

**GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
MEETING OF THE FACULTY EXECUTIVE BOARD**

MINUTES

Meeting of January 24, 2017

Held in the Poole Board Room of the Wardlaw Building

Members Present: Balsam (Secretary of the Faculty, GTRI), Bras (Provost), Briscoe (GTRI-ATAS), Clark (CoC-CS), Cross (EVPR), Feron (AE), Foster (Modern Lang), Garcia (AE), Girardot (Assoc VP Undergrad Ed), Hughes (USGFC Rep., ECE), Lotempio (GTRI-SEAL), McIntyre (Business), Milosevic-Brockett (Biology), Nukuna (Ugrad Pres SGA), Parker (CoD), Riley (Vice-Chair, ECE), Pollet (Chem & Biochem), Scripka (Grad Pres SGA), Shepler (Chemistry), Simpson (OSP)

Members Absent: Gourisankar, (ChBE), Hall, Bobby (GTRI-CTISL), Hall, Leslie (Staff Council), Mihail (CoC-IC), Nation (GTRI-ELSYS), Peterson (President), Pusateri (Staff Council),

Guests: Cozzens (Vice-Provost Grad Ed & Fac Dev), Herazy (Assoc Provost)

1. Prof. George Riley, Chair, opened the meeting at 3:00 P.M.
2. Prof. Riley welcomed Staff Council members to the FEB meeting. Cara-Joy Wong is the Staff Council Vice-Chair. Laura Pusateri has moved from Vice-Chair to Chair and Leslie Hall is serving another term as their Secretary. He also welcomed Mark Cottle back after being gone for study abroad in Barcelona.
3. The Chair called on Provost Bras to remark on matters of interest to the Georgia Tech community.
 - a. BOR approved an Online Masters in Analytics. This followed the same model as the Online Masters in Computer Science. The degree is an existing program that will now be offered in the new online format. It is a joint effort between ISyE, College of Computing, and College of Business. We expect significant demand. The residential version is in high demand and expectations this program to be a quality offering that will be in demand. Total cost including fees will be a little less than \$12K.
 - b. USG news recognized us with almost \$3B of economic impact. The Regents acted to consolidate four different institutions into two. Georgia Southern University and Armstrong University are now Georgia Southern University. They also consolidated Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College and Bainbridge State College, forming Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College.
 - c. The capital is busy today with the house and senate in session. That is where the President is today. We have two priorities for this session. One is to secure the first \$47.3M this year for the library. This is in the Governor's budget and it is in the Regents

budget also; now we need to make it through the legislative session. The other priority is to strengthen the partnership in Advancement in Factory Initiatives; Steve Cross and his team have been working to secure some resources for this initiative.

Dr. Cross stated: there are many faculty involved in manufacturing innovation institutes; a concept of President Obama's Advanced Manufacturing Partnership that President Peterson served on an advisory committee. They advanced this and about 15 contracts have been awarded nationally; they are led by non-profits but not universities. They require one-to-one cost sharing. Many states have been contributing large sums of money to win these awards. We have become involved with two recently; one in bio-farma manufacturing and one in bio-fabrication. Because of the field that we have created in the past three years by bringing manufacturing and biology together, the state has agreed to put \$50M in this effort.

The Provost stated we are also seeking \$66.7M of formula funds. And \$60M for regular maintenance funds.

- d. Early Action decisions. It is a very competitive environment. We have had 31,500 applications. We released 15,700 early action decisions. Our applicants are increasing. We are very proud of the quality of the students. It is unbelievable what has been achieved with the interest in GT. The class is taking shape.
- e. Ivan Allen Prize for Social Courage is February 17. Provost Bras encouraged us to participate in symposium events. This year our awardees are former President Jimmy Carter and Mrs. Rosalyn Carter are to be honored.
- f. Task Force on Classroom and Academic Scheduling Task Force is ongoing. Academic scheduling is going to move to the Registrar's office in collaboration with facilities. There are changes in the template for classes. This is a major change in the way we have classes but is for the better.
- g. SACSCOC reaffirmation. We have to submit another report in September to demonstrate that we are accomplishing and documenting class assessments.

EVPR Dr. Cross shared the following information:

- h. Project Engage: One of the interesting features in our region is we have a lot of Fortune 500 companies. Our President talking with several of the CEOs of these companies led to an effort led by Pres Peterson and the CEO of Invesco, Marty Flannigan, to create an investment fund that would be funded by Fortune 500 companies. The investment companies would become involved and provide mentoring to startup companies that they provided funding for. The startups will scale quicker and stay locally. Having an organic fund funded by these COEs is a big deal. This will all be done through Georgia Tech's Advanced Technology Development Center. This is a big deal we are excited about.
- 4. The Chair directed the Board's attention to the posted minutes of the November 1, 2016 Faculty Executive Board meeting (**Attachment #1**). **A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes. The motion passed without dissent.**
 - 5. Prof Riley discussed the high costs of text books and proposed a Task Force to look at the issue and determine if anything could be done to reduce the burden on our students. He

would like members from the FEB to serve on the committee and already has two individuals from outside the board willing to serve on the committee; David Collard from CoS and Stephen Harmon from GTPE.

Provost Bras shared some motivation for this task. He had a mother ask him why they were paying over \$1,000 for her son's books with one of those books being more than \$500. There are for many of our materials that we are teaching here there are public domain books. UGA has done well is push for books in the public domain. I think many of us do what is convenient and do not think about the cost of the books and identify if there is an alternative. Some faculty say it is not so much the book, but the teaching aids that come with the book; that is a valid concern. We need a group that will do two things: 1) Benchmark and see where this money is going to and what our students are paying and see if there are alternatives. 2) can we educate ourselves and create consciousness in our community to say when we assign a book, to look and see if there is a cheaper alternative or free alternative.

Professor Riley – let's at least look at the problem and see if there is a solution. Are we okay with a task force? Volunteers willing to serve: George Riley, Russ Clark, John McIntyre, Colin Potts, David Collard, Stephen Harmon, someone from the library, and two students.

Carrie Shepler: We need to talk to the Bookstore because we want to support our institution, but we also need to look at alternatives that benefit our students.

Joe Hughes: this topic has come up at the USG Faculty Council. He would be happy to inquire of that group if any of the institutions have looked at this issue and have suggestions.

A motion to form a task force to look at the costs of student textbooks was made and seconded. The motion passed without dissent.

6. Prof Riley then discussed the FEB's responsibility to review Academic Program Review (APR) reports. This used to be a responsibility of the curriculum committees, but some of the information in APR reviews is not curricular, but generic information for the college or school and often has a common theme across academic schools/colleges. Therefore, there was a change in the Faculty Handbook to move this review of the APRs from the curriculum committees to the FEB. The FEB has performed this review for 2 years and provided a report to Provost Bras. It appears to be working well. From last year's committee, we currently have four members willing to serve again on the APR review committee: John McIntyre, Doug Nation, Eric Schumacher, and Carrie Shepler. Carrie Shepler is willing to be the Chair of the APR committee. Mirjana Milosevic-Brockett volunteered to join the committee.
7. The Chair then requested approval of appointments to the Faculty Benefits Committee.
 - Retiree Representative: The officers of the Silver Jackets have recommended David Millard serve as the representative of retired faculty on the Faculty Benefits Committee, effective January 2017. He is very familiar with this committee having served with them in various capacities for several years. **George made a motion that David Millard be appointed as the retiree representative to the Faculty Benefits Committee. The motion was seconded and passed without dissent**

- Staff Council Representatives: They have recommended the two elected members serving on the Staff Council Compensation & Benefits Committee be the representatives to the Faculty Benefits Committee. David Brown, Facilities and Darrell Gray, Development. They served this past year and are willing to serve an additional year. **The chair made a motion that David Brown and Darrell Gray be appointed for a second year to the Faculty Benefits Committee representing the Staff Council. The motion was seconded and passed without dissent.**
8. The Chair called on Dr. Elena Garcia, Vice-Chair who is putting together members for the nomination's committee. She asked the FEB to provide suggestions for an academic faculty member who is not a member of the FEB; hopefully from CoE or CoC. John MacIntyre is the vice-chair of the nomination's committee. George asked everyone to go back to their units and help identify someone. When a membership list is completed, an email vote will be sent to the FEB asking for approval. See addendum 1 for the email vote.
 9. The vice-chair asked for approval of an appointment to fill a vacancy on the IUCC. Blair MacIntyre is on leave until Jan. 2018; we need to appoint someone to fill this vacancy for 1 year. Blair's term started in 2013, then was reelected for a second term until 2019. This appointment is to fill the vacancy for 1 year until the 2018 spring term. She is having some difficulty identifying someone to fill this vacancy representing CoC. She asked the FEB to help identify someone who might be willing.
 10. Prof. Riley polled committee liaisons for any reports of matters that should come to the board's attention. The following were significant highlights not covered elsewhere:
 - a. **Cara-Joe Wong (Staff Council):** For 2017, the Staff Executive Council has established their goals for the year which includes visibility on campus and making sure that we are being more intentional about going out to departments to hear from them. Also recognition of staff. They have the Athletic Director, Todd Stansbury, coming to the next Inform Georgia Tech on February 3rd.
 - b. **Joe Hughes (USGFC rep):** They met at the end of October. That meeting was just before the Presidential Election so that turned out to be a topic of discussion including policy. The new chancellor, who was chancellor-elect at that time, seems interested in what the different institutions have to say. There was some discussion about appointing key leaders without doing searches. It is surprising that many institution presidents are appointed without a search. There was some concern about mergers; announcing this without getting faculty input causes a lot of anxiety and is not providing faculty an opportunity to provide recommendations.
 - c. **Nagela Nukuna (Pres, Undergrad SGA):** Three main things we are focusing on. Conducting office hours with are office hours across campus to make sure we are hearing from the students. We have had three cabinet turnovers due to student opportunities with study abroad or other opportunities so they are working through those things. They are moving forward with sexual misconduct policy and how to share with different campus partner and with the BoR. Figuring out how to better use Course Critique with students.

- d. **David Scripka (President, Grad SGA):** They are continuing to work with the Grad Student Experience Survey. They are being successful sharing that information with deans. WG with how to better understand how qualifying exams are done and comparing across the campus; identify ideals of what makes a good qualifying exam.
 - e. **Erica Briscoe (Stud Grievance and Appeal):** Nothing to report.
 - f. **Russ Clark (Faculty Services):** Met once since our last FEB meeting. Most activities in the fall was looking at faculty orientation across the campus for academic faculty and research faculty; wrapping up that activity with a summary and report and a checklist of recommendations. Another topic is looking at what is this committee about and what are responsibilities.
 - g. **Ennis Parker (SAFAC):** Nothing to report.
 - h. **Eric Feron (Student Activities):** Nothing to report.
 - i. **Paul Foster (Academic Integrity):** Nothing to report.
 - j. **Steven Girardot (Student Honor):** Nothing to report.
 - k. **Satya Gourisankar (Faculty Honors):** Nothing to report.
 - l. **Bobby Hall (Faculty Benefits):** Absent.
 - m. **Johanna Lotempio (Student Computer Ownership):** Nothing to report.
 - n. **John McIntyre (FSGC):** They had three meetings in the fall with one investigation and report filed. There is nothing pending.
 - o. **Milena Mihail (IGCC):** Absent.
 - p. **Mirjana Milosevic-Brockett (Statutes):** They have not met.
 - q. **Doug Nation (Student Regulations):** Absent.
 - r. **Pamela Pollet (Staff Council):** We already heard the report.
 - s. **Carrie Shepler (IUCC):** IUCC has met several times and is meeting right now. They are looking at petitions and proposals for curriculum changes.
 - t. **Dana Simpson (Welfare & Security):** Nothing to report.
11. Prof. Riley called on Ms. Balsam, Secretary of the Faculty to present the proposed agenda for the meeting of the Academic Faculty Senate scheduled for February 14, 2017 in **Attachment 2**. Ms. Nukuna stated the undergraduate and graduate SGA are looking at how to better utilize the course critique and would like to make a presentation on that topic and the group agreed to add it to the agenda. **It was moved and seconded that the agenda be approved. The motion was approved without dissent.**

12. Prof Riley asked if there was any additional business and hearing none adjourned the meeting at about 4:15 pm.

Submitted by Jeanne Balsam, Secretary
March 1, 2017

Attachments

1. [Minutes](#) of the November 1, 2016 Faculty Executive Board meeting.
2. Proposed [agenda](#) for the meeting of the Faculty, Faculty Senate, and Academic Faculty Senate on February 14, 2017.

Addendum #1

The Secretary sent the following electronic ballot to the Faculty Executive Board on January 25, 2017:

Dear members of the Faculty Executive Board (FEB),

Elena Garcia, FEB Vice-Chair and Nominations Committee Chair presents the following proposed nominations committee for spring 2017 elections.

Elena Garcia	research faculty	FEB Member – CoE/AE
John McIntyre	academic faculty	FEB Member – Scheller CoB
Thomas Gaylord	academic faculty	CoE/ECE
Kirk Bowman	academic faculty	INTA
Maribeth Coleman	research faculty	Interactive Media Tech Center
Carlee Bishop	research faculty	GTRI/ELSYS

VOTE: Please let me know by return email if you approve this nominations committee.

Yes No My concern is _____

Please send your response back to me quickly so this team can start to work on the election ballot.

Thanking you in advance for your speedy response.

A quorum of the FEB members having responded, the question was answered in the affirmative without dissent.