

East Georgia State College Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes

February 16, 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 – fourth meeting of 2021-22 academic year
- III. Roll call –

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

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

- IV. Greeting of Visitors – none
- V. Approval of minutes from October meeting and Adoption of Agenda

Reading was waived by the President and approved by unanimous consent.

- VI. Committee Reports – APCC (Chambers)

President Chambers reported the APCC had met to propose one change in policy and three changes in course names.

- VII. Open Issues

President Chambers noted that the Senate had none currently.

- VIII. New Business (Order of New Business is subject to change)

- a. APCC Item: Student CBI Policy

A motion to adopt a change in the Student CBI Policy was made and seconded.

President Chambers called for discussion.

Senator Bragg wanted clarification of the decision rubric for determining the use of a criminal background check in admittance to the college. Senator Lee supported the

request and questioned the location of such a rubric for objectiveness versus subjectiveness in making the decision and at what level the authority to admit or decline admittance was made.

A proposal was made to invite the Director of Public Safety to the next meeting to discuss and further explain the determining factors based on the CBI policy.

A motion to approve the policy was made with the understanding that the Senate may propose additions/revisions to the policy at a future date. This motion was seconded and voted unanimously.

b. APCC Item: BIOL 2511 Name Change

A motion to approve the name change was made and seconded. President Chambers opened the floor for discussion. Since there was no discussion, a vote was held to accept the policy and approved by unanimous vote.

c. APCC Item: BIOL 2512 Name Change

A motion to approve the name change was made and seconded. President Chambers opened the floor for discussion. Since there was no discussion, a vote was held to accept the policy and approved by unanimous vote.

d. APCC Item: BIOL 2611 Name Change

A motion to approve the name change was made and seconded. President Chambers opened the floor for discussion. Since there was no discussion, a vote was held to accept the policy and approved by unanimous vote.

e. Faculty Concern: Membership of APCC and Who Votes?

Senator Simmons presented the Senate with an explanation of the Statutes of the College as they apply to the APCC. It was noted that the APCC is a subcommittee reporting to the Faculty Senate. Based on the change in positions and responsibilities for the new administrative structure, the APCC would no longer have the same number of members and should be reviewed to better reflect the faculty and student government positions.

It was noted by President Chambers that such a transition should be made by the Faculty Senate and not by administrative privilege. It was further noted by Senator Simmons that such changes should be a result of the review of the Senate by-laws currently being undertaken by a By-Law Review Committee composed of Senators Boudreaux (chair), Senator Simmons, and Senator Bragg.

Discussion continues under the next Faculty Concern.

f. Faculty Concern: Appointment of Academic Administration Positions

Senator Simmons presented the Senate with an overview of the college's statutes and how they affect the administrative make-up of the college.

It was noted that due to the consolidation of positions that the new position of Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs is assuming full authority over the faculty. It was also noted that the College's site directors assume additional responsibility over the faculty. Finally, it was noted that these positions were appointed and not subjected to faculty vetting or faculty competition for those positions.

Discussion continues under the next Faculty Concern.

g. Faculty Concern: Overrides without Permission

Senator Simmons presented the Senate with several faculty concerns over the application of overrides in the enrollment process. Senators Boudreaux, Dickens, and Lee attested to knowledge of cases of enrolling student into classes without the knowledge or permission of the faculty assigned to teach the class. These enrollments occurred through the office of the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs or the Campus Site directors. Senator Simmons noted that this process did not follow the override process outlined in the Faculty Handbook as noted here:

EGSC Faculty Handbook

Course Maximums and Overrides

Adopted by Academic Policies and Curriculum Committee 11/10/15

Adopted by Faculty Senate 12/11/15

Adopted by President 4/1/16

In order to override a course maximum, the instructor of the course must give permission to the requester of the override in order to add an additional seat to the course. In the absence of the instructor, the dean can give permission for the override. In the absence of the dean, the vice president for academic affairs can give permission for the override.

It was noted by the Senator that the positions of "dean" and "vice president for academic affairs" no longer exist at the college. It was suggested that "in the absence of the instructor" could only apply to courses without an instructor not merely that the instructor wasn't physically present or that the "dean" or "vice president for academic affairs" could override such Faculty authority as such authority has not explicitly been given outside of this policy in the Statutes of the College or the policies of governance stated in the Faculty Handbook.

Discussion was concluded with the following requests:

The Senate requested that President Chambers meet with the college's legal counsel and the President to determine the process by which the college's statutes were rewritten and by what process the statutes were approved.

The Senate requested that President Chambers meet with the Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs to bring to his attention the concerns of the Faculty concerning the process of maximum enrollment in a course, and the use of override by the administration without the consent of the Faculty. Inclusion of the AVPAA would be at the discretion of the VPSAA.

The Senate requested that President Chambers invite the Director of Public Safety and a representative from the Admissions office concerning the use of Criminal Background checks to accept or deny student admission in the various programs the college offers.

The Senate requested that President Chambers meet with the Chair of the APCC to determine the position of the APCC as a subcommittee of the Faculty Senate and the membership of the APCC (and voting rights of its members) under the changes in the Colleges Statutes.

IX. Unfinished Business

a. By-Laws Revision Committee Report and Discussion (Boudreaux)

Senator Boudreaux reported that the committee had met to determine the scope of the solicitation of faculty members as to the matters that were brought up during the last Faculty Senate meeting and the new information brought to light by this meeting.

b. Confirm remaining meeting dates for spring:

Wednesday, March 2nd at 12 p.m. via Zoom

Wednesday, April 6th at 12 p.m. via Zoom

Wednesday, May 4th at 12 p.m. via Zoom

A motion to approve the meeting dates and times was made and seconded. President Chambers opened the floor for discussion. Since there was no discussion, a vote was held to accept the dates and times for meeting during the spring semester and approved by unanimous vote.

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote at 1:35 p.m. this date.