

Middle Georgia State University Faculty Senate AY 2017–2018
Meeting #3 TEB 231, Macon Campus
Friday, November 2, 2018

Present:

Dr. Donna Balding, Assistant Chair of Natural Sciences
Dr. Shannon Beasley, Assistant Professor of Information Technology
Dr. Kathleen Burt, Senate Recorder, Assistant Professor of English
Dr. Shirley Camp, Assistant Professor of Nursing
Mr. Adam Craig, Instructor of Aviation Maintenance and Structural Technology
Ms. Vanessa Paige Crump, Associate Professor of Spanish
Dr. Lorraine Dubuisson, Associate Professor of English
Dr. Greg George, Associate Professor of Economics
Dr. Anthony Narsing, Professor of Management
Dr. John Pattillo, Associate Professor of Biology
Dr. Kimberley Pickens, Associate Professor of Biology
Dr. Randy Spaid, Professor of Education
Dr. Kara Svonavec, Lecturer of History and Political Science
Mr. Kirby Swenson, Chair of the Faculty Senate, Assistant Professor of Biology
Mr. Edwynn Wallace, Parliamentarian of the Faculty Senate, Associate Professor of Physics
Dr. Steven Wallace, Vice-Chair of the Faculty Senate, Associate Professor of Mathematics
Dr. Lily Wang, Associate Professor of Mathematics
Dr. Kelly Whiddon, Associate Professor of English

Ab Dr. Mary Mears, Associate Professor of English

Dr. Evaristus Obinyan, Assistant Professor of Education and Behavioral Sciences

Mr. Lee Simmons, Assistant Professor of Art

Dr. Stephen Taylor, Professor of History and Political Science

Ms. Lacey Wallace, Department of Nursing

Guests:

Dr. Jon Anderson, Provost
Dr. David Biek, Interim Dean, School of Education and Behavioral Sciences
Dr. Christopher Blake, President

Dr. Kevin Cantwell, Dean of Graduate Studies, Associate Provost
Dr. Victoria Guarisco, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, Associate Professor of Chemistry
Dr. Alex Koohang, Dean of the School of Information Technology, Professor of Information Technology
Dr. Christopher Lawrence, Assistant Chair and Associate Professor of History and Political Science
Dr. Mary Wearn, Professor of English, Assistant Provost for Academic Planning & Policy

Call to Order and Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Mr. Swenson called the meeting to order at 10:05am.

Since the minutes were already approved by E-meeting 10-25-2018, Mr. Swenson asked the Senators if they were satisfied with the process of using Google Docs. The Senators indicated general approval of the process.

Mr. Swenson called for a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Hill made the motion and Dr. Camp seconded. A voice vote approved the motion by unanimous consent.

Report from Dr. Blake

Dr. Blake came forward to present his report to the Senate. First, he announced that the Provost's Office had just made the announcement of MGA's first cohort of Chancellor's Scholars. He said that this was a recognition of our faculty and offered congratulations to the six individuals.

Dr. Blake's first point was a reminder necessitated by some recent issues at some USG institutions. The system has made it clear to the presidents that they should remind all 10 -12 month employees that all outside paid employment must be approved by the correct people using the correct paperwork. If an employee is staff, then they need approval from their supervisor and Vice-President. If faculty, the employee needs the approval of their Dean and the Provost. It is important that the correct signatures on the correct paperwork be obtained, otherwise the employee may be liable to USG. Dr. Blake emphasized that this is a friendly reminder intended to protect everyone. He ask -29r D-1.6Soe. Hest(-)Tj 0.002 t-4.6(.3(Tc 0 Tw 0

time for the budget hearings. This will not be a one-time process, and Dr. Blake said that each year the situation will be reviewed and adjusted.

Dr. Blake's fourth notice was a review of the Presidents' meeting he attended. Cybersecurity concerns were a large presence at the gathering, as were concerns about healthcare costs. As a result of the latter, MGA is implementing a well-being initiative. The idea is that by encouraging employees to improve health and take preventative steps to avoid problems, the university may be able to help keep costs down.

The first proposal (PY-ACAD-01-AA-2018-2019) is a policy change to withdrawal procedures designed to close a loophole. The resulting change will ensure that students who withdraw from a Learning Support course are also withdrawn from the co-requisite regular course. Mr. Swenson called for a motion to vote on the proposal. Dr. Hill made the motion; Dr. Dubuisson seconded. The vote was 21 in favor, none opposed. The proposal was approved.

Dr. Spaid motioned that the Senate consider the second proposal (PY-ACAD-02-AA-2018-2019). Dr. Burt raised the problem that the fourth bullet point of the Learning Support policy was in conflict with other policies. The point stated “Completion or exemption from LS English is required for placement into college level English courses.” The problem is that ENGL 1101, which is a college-level course, is taken as a required co-

Dr. Wallace also said that there was a new study by USG called “College 2025”. He said that as a result of that study, Vice-Chancellor Denley was asking USG institutions to come up with more flexible enrollment options beyond Fall and Spring. The Vice-Chancellor also suggested developing a comprehensive student record for ‘lifelong learning’ which would be different from the transcript. Vice-Chancellor announced that new metrics were being developed to gauge enrollment since the Fall to Fall retention rate metric does not provide information in a useful timeframe.

Dr. Wallace’s last point was some more information about the proposed Nexus degree. He said that he agreed with the characterization Nexus as an associate’s degree with experiential part. The Vice-Chancellor views it as a partnership between a job and coursework (the 42-hour Core general education credits, 12 hours at or above the 3000 level, and the 6 experiential credits). The system prefers to think of Nexus as paired with a BA, not as a stand-alone. The Nexus would also be the first degree type introduced since the associate’s in the 1890s. Dr. Wallace also mentioned the Momentum Year was still a focus.

The question was asked to Dr. Cantwell if MGA had any current plans for such a degree, and he was not sure. Dr. Anderson noted that system was still trying to work out the specifics, but that it was being marketed more as a new credential with an embedded certificate. Dr. Wallace added that the Vice-Chancellor wants institutions to be more adaptable to meet specific needs as they arise.

Dr. Patillo asked who came up with the name ‘Nexus’. The answer was that MGA has a direct link to Marty Venn who was one of those who worked on the proposal of the Nexus degree, so she might be better to ask. Another question was asked where the idea was coming from. The answer was that it was coming directly from industries like cybersecurity who have immediate need for employees with some work experience. This proposed degree might also be a way to have the state to subsidize unpaid internships by enabling such internships to qualify as financial aid-worthy.

Other Announcements or Reports

Mr., Swenson announced that he would be out of town next week without reliable Internet, but he would be back in his office November 12. He called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Patillo made the motion, and Dr. Hill seconded. The meeting was adjourned.

Kathleen Burt, Recorder