2, 4, and 6 and special one-year elections for Senators 1, and 3. This is required due to the reduction in faculty for fall of 2022.

Vote on members – open April 25, close on May 9.

Motion was amended to move the next Faculty Senate meeting to after May 10. Date and time to be determined via email correspondence with newly elected members.

Senator Dickens was excused to attend her class at 1:25.

d. Conducting Vote on Revised Bylaws (Chambers)

Motion to table the approval of the faculty vote on the bylaws until after the vote could take place.

Hearing no further discussion, the motion passed 5 votes to 2 absent.

X. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made.

Hearing no further discussion, the motion passed 5 votes to 2 absent.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:42 pm this date.