

Glenville State University Faculty Senate Meeting Minutes

Date: March 8, 2022

I. Call to order and Roll.

- President Brian Perkins called to order the Glenville State University Faculty Senate at 12:25 p.m. in MCCC 319 and via Teams.
- Senators present: Brian Perkins, Kevin Evans, Jeffrey Bryson, Jonathan Minton, Kandas Queen, Wenwen Du, Duane Chapman, Ken Lang, Maureen Gildein, and David Lewis. Also in attendance: Mark Manchin, Gary Morris, Mari Clements, Dwight Heaster, and Trae Sprague.

II. Approval of Minutes; Reports

Motion to approve the minutes for February 8, 2022 meeting by Maureen Gildein; seconded by Jeffery Bryson. All voted; motion approved.

- Reports:
 - Board of Governors (BOG): Kevin Evans stated he had emailed a two-page summary of the BOG meeting. One of the biggest points was the president's evaluation and compensation. Last year this process was more last minute, but this year the Board was working on Policy 23 to make it more organized. It will be done during the school year and include staff and SGA. Kevin Evans noted that Dwight Heaster had already done a good job of covering items under Enrollment and Student Life. One thing Kevin Evans highlighted was the enrollment budget and complimented Bert Jedamski for the budget projection on enrollment and stated we had more students than projected for the first time/in a long time. Spring semester enrollment was 1,438, and projected budget enrollment was 1,358.

Academic Affairs presented at BOG. Trae Sprague talked about retentions and making data driven decisions, and how to get active with students at the four-week and midterm point to be more successful at retention. Improving retention by just 10% could have a substantial impact for GSU. The federal government has paused the PELL Grant program, which brought in \$100,000 to \$200,000 for GSU but is now being discontinued for high school students.

Jeff Hunter gave updates on the graduate program. Gary Morris gave updates on HLC and faculty and staff accomplishments. In Business and Finance, Bert Jedamski presented information to BOG. Noted Account Receivable (AR) were positive compared to previous years. The process was improving communication of bills and amounts owed with students to collect money in a timelier fashion. The new approach was better organized, allowed for payment plans to be

implemented, and improved cash flow. Improved cash flow reduced the need to borrow funds like in previous years.

Approved the fiscal 2023 budget with a net loss of \$602,000, which included \$300,000 for new faculty, 2.5% raise increase, and \$3.8 million in capital improvements. Prior budgets had not included funds for capital improvement, which caused issues when trying to find monies to conduct repairs. Kevin Evans noted that much of \$3.8 million was grant funded. Tuition and fees were approved for the next three years. Knowing these rates will help with recruitment and Kevin Evans noted that both Admissions and Athletics had been requesting this information. Tuition increase set for 2% in the coming year (2023), 4% in 2024, and 2% in 2025.

Kevin Evans commented the Aramark contract was not set as it was still under construction. BOG went into executive session regarding the GSU President's contract. Afterwards they recommended a three-year contract and sent a request for the contract to WV HPEC.

- ACF Representative: Jeff Bryson commented there had not been an ACF meeting, but there were emails on various bills. The Critical Race Theory bill from the House did not make it out of committee. The Senate has developed a similar bill that was in the House where major changes were being made to it. Most the language submitted by Senate was already covered by federal law. The Campus Carry bill died out.

Pierpont Community and Technical College and was looking at giving over their Aviation program to Fairmont State University rather than merge. Jeff Bryson passed out ACF flyers for departments and asked they be passed around departments. April 8 is the next meeting due to variations of spring break at institutions during March.

- Cabinet Representative: Dwight Heaster noted that representatives from Glenville State University had met with individuals from the Dean of Health programs at Marshall University to work on finalizing things. He further noted some additional fees from the GSU end, and there were currently 79 applicants for the pre-nursing program. GSU received \$1.7 million grant for the nursing program.

Dwight Heaster commented on the 150 years of Glenville State College and the new name change to Glenville State University. He referenced discussion regarding the mask mandate and that nearly 67% of students were against the mandate to wear masks in the classroom. Additional comments included:

- Noted Athletics was hosting the regional conference, with the women's championship in basketball. GSU was also hosting the track and field.

- Dwight Heaster commented that Bert Jedamski talked about providing year-to-date reports on actual budget information for each department. This would be via Academic Affairs. Additional items added this year will include the actual cost for the post office, and print costs. This will allow departments to have a more accurate look at their budget and better evaluate budget items.
- Day of Giving resulted in GSU receiving over \$1 million; the women's soccer had the highest number of people who donated, and volleyball was second. In admissions/enrollment there were over 5,000 inquires, which was up from previous years. Esports has grown and has out grown its space. GSU esports had the number one team in SMASH and signed five additional players from the top players in the nation. GSU has 32 applicants for international students that are under review.
- Academic Affairs has 23 graduate applications.
- Gary Morris talked about HLC and the peer review process and that information was to be shared throughout the institution.
- Dwight Heaster noted that Gary Morris was interested in learning of any faculty member that wanted to be a peer reviewer.
- Referenced the Advising Taskforce.
- Reminder that GSU week was April 11 – 15.
- Academic Affairs was working on a master calendar.
- Twelve faculty positions were posted.
- Discussion about a Dean of Graduate Studies, with colleges under those.
- Six department chair positions were currently up for nomination.
- Discussion on the multi-semester registration.
- Renovations to food services.
- Starbucks equipment should start arriving on March 21.
- Eric Marks discussed the update on the handbook for staff.
- SGA talked about the report on the mask mandate, and they had redone their constitutions.

Maureen Gildein questioned the number of inquires. Dwight Heaster noted the 5,000 inquires was up significantly from previous years. Kevin Evans noted that BOG had 4,455 inquires, but only had about 904 applications from those inquires.

- Administrative/Academic Updates (GSC President, GSC VPAA, Others) – Mark Manchin referenced the trip to Charleston and said we made an impression and are now Glenville State University. He noted that we celebrated our 150th in style. Discussed the process of legalizing the name change in Charleston and steps managed to accomplish that in one day. He referenced the \$1.7 million for the new Nursing program with Marshall University. Complimented Gary Morris and Academic Affairs for their work on developing master level courses/programs.

Talked about developing an MBA, and maybe something related to administration for education. Mark Manchin wants this university to continue to grow and be known as an institution that prepares teachers. Two things we need to continue to move forward are Health Sciences and Teaching. Thanked faculty and staff for all the efforts and support they had put forward to accomplish goals. Mark Manchin noted we have to manage processes with students and react to issues early by monitoring red flags to improve retention. Noted that an early indicator was a student not showing up for class and needed faculty help to collect data that ASC can analysis to help students.

III. Old Business:

Brian Perkins asked Maureen Gildein to share the results from the survey conducted to gather faculty opinion on the Campus Carry bill. She thanked Ken Lang and Jeff Bryson for developing the wording of survey. Reported results were that 66.67% voted against, 25.64% supported, 5.13% abstained, and 2.56% were neutral. There were 39 faculty members that voted. Jeff Bryson thanked Ken Lang and Maureen Gildein for conducting survey and collecting faculty views on such a controversial issue. Maureen Gildein noted the importance of the survey indicated that faculty wanted to have their own voice on this matter rather than mandated by legislative bill.

IV. New Business:

- Student Attendance Tracking – Trae Sprague commented on the various levels of how a student with negative grade(s) was processed and put into a program to help assist them. He wants to make a more individualized effort to help students by meeting with them and looking at things one week at a time with follow up meetings. Realized that sometimes students lie about what they are doing and that things are great. Trae Sprague noted this caused issues with accountability and possibly missing students in those first four weeks. He explained that freshmen would only fall in the program if they fell under the required GPA 2.0 in high school. Some students with a higher GPA that are having attendance issues are not being caught until the four-week grade period. Trae Sprague would like support from faculty to make sure students are meeting academic goals. Brian Perkins questioned if the electronic attendance was being used. Trae Sprague noted that would be great, but currently we use Banner to track attendance, which does not currently indicate that they stopped showing, just that they showed. Mark Manchin commented on faculty involvement and that once things were developed further, they would share it with Faculty Senate to help faculty understand their roles to input correct data that ASC can use to analyze student issues. Trae Sprague noted the technology process has to be easy to use. Kandas Queen questioned the use of Attendance tracking. Gary Morris noted reports cannot be pulled from it. Jeff Bryson questioned using a system where Academic Affairs could input approved institutional absences. Discussion followed. Mark Manchin

noted it was important that we get a system implemented to serve students and that he views this as a high priority. Gary Morris noted the SIP grant had some money that could help buy technology and that faculty could be involved. Mark Manchin stated they are asking for support from faculty once it was rolled out. Brian Perkins asked that we share this information with colleagues. Brian Perkins and Maureen Gildein commented on the role of coaches to help get students to class.

- Faculty Emeritus – Duane Chapman commented that Jason Barr had put together the document he had shared to make John McKinney an Emeritus Faculty member. Duane Chapman motioned to approve the request to make John McKinney an Emeritus Faculty member. David Lewis seconded the motion. Discussion noted it was well deserved. All voted. Motion carried. Brian Perkins will forward the request on to the Provost as the next step in this process. Duane Chapman noted they have an exhibit of Emeriti Faculty portraits/images at the Fine Arts building as part of the 150th celebration and wanted to let everyone know they were there.
- Mask Mandate – Gary Morris noted some students were upset because of inconsistency between how faculty were enforcing masks in the classroom and how administration was handling it across the campus. Gary Morris had talked about it in the Department Chairs meeting and had asked it be brought before Faculty Senate. SGA surveyed students. Results showed that 205 students completed the survey and 63% reported they were not in favor of the mask mandate, 46% of students indicated they felt safe on campus in terms of COVID-19, 22% were neutral, 31% reported they did not feel safe but noted it was because GSU was not doing more with mask across campus rather than just in the classroom. The last question on the survey asked if COVID-19 protocols should be increased, and 116 of the 205 stated no. SGA was reporting on the survey Thursday. Gary Morris recognized that SGA and Faculty Senate were recommending bodies but wanted to bring faculty's views on the matter to the GSU President. Brian Perkins asked how we wanted to collect data, department conversations or conduct survey. Discussion noted survey. Maureen Gildein asked how many COVID-19 cases were on campus. Gary Morris noted that faculty, staff, and students were no longer reporting this information to the institution due the normalization of it. He only knew of one confirmed case on campus via official channels. Brian Perkins asked the timeframe we wanted to complete the survey. Discussion followed that noted it would be conducted in the next few days. Kandas Queen questioned that voting to remove the mandate would not prevent those who wanted to wear a mask from still wearing one. Gary Morris noted the compromise was to have the mandate in place to make students wear the mask for faculty who still wanted it in their classroom; otherwise, it was not something he could enforce.
- Trae Sprague also referenced work the Advising Taskforce had been doing to identify issues with advising. Noted that currently the ASC advises all students coming in that do not qualify for a bachelor's degree. An issue with this was that students intending on specific degrees do not get to connect with and develop relationships with the faculty from the intended degree area. Gary Morris commented that once the process was more fully developed, they would share it with faculty. The general direction it was moving

towards was to have Academic Affairs assign a faculty adviser when students first begin. ASC and Admissions can still help with initial advising and registering students as needed, but the faculty adviser could be involved in the process earlier and connected with students to develop relationships. It would be a collaborative process between Admissions, ASC, and academic departments. Duane Chapman thought it was a great move and Gary Morris noted the logistics were still be worked out. Jeff Bryson commented on the dual process of advising and registering for courses and noted courses he advised for his students was not always what they registered for afterwards. Discussion followed.

- Brian Perkins noted he was sending out the Faculty Senate constitution for review and to prepare for the election process.

V. Adjournment:

Kandas Queen motioned to adjourn the meeting. Duane Chapman seconded the motion. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:19 p.m.