

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

**MINUTES**

**Meeting of August 22, 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), Coleman (IMTC), Cottle (CoD), Cross (EVPR), Duarte (Psych), Foster (Modern Lang), Garcia (AE), Girardot (Assoc VP Undergrad Ed), Gourisankar, (ChBE), Harley (BME), Hughes (USGFC Rep., ECE), Lotempio (GTRI-SEAL), Maxwell (GTRI-ELSYS), McIntyre (Business), Milosevic-Brockett (Biology), Nation (GTRI-ELSYS), Peterson (President), Peramanu (Ugrad Pres SGA), Prasad (Grad Pres SGA), Pusateri (Staff Council), Riley (Vice-Chair, ECE), Shepler (Chemistry)

Members Absent: Feron (AE), Hall, Bobby (GTRI-CTISL), Hall, Leslie (Staff Council), Mihail (CoC-IC), Pollet (Chem & Biochem), Simpson (OSP), Wong (Staff Council)

Guests: Ferri (Vice-Provost Grad Ed & Fac Dev), Williams (CoE)

1. Professor George Riley, Chair, opened the meeting at 3:05 pm.
2. The Chair directed the Board's attention to the posted minutes of the June 13, 2017 Faculty Executive Board meeting (**Attachment #1**). One correction to correct liaison statement for Grad SGA rep was requested. **A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes with the one correction. The motion passed without dissent**
3. Prof. Riley then asked Dr. Elena Garcia, Vice-Chair, to run the meeting. She welcomed us to the first meeting of the academic year. She welcomed those new to the board and introduced Maribeth Coleman, Linda Harley, Audrey Duarte, and Erick Maxwell. She then thanked those that are rotating off the board Bobby Hall, Carrie Shepler, and Dana Simpson. She also pointed out that George Riley is rotating off the board and thanked him for all his efforts as the chair.
4. The Vice-Chair called on President Peterson to remark on matters of interest to the Georgia Tech community. He called on Provost Bras and EVPR Steve Cross to also share items of interest.
  - a. President Peterson also thanked those that have been serving and rolling off. He mentioned Linda Harley is a new member of the FEB and stated she was the Graduate Student President in 2009 when he first came to GT. He also introduced Bonnie Ferri to her first meeting as the Vice Provost for Graduate Education and Faculty Development.

- b. This past Thursday a new program the Georgia Tech Scholars Program was announced. This is a program that will offer automatic acceptance to any valedictorian and salutatorian at all the Georgia high schools. Tuition is not offered as they will receive Hope Scholarship. We started a similar program a couple of years ago for Atlanta Public Schools (APS); this increased the number of valedictorian and salutatorian students we have at GT as well as increased visibility and more APS student attendance. The APS scholars are guaranteed tuition for 4 years.
- c. Sunday was freshman convocation. There were 31,504 applications. We had an acceptance rate of 23 percent and 43% are women.
- d. We have named the EBB building the Roger A. and Helen B. Krone Engineered Biosystems Building. Roger is an alum. This was a great partnership we had with the state. We promised the state and legislature if they would provide \$64M, we would raise \$34M from private funds and add \$15M from our own resources for a total \$113M facility. At the time that was the most expensive building we built on campus. We were successful in raising \$34M before the building was opened. We had 4 anonymous donors and we still had not had a naming donor. With naming that was additional money.
- e. Georgia Tech won the Governor's Cup for the 10th consecutive year for contributions in the State Charitable Contributions Program. This recognizes employees in our category (1,000-10,000 employees). Recognizes the state institution with the highest average contribution per employee.
- f. Finished the Georgia Tour this summer for the 9th year. Each summer we take about a week and travel around the state. This summer they did 27 events in 12 cities and traveled 970 miles in 4 days. It is a great opportunity for us to share a lot with individuals throughout the state about what Georgia Tech is doing and can do and for us to learn a lot about the state as well.
- g. The Institute Address will be August 31 from 11 to noon in the Clough Commons.

President Peterson called on Provost Bras;

- h. Provost Bras stated that the Emerging Leaders program is in its second year and this summer they met the President on his Tour in Albany, Georgia and were very impressed.
- i. Today is the second day of classes. He quizzed the group:
  - Q: What time was it when the whistle last went off? No answers – he had the group stumped. It went off a quarter till 3.

We have new class schedules and classroom assignments are through registrar's office in collaboration with facilities.

  - Q: What is new learning management system? A: Canvas. We are transferring to Canvas with a few pilots underway.
  - Q: What is the new online program? A: Analytics. Starting now we have Online Masters of Analytics. Largely created by ISyE and involves CoC and Scheller CoB.
- j. Loraine Phillips, came from Texas. She will be the Associate Provost of Academic Effectiveness and has started already. She will be involved with Program reviews and accreditation.

- k. David Bamburowski will be the Director of Academic and Research Faculty Affairs. Merging of Academic and Research faculty offices.
- l. As of today, Dean Stein is chairing a committee for search Assistant Provost for Academic and Conflict Resolution. Laura Hollengreen was doing that. If interested or know someone please share that with John Stein.

EVPR Dr. Steve Cross shared a few comments:

- m. Ended the fiscal year for the first time with over \$800M in sponsored expenditures. This is spent on research and also includes the amount spent on philanthropy. This is the amount that was spent on research. This puts us in the major leagues. Great testament to the faculty and students.
- n. The Coda building is underway. Should start to see it rising above ground. Been working with the faculty shepherding committee on research neighborhoods. There will be a GT faculty presence in that building.
- o. Two exciting things that happened over the summer. Continue to have major corporations that want to have a presence here at GT. Boeing opened a facility for robotic assembly in a building on 14<sup>th</sup> and Northside; they have Boeing staff of Charleston here to work with GT faculty and staff. Dedicated an Advanced Manufacturing Pilot Facility that was funded by Delta Airline that opened a second Innovation Center at Tech. They previously opened an Innovation Center in the Centergy building that supported bio analytics.
- p. Dedicated the Robotarium in Van Leer today, an initiative by Magnus Egerstedt who leads our Robotics programs here at GT. He had a vision how to provide a robotics lab available to the world. This provides virtual access for developing robotics software and testing robotics software at GT. It was featured in the Wall Street Journal last week on the front page and also featured by the NSF Director as one of the five projects she took to the congressional testimony at the end of the year.
- q. We still have some angst about what the federal budget will look like this fiscal year and next. The White House put out their research priorities last weekend and GT competencies line up pretty well. Should see award announcements picking up in September.

President Peterson added that he had received questions if we would make a statement about what had happened in Charlottesville. They wanted to wait until students were back on campus. At the parents brunch on Sunday he commented that our principle goal is to create a safe and welcoming environment that is inclusive to all regardless of gender, ethnicity, race, creed, nationality, religious beliefs or perspectives. That was well received by the parents. They talked about it at freshman Convocation and Dr. Bras made a powerful statement to incoming students and transfer students. The Daily Digest on Monday had a Welcoming letter to the campus community. We will have an update from the Gender Equity Task Force and the Black Student Experience Task Force at the Institute Address a week from Thursday.

One thing that has been helping is the Atlanta United soccer games on campus. We increased security and brought public safety officers from GSU and Kennesaw in for help; this was an opportunity for the three police departments to collaborate.

5. Dr. Garcia called on the Student Government Association Undergraduate President, Mr. Sujay Peramanu, and Graduate President, Mr. Skanda Prasad, to share the SGA perspectives and top priorities for the year.
  - a. SGA Undergraduate President, Mr. Sujay Peramanu: He used the presentation in [Attachment #2a](#) to detail visions and goals for the year.
    - Focus on the mission statement and figure out what we are doing and how it supports these categories: Empower Student Organizations, Embody Student Opinions, Preserve Student Integrity, and Enrich Student Experience.
    - Undergraduate Initiatives are in seven focus areas: Enhancing the Student Experience (encourage students to participate in activities, maybe have a slam-dunk contest with the basketball team); promoting transparency and student engagement: this is a big one, SGA wants to relay information as quickly as possible to students; Engaging Surrounding Communities: basically we want to make sure GT is not consumed in its own bubble, but to go out and engage the community, go to surrounding schools and work with them; Going Green: Technology does have an effect on sustainability, encourage students to do more; Fostering Campus Diversity and Inclusion: SGA has drafted a student response to Charlottesville to show we support our students regardless of race, ethnicity, or gender; Improving Campus Wellness; Advancing the State of Academic Affairs: involvement with CIOS Task Force, the students are on board with this, encouraged faculty to have a mid-semester feedback, increase student services, and students have opportunities to succeed in the classroom.
    - SGA is looking at restructuring and repurposing the legislative committee. Individuals were elected and want to serve. Transferring financial allocation of SGA's duties to JFC. Examining duties of Executive Cabinet. Goal is to increase productivity.
    - Partnership with FEB. Transparency with messages to students and from students to faculty, involvement with institute committees, and student feedback surveys.
  - b. Graduate SGA President, Mr. Skanda Prasad: He used the presentation in [Attachment #2b](#) to detail the Graduate SGA Roadmap for 2017-18. Many points are in common of Undergrad and Grad SGA.
    - The Graduate experience: Academic, Career Preparedness, health and wellness, and social connection.
    - Graduate SGA has three components to allocate the resources, advocacy and representation, initiatives and collaboration.
    - They have worked over the summer to connect with administrators, campus groups, and the BoR. They have met with graduate department organizations. Had an active Graduate Orientation this year; orientation is short compared with

undergraduate orientation a few hours versus two days. They created a Booklet to provide graduate students and should have it distributed during the week.

- Focus Areas for 2017-18. What are we doing and what should we be doing.
  - i. Partnership Building: closer collaborations with graduate organizations, VPGEFD, and undergrad SGA, support institute advocacy
  - ii. Building Sustainable SGA Structures: revitalizing the graduate senate, increased outreach and communication of SGA initiatives with students; and collaboration with undergrad SGA
  - iii. Graduate Wellbeing: survey implementation and data dissemination, improve graduate orientation, wellness resources for graduate students, and career development opportunities
- 6. The Vice-chair called on Dr. Carrie Shepler to explain the responsibilities of the FEB's review of Academic Program Reviews (APRs). Dr. Shepler stated this group looks at the APR review reports. They divide the responsibilities to have three individuals read each report. This is not to dive deep to look for issues, but to look across the reports for common themes or concerns. Dr. Bras' department has read the reports in detail and met with academic units. The number of reviews is variable depending upon how many APRs were done. She found it very interesting to better understand other academic units and saw some great ideas that she has taken back to her academic unit. Dr. Shepler stated she is rotating off the board, but is willing to stay on the APR review committee another year. The FEB has performed this review for 3 years and provided a report to Provost Bras. It appears to be working well. She said that several of the members of last year's committee are willing to be on the review committee again this year; this is Doug Nation, Mira Brockett, and Carrie is willing to chair the committee again. Dr. Shepler asked the members to please consider participating in this committee and letting her or the Secretary know.
- 7. Dr. Garcia discussed the need to appoint a representative to the University System of Georgia Faculty Council. Professor Joe Hughes is currently serving as the GT representative; he is willing to serve another year but will step aside if there is another volunteer willing to take on that role. Prof Hughes described the position: It meets twice every year, once in the fall and once in the spring. They have not met this summer, but been very active with email communications. The campus carry bill caused a lot of discussion. That is an example of one of the activities. The new Chancellor and Vice-Chancellor have engaged very actively with the Faculty Council. This summer there were some changes in the BoR policy manuals and those changes were shared with the Faculty Council members for comments. There has been discussion about summer teaching and caps on number of courses that can be taught; this seems to affect other campuses more than GT. He was appointed to serve another year. **A motion was made and seconded to reappoint Prof. Hughes and it passed without dissent.**
- 8. The Vice-Chair reported that we have a vacancy on the Student Regulations Committee (SRC). Professor Linda Harley is a newly elected member of the FEB, therefore, she cannot complete her term of service on the SRC. This leaves a vacancy for two years to fill her

remaining term [17-19]. Bruce Henson (Library) is willing to fill this vacancy. **She made a motion to appoint Bruce Henson to fill this vacancy. The motion was seconded and passed to confirm the appointment.**

9. Dr. Garcia 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. **Staff Council:** They have been working over the summer. Meeting with Raquel Lieberman, Chair of Faculty Benefits, to determine how they can align and work together. Started one year service recognition and working with Jennifer Herazy; this will be for staff. Working with Dr. Irvin's office for a race relations series that works in tandem with what Dr. Peterson said earlier; there will be three sessions that she will facilitate. Inform GT series that all are welcome to attend about Perks at Work benefits on September 19 noon to 1.
  - b. **Joe Hughes (USGFC rep):** previously reported so nothing additional to report
  - c. **Sujay Peramanu (Pres, Undergrad SGA):** previously reported so nothing else to add
  - d. **Skanda Prasad, (Pres, Grad SGA):** previously reported so nothing additional to report
  - e. **Erica Briscoe (Student Grievance and Appeal):** nothing to report
  - f. **Mirjana Brockett (Statutes):** has not met so nothing to report
  - g. **Russ Clark (Faculty Services):** a quiet summer so nothing to report
  - h. **Mark Cottle (SAFAC):** nothing to report
  - i. **Eric Feron (Student Activities):** nothing to report
  - j. **Paul Foster (Academic Integrity):** have not met so nothing to report
  - k. **Steven Girardot (Student Honor):** nothing to report
  - l. **Satya Gourisankar (Faculty Honors):** nothing to report
  - m. **Bobby Hall (Faculty Benefits):** absent
  - n. **Johanna Lotempio (Student Computer Ownership):** nothing to report
  - o. **John McIntyre (FSGC):** not a quiet summer with two cases; hopefully with some resolution. Chair is rotating off, Andy Peterson elected as the new chair. Two new members.
  - p. **Milena Mihail (IGCC):** absent
  - q. **Doug Nation (Student Regulations):** they have not met so nothing to report

- r. **Pamela Pollet (Staff Council):** absent
- s. **Carrie Shepler (IUCC):** nothing to report
- t. **Dana Simpson (Welfare & Security):** absent
- u. **Cara-Joy Wong (Staff Council):** absent

10. Jeanne Balsam, Secretary of the Faculty, discussed the election of the Faculty Executive Board Chair and Vice-Chair for 2016-17. At this time, she has received one person interested in Chair, and one person interested in Vice-Chair.

The candidates so far are:

- **Elena Garcia – Chair**  
 Asked to say a few words: She has been at GT for over twenty years. She came as a grad student and never gave back. She enjoys being a part of this group and making sure that all members of GT have a voice and representation. She would like to continue to serve in any capacity. We started a lot of initiatives under George's leadership that she wants to make sure continue. She is happy to serve.
- **Doug Nation – Vice-chair**  
 Asked to say a few words: GT has been a part of my life since receiving my acceptance letter in 1970. He has been very much a part of GT earning his bachelors and master's degrees in engineering and working the past six years with GTRI. Served on the SRC as a liaison and the APR review committee. He hosted the Emerging Leaders at Robins Air Force Base and helped implement agreements between the AF and GT which Dr. Peterson will sign for the next five year term on Sept 29<sup>th</sup>. He looks forward to give back to GT if we will have him.

**Dr. George Riley made a motion for Elena to serve as Chair and Doug to serve as Vice-Chair. Motion was seconded and passed.** Elena Garcia is the new Chair and Doug Nation is the Vice-Chair.

11. Dr. Garcia asked if there was any additional business.

- President Peterson announced that we will have two open forums about campus carry. There was one this summer and will have two more this fall. Officer Rob Connelly and Pat McKenna will host the sessions scheduled on Thursday, August 24, 11 to noon and Tuesday, August 29 from 5-6. One has to be 21 to have a permit so that eliminates a lot of undergraduates. There is an assumption that foreign students will not request a carry license. Review the guidelines.
- Bonnie Ferri announced that the CIOS task force final focus groups will be held in September. Question from Prof Harley: was the task force considering the policy on what the CIOS is being used for and how departments are using it for promotion and tenure. Answer: yes that is part of the discussion and review.

12. Dr. Garcia asked if there was any additional business and hearing none adjourned the meeting at about 4:40 pm. Members were dismissed to the Gordy Room for a welcoming reception.

Submitted by Jeanne Balsam, Secretary  
September 12, 2017

### **Attachments**

1. [Minutes](#) of the June 13, 2017 Faculty Executive Board meeting
2. Student Government Association presentations
  - a. Undergrad SGA [presentation](#)
  - b. Graduate SGA [presentation](#)