

Glenville State College Faculty Senate Minutes

February 16, 2010

I. Call to Order and Roll

President Dennis Wemm called to order the Glenville State College Faculty Senate at 12:20 p.m. on February 16, 2010 in the Mollohan Center Multipurpose Room, Room 315.

Senators present: Dennis Wemm, Arthur DeMatteo, Liza Brenner, Jonathan Minton, David O'Dell, Fred Walborn, Jill Haasch, Paul Peck, J. Morgan, Rick Witte, Dorman Batson, Lisa Castle, George Hoshell, Cinda Echard and Connie Stout

Senators absent: John Taylor and Larry Baker (excused)

Others present: Dr. Kathy Butler, Dr. Peter Barr and Gayle Burkowski

II. Approval of Minutes and Ongoing Reports

Motion to approve minutes of February 02, 2010 Faculty Senate meeting. Motion passed and minutes approved.

Reports:

Dennis Wemm (President's Report):

- The next Faculty Senate Meeting will be held March 2, 2010. Larry Baker will preside over this meeting. Wemm will be out of town at a conference.

Paul Peck (ACF and Board of Governors Representative Report):

- No report at this time.

Larry Baker reports: (Vice President)

- No report at this time.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Questions for the President:

1. The proposed Series 51 policy on textbooks raised some questions about whether the GSC contract with Follett permits the Board of Governors to set the targets on buybacks, etc.; what penalties, if any, GSC can or should impose on publishers who don't comply; and are there concerns about restricting the use of revenue the college receives from the bookstore to non-athletic scholarships?

Barr: There are no imposing penalties on publishers. He will take this into consideration. The contract comes up in December.

2. Since the college has switched to online faculty course evaluations, the number of students completing the evaluations in many classes has dwindled to very low numbers. I did not have any student evaluations for two of my courses this past semester. In addition, the other courses I teach only had 6-8. Other faculty members in the department also had only four evaluations. Since the faculty are evaluated on the FRM using student evaluations, this information is invalid due to the low number of responses. What is the college considering about these evaluations? Are they thinking about going back to completing the evaluations during class?

Barr: Agrees and recommends going back to paper. It makes more sense. Kathy Butler is currently looking into the cost of a ScanTron machine.

3. Since we have hired an outside firm at great cost--\$20,000-- to find worthy candidates for the search committee to consider for Kathy Butler's job, can you assure us you will NOT promote from within the college-- nor hire any of your former associates? Otherwise, that is a waste of money that would be better used by supplementing faculty and staff salaries, which have been grossly neglected.

Barr: Faculty and Staff salaries have been neglected and it's detrimental to the system. \$20,000 seems like a large amount of money but when it comes to paying for a search firm it's not a significant amount of money. He does not have someone to fill the position. He has chosen a broad based committee and they will present him with individuals they recommend. He has no person in mind. Kathy Butler has done an excellent job and it will be a hard job to fill. Although with his long experience with higher education, it would be difficult to find someone with whom he has had no contact

4. Do we have a road map for changes or improvements in our academic offerings that will need to be made if we want to become the best S.P.L.A.C. (small public liberal arts college) in America? Will increases in funding accompany these changes? Are there plans to begin this process within the next two years? Five years?

Barr: GSC is already embarked on that process. People everywhere have respect for the faculty and staff at GSC. We have to convince ourselves that we are the best S.P.L.A.C. He is open to faculty and staff presenting a plan and creating a roadmap, and would then locate funding sources to carry it out. He is open to ideas.

5. The staff council has voted in support of the tuition waver policy that the faculty senate drafted and sent to your attention on 12/4/2009. What procedures have been taken to move this policy forward? Do you feel confident that this policy will be in effect for our faculty and staff to utilize by fall 2010?

Barr: He looked at the proposal. The proposal will go to the Board of Governor's for the April meeting. The only issue would be if staff takes classes while they are suppose to be working.

6. Why have department budgets continued to decrease? Is it possible for department budgets to receive an increase as office supplies and other basic office costs have continued to rise due to current economic conditions?

Barr: He is unaware that department budgets have decreased. He would expect for them to increase. The faculty has done a great job dealing with tight budgets. Kathy Butler states the *buying power* has changed but the budgets have not decreased.

7. What bills in the legislature have been of interest lately?

Barr: Senate Bill 480 requests for changes in the ratio of classified and non-classified staff. According to SB 480 no one will get a pay raise until all classified staff are at the proper level. Senator Plymale has written a bill requesting for creation of three new administrative positions in the HEPC. He would also like to use lottery funds to support higher education.

8. Jill Haasch has requested for new faculty and wonders when this request will be fulfilled.

Barr: Announcements will be made very soon.

President Barr would like the Faculty Senate to come up with an official policy for school closing due to inclement weather. Recently, a faculty member punished a student for not turning in an assignment while the college was closed. He would like the policy to give the Provost some teeth in addressing such issues.

III. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- No unfinished business at this time.

V. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m; motion to adjourn by J. Morgan/Minton (m/s). Motion passed unanimously.