East Georgia State College Faculty Senate
Meeting Minutes
February 12, 2016
Conference Room, Statesboro Campus

Type of meeting: Regular meeting

Meeting Facilitator: Dr. Walt Mason, President

I. Call to order (2:02 p.m.)

II. Roll call: Dr. Walt Mason, Dr. Breana Simmons, Mr. Bob Marsh, Mr. John Blackburn, Dr. Reid Derr, Mr. Lindy Blount (Polycom), and Ms. Jessica Todd

III. Greeting of Visitors – Mrs. Pat Homer and Dr. Goodman

IV. Approval of minutes from January 8, 2016:

   a. The minutes were approved with the condition that they be amended with the following statement: “Due to time conflicts with other meetings on campus the meeting dates were changed to the second Friday. This was done through e-mail without dissent.” This suggestion by Mr. Marsh accounted for the change in meeting dates by the Faculty Senate that were previously listed in the minutes.

   b. There was a motion to amend the order of the Agenda to allow New Business to take place first so that Dr. Goodman could discuss the policies coming out of the APCC. This motion was seconded and approved.

V. New Business

   a. APCC
      
      1. Accepting Credit for First Aid: It was noted that the criteria for accepting First Aid needs to be placed in the Course Catalog and in the Registrar’s Office, so they will know who to exempt. A motion to accept the proposal was made. It was seconded and approved.

      2. Change in Area F for Chemistry: A motion to approve the change was made; it was seconded and approved.

      3. Change to AA and AS: A motion to approve the change was made; it was seconded. There was a call for discussion. It was noted that the AS has a
requirement for Pre-Cal. Call to question. The proposal to change the AA and AS was approved.

4. New Program-Associate Degree in Chemistry Prospectus: There was a motion to approve and a second. There was a call for discussion. The prospectus is asking permission to write a proposal. In its perspective form, it will be sent in as an AS. There was a call to question. The prospectus was approved.

5. New Programs: Associate Degrees in Biology, Mathematics, and Computer Science Prospectuses: There was a motion to approve these new programs, and it was seconded. There was a call for discussion. It was noted that all of these programs are going in as AS. There was a call to question. All the programs were approved.

The proposals will be sent to the USG. The BS in Nursing will be coming next.

Dr. Goodman left at 2:18 pm

VI. Committee Reports

a. Academic Freedom: It was recommended that the Academic Subcommitte present the Adopted Academic Freedom Policy to Dr. Boehmer. A motion was made that Dr. Derr would contact Susan Gray to have a meeting with Dr. Boehmer with the Academic Freedom Subcommittee. This motion was seconded and approved.

VII. Unfinished Business

a. Faculty Leaves Policy: Ms. Pat Homer discussed the revision to the Faculty Leaves Policy; the revision was the addition of the entire language from the BOR policy and the change of Department Chair to Dean. If you miss an hour of work, then you take an hour of leave instead of ½ a day, which was required previously. There was a motion to adopt the Faculty Leaves Policy as is. It was seconded and approved.

b. Academic Honesty Policy: Ms. Pat Homer recommended that an Ad-hoc committee take a look at the Academic Honesty Policy since the draft that Dr. Val Czerny sent is very different from the president’s version. Dr. Breana Simmons asked if Ms. Homer would be willing to serve on the committee to lend her help due to her memory of past drafts. Ms. Homer agreed. There was a motion to receive this report as information, and it was accepted.
It was recommended that one person from each school serve as representatives: Mr. Bob Marsh (Math/Science) will chair/convene the Ad-hoc committee. Pat Homer will serve as Institutional Memory, Lindy Blount will serve for Humanities, and Mr. Marsh will check to see if Courtney Joiner or Joe Delaney may be willing to serve on the committee for Social Sciences. Pat agreed to make copies of the policy with her notes for the committee members. There was a discussion as to possible alternates; Ms. Ren Denton was nominated. There was a motion to approve this Ad-hoc committee and its possible membership; it was seconded and approved.

c. AAMI Committee changes: There was a motion to approve and a second. There was a call for discussion. Some members of the Faculty Senate are unaware of the mission and goals of the AAMI; they need clarification as to how the faculty mentors and directors function within the organization, and why the changes are necessary. Call to question. A motion was made to invite Ms. Elizabeth Gilmer to the March meeting to discuss the AAMI and its proposal. The motion was seconded and approved.

VIII. Open Issues: Dr. Breana Simmons reported on the Education Support Leave Policy. This policy is an exact replica of the BOR policy. The appropriate policy is now in the handbook. Therefore, there is nothing required of the FS. There was a motion to accept this policy as information. It was seconded and approved.

IX. More New Business

a. Resolution to support Student Success and Health/Physical Education classes at EGSC: A motion to approve the affirmation with the following amendment was made #4: “Participation in these activities can promote lifelong friendships, increase campus moral, and teach lifelong skills and critical thinking.” The motion was seconded and approved.

b. Grade changes: A motion was made for a committee to be formed to take a look at Grade changes; Mr. John Blackburn will assist with this committee. Possible committee members might be Dr. Sandra Sharman and Ms. Candace Lynn. The motion was seconded and approved. A resolution was made to ask for a justification of Grade change as a courtesy to Faculty members.

X. Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made; it was seconded and approved. The meeting adjourned at 3:35 pm.
The Faculty Senate of East Georgia State College affirms and supports the Additional Institutional Requirements as they are now contained in the EGSC Core Curriculum for the following reasons:

1. We are at EGSC in order to educate the whole person, not merely to attend to the academic side of life. Thus, Health, Physical Education, and Student Success in different ways address the overall personal and academic needs of our students in ways that no other courses do.

2. By requiring the five credit hours of the Institutional Requirements EGSC is collecting tuition income which otherwise would go to our students’ transfer institutions, given that most four-year institutions still require such basic courses.

3. The three Institutional Requirements courses enable our learning support students in particular to get a full-time schedule at EGSC without having to take a fourth academic subject for which they may perhaps be ill-prepared. Because they are limited in the courses they may take by virtue of prerequisites, the Institutional Requirements courses also enable them to obtain a full load of courses, to qualify for full student financial aid, and to learn the fundamentals of college academic life without an initially overwhelming academic burden.

4. Many of our students need the alternative of physical activity and recreation in order to be able to concentrate appropriately on their academic subjects. Participation in these activities can promote lifelong friendships, increase campus morale, and teach lifelong skills and critical thinking.

5. Many of our students need basic but expert instruction in health, hygiene, first aid, and diet; and they need admonition regarding the dangers of sexually transmitted diseases and illicit drugs in order to live a healthy and safe life now and in the future.

6. Many of our students need basic instruction in study skills, test-taking strategies, time management, notetaking, classroom expectations, and other personal management methods that will enable them to succeed at EGSC. Too many of our students see college and college instruction as an extension of high school, wherein there were low expectations placed on their behavior and their academic performance. These courses and the requirements placed upon our students by these, and other, courses enable them to learn to schedule their time and to bear the burden of responsibility that they will have to take as adults.
Therefore, the Faculty Senate thanks, congratulates, and commends those who teach these courses, and encourages fellow faculty and administrators to value, support, and strengthen these courses as an essential part of EGSC’s curriculum.