

**GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
FALL MEETING OF THE
ACADEMIC FACULTY SENATE**

**Tuesday, November 15, 2016, 3:00 pm
Student Theater**

MINUTES

1. **President Peterson** opened the meeting of the Academic Faculty Senate at about 3:05 PM.
2. Dr. Peterson provided the following remarks on matters of interest to the campus:
 - a. Classroom Scheduling Task Force – you will hear from Joe Hughes and Steven Girardot later in the agenda. He thanked them for their efforts on this task. Request came up a few years ago for classroom scheduling, issues for time between classes, schedule for semester final exams
 - b. We have a lot of momentum in Tech Square. Just celebrated the 4th anniversary for the first Innovation Center, Panasonic. This past month had the grand opening for Emerson Innovation Center in September and the Key Sight Innovation Center. That is the 17th and 18th innovation centers we have opened in Technology Square. Opened in 2003; it is the thirteenth year of Tech Square. Companies are very anxious to get in and set up innovation centers in Tech Square. In December we will have the ground breaking ceremony for the High Performance Computing Center.
 - c. Soon we will have the Technology Enterprise Park on North Avenue; we have 7 acres; we were given 7 acres from Georgia Power, which gives us 14 acres. We purchased what was formerly St. Joe's Translational Research Laboratory when Emory bought it to be the T3 Labs. We purchased those labs; there were 45 employees that worked there who now work for us; we will continue to partner with them. This will begin to look a lot like Technology Square, but with a bio technology focus. Very exciting things going on in that area.
 - d. Creating the Next Initiative that Provost Bras is leading with Susan Cozzens and Colin Potts continues to move forward. Michael Crow, President of Arizona State University, was here last week to talk about some of the things that Arizona State is doing in terms of innovation in education. He was very positive about many of the things we are doing in innovation and in education and academic programs here at Georgia Tech like the online masters.
 - e. Board of Regents meeting was Nov 9th. We have a new chancellor, Steve Wrigly. Regent Tommy Hawkins is the new Chair of the BoR. We established a Professional Masters in Occupational Safety and Health (PMOSH) that was approved. The Georgia Power Chair in the College of Sciences (CoS) and the naming of Dr. Kim Cobb to that chair was approved. The establishment of Pratt and Whitney professorship in the School of AE and the naming of Dr. Maximo Razime was approved. Daniel Goldman to take the Dunn Family professorship in the CoS and Dr. Schumacher to take the second Dunn Family professorship in the CoS was approved.

- f. Charitable Campaign is progressing well. Today was supposed to be the last day. The goal was \$375K, we are currently over \$350K. We have earned the Governor's Cup for our size employee for nine years. We have extended the deadline a little in hopes of achieving our goal. Last year we raised \$351K and more than 1100 of our 6500 employees contributed.
3. President Peterson asked for the minutes of the October 18, 2016 meeting to be approved. He indicated that the minutes were posted on the faculty governance web site and no additions or corrections had been received. (See **Attachment #1** below for web site reference). **The minutes were approved without dissent.**
4. Next, the President called on Professor Emeritus Robert Nerem to report on the Institute Awards Committee. **Attachment #2a and #2b** are the presentation and report he shared. The Institute Awards Committee was created in 2013 by Provost Bras. The goal is to increase honors and awards received by Georgia Tech individuals. The committee does not itself do nominations, but do work with schools, colleges, and departments across the campus to identify candidates for national and international awards. A nomination, regardless of the outcome, demonstrates that the nominee is valued by his or her colleagues. Dr. Nerem shared nominations data for calendar year 2015.
5. The President called on **Ms. Reta Pikowsky, Registrar**, to present the candidates for the fall commencement. She shared the presentation in **Attachment #3** that shows the Fall 2015 number of candidates and the number that were actually awarded. She stated that the 2016 fall list of degree candidates has been reviewed and revised as necessary; she moved to approve it. **The motion was seconded and passed without dissent.**
6. The President called on Prof. Reginald DesRoches, John and Karen Huff School Chair for Civil and Environmental Engineering and the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) to the Athletics Association. He used the presentation in **Attachment #4** to provide the Faculty Athletics Representative (FAR) annual report.
 - a) Serves as a liaison between the athletic association and the institution. Represents the Institute to the NCAA and ACC. Key member of the GT eligibility certification team, ensuring student athletes meet all NCAA, conference, and institutional requirements for eligibility.
 - b) ACC is a very strong conference academically, with 7 of the 15 schools being ranked in the top 35 academically, along with having one school in the top ten since 2006 (based on US News rankings). Only Power 5 conference with more than 50% of members in the top 50.
 - c) Big topic this year is the time demand our athletes spend on their sport. This will be discussed and voted on in January. Each sport will be required to create a time management plan.
 - d) There are 363 current student athletes. The spring 2016 academic highlights include 60% had a 3.0 or better, 3.0 student athletes mean GPA.
 - e) All sports at Georgia Tech are in good standing with a good Academic Progress Rate (APR).

- f) Graduation Success Rate (GSR): based on a four year average with ten years to complete the degree. Our GSR has continued to improve each year. we are currently at 87%. We do have athletes that have left to pursue professional careers that return during off semesters or after their sporting career to continue their degree.
 - g) Encouraged faculty to participate in the faculty breakfast or lunch opportunities with student athletes.
7. President Peterson asked Professor Joe Hughes and Dr. Steven Girardot, co-chairs of the Classroom Scheduling Task Force to share results and recommendations. They used the presentation in **Attachment #5**. Dr. Girardot explained the Academic Calendar Task Force was appointed in fall 2014 by Provost Bras. The first phase ended in spring 2015 with a modified calendar. Dead week was replaced with reading periods and final instructional class days as well as finals being “wrapped around” the weekend. No final exams are scheduled on the Friday before commencement in order for those graduating to enjoy their graduation. Two additional class holidays were incorporated in the calendar and the spring semester will start no earlier than the 2nd Monday of January.

They did not address the daily class schedule or 15- minute pass time, but the Classroom & Academic Schedule Task Force appointed by Provost Bras and Steve Swant was tasked to look at the daily classroom schedule. They looked at historical information at GT and hosted listening sessions with students, faculty, school chairs, academic associate deans, advisors, and classroom schedulers. They developed the *Guiding Principles for Classroom and Academic Scheduling*. Recommendations were considered and are being implemented. Classroom scheduling re-aligned from Capital Planning and Space Management (CPSM) to the Registrar’s Office. Daily Scheduling Grid introduced with 15 minute pass times between classes. Two-day classes meet for 75 minutes/class. Friday Flexible Block supports a wide range of course types and delivery options. Courses must meet in standard time slots unless an exception is approved. Anchor courses scheduled for a fixed time and room assignments for multiple terms to facilitate student planning for critical courses. Planned implementation for fall 2017.

Q: We have a reduction of 5 minutes in the class time for the 2-day per week. **A:** Yes, we were provided more class teaching time than the class time in a 3-day per week class. In order to accommodate the 15 minute pass time, we are now scheduling the 2-day classes to have the same amount of teaching time as the 3-day classes.

Q: How are lab classes going to fit in the grid? **A:** The grid shown only addresses the 3-lecture hour classes. If you have a 1 hour class there are rules how to schedule that class; if you have a 4-hour lecture class, there are rules for how to schedule that. Labs tend to be 3-hour blocks and they will lie on top of the grid throughout the day. They did not show a grid for labs as some labs are not 3-hour labs; some are 2-hour labs or 4-hour labs that departments will need to make reasonable choices on how to schedule those labs.

Q: Is there a site to see the latest version on classroom scheduling? **A:** There will be, they are meeting with the schedulers and will have information on the registrar’s website that will have the policy and final scheduling grid.

Q: What is the implementation process? What is next? **A:** Two things. As they meet with the schedules, they will be putting classes into the system to match the new grid. That also implies that departments have to know what they are going to offer next summer and fall that is consistent with the new grid.

Q: What do we do with departmental seminars that do not carry credit? **A:** Those are events and departments will have to figure out how to schedule events that works best. In addition, there is an exceptions process for special cases like a 1-hour weekly class that meets in the evening might need an exception to scheduling.

Q: What is going to happen with the whistle? **A:** We still need to work on that one.

President Peterson thanked Joe, Steven, and Reta for all they are doing to help make this work. This is definitely a big change for Georgia Tech. We will have a few bumps along the way, but we will make it work.

8. Pres. Peterson then called on representatives of **Standing Committees of the Academic Faculty** to present minutes and action items requiring approval, found in **Attachment #6**. The following provides an outline of the material presented showing the representatives that appeared to make the presentations. Where presenters utilized additional presentation materials, they are noted below and provided as attachments.

a) **Institute Undergraduate Curriculum Committee:** Prof. Rhett Mayor, Chair: 11/08/16. See presentation in **Attachment #6a**. **Action items: From 11/08:** Mod Lang: new course; Psychology: new course; Mathematics: degree modification to change the title of the degree from Bachelor of Science in Applied Mathematics to Bachelor of Science in Mathematics and adding concentrations; minor modification; Chemistry and Biochemistry: degree modification-BS Chem, degree mod-BS Biochem, minor mod Biochemistry, minor mod Chemistry, degree mod-BS Chem (Pre-Health Concentration), degree mod-BS Biochem; Pub Policy: collaborative program GT-GSU College of Law for BS/JD Dual Degree program, new certificate in Intellectual Property, new course; ME: degree mod-BSME – adding a new concentration area in design; Bldg Construction: new course, certificate mod-Construction Management; Biological Sciences and Psychology: new subject code NEUR and new courses, new degree BS in Neuroscience.

Q: Dr. Joe Hughes: We have a Degree in Discrete Mathematics, now there will be a degree in Mathematics and a concentration in Discrete Mathematics. Is the intention to have both? **A:** That is a great question. It is not the intent to have both.

It was moved and passed without dissent to approve the above minutes and action items.

b) **Institute Graduate Curriculum Committee** – Prof. David Sluss, Vice Chair, 11/03/15. He used the presentation in **Attachment #6b** to explain the following action item. **Action Items: From 11/03:** School of Building Construction new degree Master of Real Estate Dev, one new course; CoC, CoE, and CoS: new degree Doctor of Philosophy with a major in Machine Learning.

It was moved and passed without dissent to approve the above minutes and action items.

9. President Peterson made a couple of closing comments. There has been a lot of discussion over the last week since the election about the role of higher education. A lot of discussion that covers the whole spectrum of what is going on and what to do. He suggests we think about how we can help move forward in a positive direction and have positive input and impact to higher education. President Peterson is enormously proud of the GT community and how our students have responded to some of the issues and events of the last year and how they are continuing to respond. Nationally, GT is viewed in a very strong leadership position because of the track record GT has over many years for providing the best education for our students, using new ideas, and a vision of how we can improve. When we look at the students we have at GT and realize they become the leaders of the future, then we are going to be OK.

The meeting was adjourned at about 5:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Balsam
Secretary of the Faculty
February 7, 2016

Attachments:

1. [Minutes](#) of the October 18, 2016 meeting of the Academic Faculty Senate, Academic Faculty, and Faculty.
2. Institute Awards Committee [presentation](#) and [report](#)
3. [Presentation](#) of Degree Candidate
4. Faculty Athletics Representative [annual report](#)
5. Classroom Scheduling Task Force [presentation](#)
6. [Minutes](#) of Standing Committees
 - a. [IUCC presentation](#)
 - b. [IGCC presentation](#)