

Middle Georgia State University Faculty Senate AY 2018–2019
Meeting #5 TEB 231, Macon Campus
Friday, February 1, 2019

Present:

Dr. Donna Balding, Assistant Chair of Natural Sciences
Dr. Shannon Beasley, Assistant Professor of Information Technology
Dr. Maritza Bell-Corrales, Professor of Spanish
Ms. Jasmine Brown, Assistant Professor of Respiratory Therapy
Dr. Kathleen Burt, Senate Recorder, Assistant Professor of English
Ms. Patsy Butts, 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
Ms. Robin Grant, Electronic Resources Librarian
Ms. Lisa Henry, Assistant Professor of Air Traffic Management
Dr. Chris Hill, Assistant Professor of Mathematics
Dr. Melissa Jordan, Assistant Professor of Health Services Administration
Dr. Richard Kilburn, Assistant Professor of Mathematics
Dr. Mary Mears, Associate Professor of English
Dr. Anthony Narsing, Professor of Management
Dr. John Pattillo, Associate Professor of Biology
Mr. D.L. Simmons, Assistant Professor of Art
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
Dr. Stephen Taylor, Professor of History and Political Science
Mr. Edwynn Wallace, Parliamentarian of the Faculty Senate, Associate Professor of Physics
Ms. Lacey Wallace, Department of Nursing
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 Media, Culture, Arts

Absent/Excused:

Dr. Shirley Camp, Assistant Professor of Nursing
Dr. Kimberley Pickens, Associate Professor of Biology
Dr. Evaristus Obinyan, Assistant Professor of Education and Behavioral Sciences

Guests:

Dr. Jon Anderson, Provost (present electronically)
Dr. Christopher Blake, President
Dr. Jennifer Brannon, Vice President for Student Affairs

Dr. Victoria Guarisco, Chair of the Academic Affairs Committee, Associate Professor of Chemistry
Dr. Rebecca Lanning, Chair of Executive Committee, Professor of Music
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 10:06am.

He called for a motion to approve the agenda. Dr. Hill made the motion and Dr. Taylor seconded.

Report from Dr. Blake

Dr. Blake began by wishing everyone a great semester and observed that in terms of enrollment the term was off to a good start, being about 3 ¼ % up from last spring, which is approximately a 4% increase in credit hours. He thanked faculty and staff for their hard work so far and said he hoped to be clear about the importance of continuing that work. He said that he planned for monthly meetings with the teams involved, and announced a Fall 2019 target of 8,150, which would represent an increase by about 1,000. He noted that there was a lot of planning along with the Provost, including looking at a range of ways to offer courses.

Dr. Blake mentioned that at a recent Cabinet retreat, the calculation had been noted that the target enrollment would mean a budget for next year with approximately a half a million dollars in surplus (1/2 % of the total). He noted that the institution is another year away from seeing an appropriations bump from our current growth because that process generally lags about 18 months behind, something he plans

the local road renovations needed to help create a better campus entrance, and he (Dr Blake) was still working with private donors to secure funding for the proposed enrollment center.

Another question was asked for details about the recently announced partnership with Delta. Dr. Blake suggested the Dr Anderson might know more and could address that in his remarks, but there are 2 parts to the partnership., First is the Propel program which started last July (MGA is 1 of 8 institutions chosen to participate). Students who apply and are accepted can use the program as a direct line to employment upon graduation. The second part is still subject to ongoing discussions about a future expansion of the aviation program towards Atlanta as Delta has a need for those with maintenance qualifications.

Another question was asked about what might happen if fall enrollment did not meet the goal or was flat. Dr. Blake said that if enrollment ended up around 7800, where it was last fall, it would probably eliminate the surplus, but Nancy Stroud or the Provost might be able to be more specific about the budget implications. The answer would involve looking up the per student dollar amount and doing some number crunching. Dr. Blake emphasized the MGA is in a good place right now in terms of enrollment; we exceeded the target spring enrollment by about 40 students, so the projected growth is based on data analysis. The system spring enrollment report has not been released yet, so he can't speak to how other institutions are doing right now.

Mr. Swenson thanked Dr. Blake for his presentation, and called on Dr. Anderson to make his report.

Report from Dr. Anderson

Dr. Anderson began by adding some details to some for the questions addressed to Dr. Blake. He said that a good algorithm approximated about \$2800 per student in terms of budget planning, so if enrollment were flat, there would be no surplus, although this calculation refers only to tuition dollars. Concerning Delta, Dr. Anderson said that there were currently two partnerships in place. The Propel program is based on Delta's review of the Aviation curriculum, and allows a student who finished in the advanced track to be hired at Delta with 500 fewer flight hours than another candidate might be required to have. The expansion towards Atlanta is still in early discussion and currently includes several options. Delta corporate has raised the possibility of "De

He pointed out a lot of meaningful work underway in the Executive Committee which is on track to come before the Senate in March.

Dr. Taylor asked about the academic reorganization mentioned, and if there was a timeline and process for decisions set. Dr. Anderson said that before next fall, all A&S departments should be settled; some areas might still need departments or administration, like an assistant dean. He said that he didn't have full report yet to share but the intention was to have administration fully staffed by July 1. The question was raised about potential impacts on those who might be going up for promotion or tenure who might suddenly have a new dean or administrator in charge. Dr. Anderson said that hadn't seemed to be an issue, but that everyone who goes up will be considered under the policy they have been working under. He noted that those guidelines are controlled by the Senate and Faculty Handbook, and are currently under review. The Executive and PTPTR committees have been doing that work. He said that the process currently has been working well.

Dr. Wallace asked about the restructuring and some rumors and apprehensions, and could Dr. Anderson clarify what the actual current plan was and why the changes? Dr. Anderson responded that the current review was separate but related to the administrative structure. Some was fueled by data like student enrollment and retention; for example about 1500 students, mostly freshmen and sophomores, disappeared without reason between fall and spring semesters last year. Some work has already started like integrating the advisors into the colleges. The question was raised about what that sort of thing might have to do with changes like potentially changing the College of Arts and Sciences into something else. Dr. Anderson said that that some of the professional schools don't work with freshmen and sophomores, and they should. All strategies were based on efforts to retain students and enable them to succeed. The question was then raise that if an academic discipline might be moved would feedback from faculty be sought before the change was made? Dr. Anderson said that he intended to meet any group affected before a change was implemented.

Reports from Standing Committees and Boards

Mr. Swenson called Dr. Guarisco to make her presentation to the Senate.

Dr. Guarisco brought up proposal PY-ACAD-03-AA-2018-2019 which adds language to advising policy to now include dual-enrolled students. The question was raised about how to help students who had problems with scheduling advising along with high school classes, or students who may be too young to drive or cannot easily get transportation to advising. Dr. Balding said that she had noticed as the dual enrollment advisor for Natural Sciences that advising by phone worked in some cases, and that this sounded more like a problem of practice and less of policy, which was what is currently before the Senate. Dr. Wearn added that David Fuller and professional advisors should be doing the actual enrolling and that the faculty advisor was more of a mentoring role for dual enrolled students. Mr. Simmons made a motion to allow Dr Wearn to be a part of the following discussion, and Dr. Hill seconded. Dr. Wearn said that this policy was a first step, and that she was glad to hear about problems with process. But, policy and process are not the same thing. She said that we do need ways to make it easier for students to get advising and enrollment. She will look into the particular issues mentioned and bring her findings back to the Senate. The observation was made that the policy does not specify face to face, which Dr. Wearn

confirmed. Mr. Simmons raised a concern about possible problems with FERPA with phone advising, and suggested that clear guidelines on best practices might be useful. Dr. Wearn said that a high level of coordination was required for smooth dual enrollment advising and registering, and she will work on things and report back. Dr. Patillo noted that Dr. Wearn made a good point about distinguishing policy and process. Dr. Taylor made a motion to consider the proposal, and Dr. Patillo seconded. Mr. Swenson called for a hand vote. The vote was 24 in favor, none opposed.

Dr. Guarisco brought up proposal P-PSCJ-02-AA-2018-2019 which presents a new degree, a BS in Sociology. This is flexible program that has strong demand. Dr. Dubuisson made the motion to consider the proposal, and Dr. Hill seconded. Dr. Spaid asked why was this a BS instead of a BA? Dr. Wearn said that that indicated that this degree was more research based, and included elements like a capstone and possibly an internship. A BS general indicates a more applications-based program. Dr. Taylor noted that some disciplines can go either way, with the BA or BS, and that a BS typically indicated a more quantitative approach like MGA's current BS in Political Science. Dr. Wearn added that Academic Affairs has been having the discussion about how to clearly distinguish between a BA and BS. This current proposal reflects the wishes of the department offering it. Dr. Wallace asked if some of the changes indicated in the proposal were all existing courses with new numbering or relocations from other departments? The answer was that there were some new courses included, but that wasn't part of the Senate's workflow. Mr. Simmons asked about why was a class numbered 4997 being changed to 1101? Dr. Wearn said that was more likely indications of change

the administration. She also noted the need to better balance the weight between the units involved. For example, currently there is not interaction between the Committees and the Senate in terms of communications and workflow. To re-strengthen the committees and faculty buy-in, clear workflow and backflow between the President's office, the Senate, and the Committees should be established.

Dr. Lanning also said that the second take away had to do with discovering holes in the governance process. One was the need for a larger Faculty Affairs Committee. For example, when the need arose last semester to review course evaluations, there was no natural fit and an ad hoc committee had to be formed.

Dr. Lanning said she spoke with Dr. Brannon about the Student Affab9(a)9.2(b9(pf A)6.6,C3(SetA)4.6(f)6h6().2(b9(a)94

example, Dr. Biek and his department were shifted to another school which was in a different rotation but they remained in the former rotation.

Mr. Swenson added that as previously alluded, the change was coming that all committees would have 2 Senators as members, meaning that most Senators would be on a committee. Dr. Lanning noted that in the review of various schools, on one extreme there's Georgia College where only Senators serve on committees, and on the other end of the spectrum, there's MGA. This change is being implemented to improve communication between the committees and the Senate. Mr. Swenson also pointed out that he and Dr. Lanning had done the math, and each rotation, 3 Senators would not need to serve on a committee.

New Business

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