

Glenville State College Faculty Senate Minutes

Date: Jan 28, 2020

I. Call to Order and Roll

- President Tim Henline called to order the Glenville State College Faculty Senate at 12: 25pm in the Mollohan Conference Room, Room 319.
- Senators present: Tim Henline, Amanda Chapman, Marjorie Stewart, Megan Darby, Duane Chapman, Shara Curry (proxy for Shelly Ratliff), David O'Dell, Wenwen Du, Arthur DeMatteo, Chris Cosner, Kevin Evans, Jonathan Minton, Kandas Queen, Dennis Wemm, Adam Black, Dana Wilson, Jeffrey Bryson
- Also in attendance: Kathy Nelson, Gary Morris

II. Approval of Minutes; Reports

- Motion to approve minutes for December 3, 2019 from Marjorie Stewart, seconded by Dennis Wemm. Motion carried with one abstention.
- Reports
 - President's Report: President Tim Henline will forego the President's Report this time.
 - Board of Governors/ACF Representative Dr. Kevin Evans: The Board will meet Wednesday, Feb. 5, and all faculty are free to attend. The ACF will meet on Thursday, Feb. 6, and Kevin asks if anyone can act as a proxy for him. Marjorie Stewart may be able to act as proxy. The ACF will be meeting with state legislators to discussed proposed legislation, which Kevin will share with us.
 - Administrative/Academic Updates: Kathy Nelson relates to us that policy work is currently in the works, and that the Board will additionally be working on the budget. Gary Morris announces that the General Education Task Force will be considering reducing the number of required Gen Ed credits. (We are only required to have thirty.) The task force is staffed by senior faculty, and chaired by Jonathan Minton. Kandas Queen will be directing the Regents Bachelor of Arts program soon, bringing it back under the umbrella of academics. Gary also commends Tim Henline for coordinating coverage for the classes of a faculty member who has left the college. Additionally, Gary notes that he has not made progress on the Senate's request that he review faculty loads; given the budget changes, he has not been able to do the necessary analysis. In terms of the academic calendar, Gary is proposing that we do away with fall and spring recess, and the pre-final exam Friday recess.

Election Day (a Tuesday) will be observed so that everyone has the day off to vote. This will make things easier, as we already have Monday (Labor Day) off. Kathy Nelson encourages us to participate in the open forums concerning the Provost hire.

III. Old Business

- Faculty Senate Constitution: Dennis Wemm sent Tim Henline a draft of the constitution, which Dennis shares with the Senate. Dennis has used mark-up and put new additions in red (or gray in non-color copies). Some of the changes are mild language tweaks. Some changes come from Senate discussion over the last year and a half. He removed the original preamble, since all of that material is already in the state code. The number of senators has been reduced to twelve (the composition of that group is outlined in the constitution), which should hold true as long we have nine or fewer academic departments. The Senate has met twice a month for a long time, but we are required by the state to meet only once per month, so the language of the constitution now says we will meet “at least once a month.” Dennis designated an executive committee (president, secretary, etc) that could meet if the full Senate decided to meet only once a month, and then the secretary could report back to the full Senate. Dennis invites us to make changes as we see fit. Elections are coming up, so we need to get this settled before April. Tim Henline asks us to look over the documents and send comments to Dennis, so that we can finalize the draft and discuss it in our next meeting. Dennis notes in passing that he took out all the “shalls” to make the document more reader-friendly.

IV. New Business

- Academic Calendar Draft 2020-2021: Gary Morris explains that first and second session have been broken out, and non-academic dates (like homecoming) have been removed. Gary would like to do away with the multi-color calendar if there are no objections. (There do not seem to be objections.) The number of instructional days should be equivalent in the fall and spring semesters. Kevin Evans asks if we could push back the opening of fall semester by a week (opening day being Aug. 24, and end date being Dec. 17) so that we have two weeks between Thanksgiving Break and Winter Break. David O’Dell notes that’s one more week of income for students who work in the summer. Kandas warns that a later end date in December might make plane tickets more expensive for students flying home. Duane Chapman notes that the later start date often attracts students. Kathy Nelson notes that a long winter break often leads to retention issues. She asks whether we know when other institutions start, because we don’t want to push things past Labor Day. She also points out

that shortening the winter break would preclude the possibility of a January term. Duane Chapman notes that the J-term can help athletes retake classes to maintain eligibility. Dennis notes that the reason for the earlier start used to be because it helped the registrar mail out grades before holiday mail interruptions. Marjorie seconds Kevin's concerns about how difficult the single week between Thanksgiving and winter breaks can be for both students and instructors. Gary wants to bring the calendar before the College Leadership Council within the next week, because it has to be finalized by March. We also have to keep in mind how this will affect winter commencement. Gary notes that we do already lose money on winter commencement, but the students really support having it anyway. Department representatives will bring this possibility (and the changes to the calendar already proposed) to departments for comment, which they will forward to Tim to be communicated to Gary.

- GSC Board of Governors Policies: Academic Policy Committee has reviewed the policies, and Tim distributed their comments to the Senate. Tim reviews the policy changes proposed, and issues raised by the APC, with a focus on language that is proposed to be removed from Policy 18, section 12.4. Tim asks whether Senators object to having the language removed. David O'Dell notes that there are problems with removing it, but also potential problems with keeping it in. Gary Morris comments that the APC raised possible repercussions that the administration had not even considered, and wants us to know there was no intention to undermine faculty, or renege on tenure. Gary proposes we may need to propose alternative language. Kathy notes that after the Board reviews these revised policies on Wednesday, there's still a 30-day window afterwards. Tim invites Senators to send suggested revisions to this section to him for further discussion. Senators have no comment on Policy 20. Concerning Policy 24.4.1, which is proposed to be stricken, the APC recommended double-checking that that language is not required by code. Kathy reports that Teresa is reviewing the code, and that they are getting legal advice. Policy 25A was state-mandated but is proposed to be stricken. Policy 25B, the APC recommended, needs more defined language regarding terminal degrees. Gary suggests that be tasked to the next provost, to be solidified by the end of the year. The APC had further recommendations regarding Policy 44, none of which the Senate objects to. Jeffrey Bryson's department asked why faculty were not consulted before revisions began on faculty-related policies. Also, why are fewer office hours required, and is overload compensation changing? Kevin answers that overload pay will be the same. The five office hours are a minimum. Dennis suggests that the Senate President should write a letter recognizing the APC's great work on reviewing these policies.

V. Departmental Representative Concerns

Meeting adjourned at 1:26 pm