

Middle Georgia State University Faculty Senate AY 2017–2018
Meeting #5 TEB 231, Macon Campus
Friday, February 2 , 2018

Present:

Dr. Donna Balding, Assistant Chair of Natural Sciences

Dr. Shannon Beasley, Assistant Professor of Information Technology

Dr. Maritza Bell-Corrales, Professor of Spanish

Dr. Gaston Brouwer, Parliamentarian of the Faculty Senate, Associate Professor of Mathematics

Dr. Jeffrey Burne,

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Dr. Frazier called the meeting to order at 10 am, and gave a few reminders concerning procedure.

Dr. Frazier called for a motion to approve the minutes from the last meeting (December 1, 2017) as amended with a few minor changes. Dr. Spaid made the motion, and Dr. Carrales seconded. There was no discussion, and the motion was approved.

Dr. Frazier noted the addition of the Provost, Dr. Anderson, to the agenda, and called for a motion to approve the Agenda as amended. Dr. Spaid made the motion, and Dr.

targeted at increasing enrollment. He noted that the outcomes would not be known for some weeks, but he anticipated the MGA is likely to receive some, but not all, of what it was asking.

Dr. Blake's final point was expressing his thanks to the role that faculty and staff played in the recent evaluation of his performance as president. At a meeting with the Chancellor, he said that the Chancellor seemed pleased overall, and now charged Dr. Blake with building stability in the university leadership. He also stated that a related goal will be build ability and accountability for institutional financial matters throughout the university units and colleges.

Dr. Blake then asked for any questions, comments, or feedback.

Dr. Brouwer asked what the impact or meaning of Governor Deal's emphasis on the need to increase funding for technical schools during his State of the State address might be for MGA. Dr. Blake responded that he had also noted how the governor had spent perhaps 30 seconds discussing the university system, and three minutes praising the state's technical colleges. He continued that he would ensure that MGA's service to the region and state was recognized, and that he believed that the state universities needed to make an aggressive case for themselves. He pointed out that MGA has a good case, given that we are the most affordable university in the system and as such do not have some of the resources available to other universities. Dr. Blake also noted this is another reason why enrollment volume is critical, as well as student retention.

A related piece of feedback was offered concerning graduate admissions, namely that applicants to the graduate nursing program were doing often because of MGA's affordability. Dr. Blake responded by noting that a bachelor's degree from MGA costs approximately \$20,000, which might cover a semester at some other schools. He noted that such statistics are good for enrollment, and that growing awareness of these facts are critical. Dr. Blake also pointed out that MGA, along with a few other schools, are on a list of universities that are watched closely, to the point of requiring weekly reports. At the moment, fall enrollment for 2018 is over 10% higher than at this point last year.

Dr. Wallace asked, that considering face to face offerings cost more typically than online courses, would it make sense to offer more online classes while possibly reducing the face to face offerings? Dr. Blake answered that he welcomed such questions, that part of the analysis and planning the provost was charged with addressed just such possibilities, namely which revs got more torque, so to speak. Dr. Blake also noted that cost of a course offering does depend on multiple factors. He gave the example of graduate hours which earn more, and pointed out that an institution cannot plan exclusively for money. Our regional reputation and status as an access institution must also factor in to any decisions. He also made note of a memo he'd recently sent to Andy Stroud pointing out the need for long term financial planning and conversation.

Old Business

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Dr. Frazier so

Ms. Francis Davis made an informational announcement concerning the annual policy review. USG

to ensure that all colleges and campuses would be represented. Execution of the plan would be in the hands of Strategic Planning.

Dr. Wallace asked about the place of Core. Dr. Anderson noted that he had spent fourteen years at West Georgia which administers Core, and noted the Core does have some benefits. It allows for some expanded course offerings without taking on to