

# Grand Valley State University

## Executive Committee of the Senate

### Minutes of October 19, 2007

**Present:** David Bair, John Bender, Yatin Bhagwat, Richard Carlson, Katie Cross (Student), Gayle Davis (ex officio), Roger Ferguson, Rob Franciosi (Chair), Joe Godwin (ex officio), Robert Hendersen, Jon Jellema (ex officio), Nancy Levenburg, Jean Martin, Kristine Mullendore (Vice Chair), Ellen Schendel, Steve Schlicker, Robert Schoofs, John Stevenson, Jereon Wagendorp

**Guests:** Robert Adams, Lynn Blue, Nancy Giardina

The meeting was called to order at 3.03pm

Agenda Items	Discussion	Action / Decisions
1. Approval of Agenda	The agenda of October 19, 2007 was reviewed.	The agenda of October 19, 2007 was approved.
2. Approval of Minutes	No Minutes for review	No Minutes for review
3. Report of Chair	<p>a) The Chair reported that the open sessions with the candidates for the Vice President for Inclusion and Equity were well attended.</p> <p>b) The Chair reported that he expects several Prospectuses and Final Plans will be ready for review at the next several meetings. He further reported he expects to present proposals for the revision of the processes used for the development of prospectuses and final plans by the end of the semester and that Faculty Personnel Policy Committee's proposed revisions of the Faculty Handbook's policies on tenure standards should be ready for review at the next ECS meeting.</p>	
4. Report of Provost	<p>a) Provost Davis assured the committee that while she was unable to attend the past few meetings she was always kept informed of the meeting content.</p> <p>b) Provost Davis reported that, pending Board of Trustees approval, GVSU will expand its academic program offerings at the Meijer Campus in Holland to assist non-traditional students to earn Baccalaureate degrees by offering a flexible degree completion program through the Department of Liberal Studies. The contact person is Simone Jonatis should faculty have any questions or any programs desire to participate in this initiative.</p> <p>c) Provost Davis reported that the payment of state appropriation</p>	

	<p>funds that had been deferred since August was received.</p> <p>d) Provost Davis reported that the search for a new Dean of the College of Health Professions is underway.</p> <p>e) Provost Davis further reported that the Dean of the College of Community and Public Service announced he will be returning to faculty at the end of the academic year and a search committee for his replacement will be formed.</p>	
<p>5. Report of Student Senate President</p>	<p>a) Student Senate Vice President Katie Cross reported that a Battle of the Valleys fund raising dinner is scheduled for November 1, 2007. All proceeds will go to the DeVos Children's Hospital.</p> <p>b) Ms. Cross reported that the accreditation process will be the focus of the Annual Leadership Roundtable scheduled for November 8, 2007 to facilitate students in providing input for the NCS Self Study report. Dr. Julie Guevara, Assessment and Accreditation Officer, will be presenting on that evening.</p> <p>c) Ms. Cross further reported that a student food service focus group has been established by the Student Senate. Their findings will be presented at a later meeting.</p>	
<p>6. Old Business</p>	<p>a) The Chair presented an overview of the newest version of the proposed revisions to the course repeat policy from the Academic Standards and Policies Committee (APSC). He reported that he contacted the APSC chair to re-craft the document based on the input received from ECS members at an earlier meeting.</p> <p>Discussion.</p> <p>It was moved and seconded to forward the revised course repeat policy from the Academic Policies and Standards Committee to the University Academic Senate recommending it for their action.</p>	<p><b>MOTION:</b> The Executive Committee of the Senate recommends forwarding the revised course repeat policy from the Academic Policies and Standards Committee to the University Academic Senate recommending it for their action.</p> <p><b>APPROVED: Unanimously</b></p>
<p>7. New Business</p>	<p>b) <u>Strategic Goals</u> – Discussion postponed allowing enough time to discuss the other agenda items.</p> <p>a) There was considerable discussion regarding the new Banner System. It was noted that the UCC memo from 2006-7 that initiated the review of course prerequisites identified Banner enforcement as one of the three reasons to engage in this university wide review. ECS members expressed concerns that numerous faculty were under the impression that the automated checking and enforcement of prerequisites would be implemented under Banner after the</p>	

colleges has pared down the number of prerequisites and that they believed that they were now being informed that implementation cannot take place for a variety of reasons. It was noted that currently in order for the program course prerequisites contained in the catalogue to be enforced, faculty were having to check course enrollment manually, which is seen as a waste of time and a costly use of faculty resources.

The Dean of Academic Services and Information Technology, Lynn Blue, assured the committee that implementation of course prerequisites by Banner is now being worked on, but the structure and code of the Banner system needs to be amended before they can proceed further with this function of Banner. All prerequisites have been entered in anticipation of this function being implemented. It was also noted that twelve units have not yet completed their review of course prerequisites.

The Chair of the University Curriculum Committee, Robert Adams, emphasized that the Banner system is not able to enforce items that are not programmable; e.g.: certification of successful completion of C.P.R. training, choral and music competency, etc. The alternative ways in which course prerequisites are satisfied that can be programmed into the Banner System also need to be identified and faculty familiarized with what is a programmable (readable) vs. non-programmable (unreadable) requirement.

Dean Blue noted that faculty need to: 1) understand the Banner System more thoroughly; 2) identify for her what needs to be changed to meet faculty needs, and 3) be aware that she needs to ensure the Banner System will work in implementing course prerequisites in a production environment. She indicated that we should know by the end of the term what Banner can, and can not, do in this area.

Faculty again re-emphasized that the current method of hand-checking prerequisites has proven costly in terms of time spent and faculty resources expended and that it also does not serve students well when they are permitted to enroll in courses they are not prepared to complete.

It was noted that a milestone in implementing the Banner System that was achieved thus far was celebrated this week. It was further noted that part of the difficulty in achieving full implementation of

the Banner System is that it is encompassing a large variety of expectations and ways of interpreting data and is a complex system to modify to institutional needs and implement.

In answer a question about the cost of the Banner System, Dean Blue responded that over the course of three years it has been excess of 6 million dollars, considering the changes that have been necessary.

After discussion, it was the consensus of the ECS to charge the University Curriculum Committee with monitoring the Banner process and reporting back to ECS, and that Dean Blue would be invited to attend another ECS meeting in early December to provide a status report.

The University Curriculum Committee Chair agreed to contact to the College Curriculum Committee Chairs and encourage them to continue scrutinizing course prerequisites and to assist the programs who are still completing their review of course prerequisites to complete their review in a timely manner.

b) Academic Integrity Forum (update) NO DISCUSSION

The meeting adjourned at 5:00pm

**By consensus** the Executive Committee of the Senate charges the University Curriculum Committee with monitoring the Banner process and reporting back to the Executive Committee of the Senate, and that Dean Blue would be invited to attend another meeting in early December to provide a status report.

The University Curriculum Committee Chair agreed to contact the College Curriculum Committee Chairs and encourage course prerequisites and to assist the programs who are still completing their review of their course prerequisites to complete that process in a timely manner.

Adjournment