

Faculty Senate
Meeting: January 16, 2014 1:00-3:00 PM
Hall of Honor
Minutes

Senators in Attendance:

	K. Boland-Prom (CHHS)	X	O. Ijose (CBPA)	X	V. Person (COE)
X	Y. Brown (CAS)*		R. James (CHHS)	X	X. She (COE)
X	J. Cook (COE)		S. Ji (CBPA)*	X	A. Tamulis (CAS)*
X	D. Cortese (CAS)*	X	E. Johnson (CAS)	X	C. Tymkow (AL/CHHS)
X	E. Essex (CHHS)	X	M. Kasik (COE)*	X	S. Wadhwa (CHHS)
	S. Gandy (AL/COE)*		C. Luo (CBPA)	X	R. Washington (CHHS)*
X	L. Geller (UL)*	X	E. Mengova (CBPA)	X	B. Wilson (CAS)
X	D. Golland (CAS)	X	R. Muhammad (AL/CAS)*	X	B. Winicki (COE)*
X	D. Hechenberger (AL/COE)*		B. Parin (AL/CAS)*		

* = Faculty Senate Executive Committee

Guests: E. Maimon, D. Bordelon, A. Latham, B. Crooks, R. Brown

1. *Call to order*, with quorum, by Faculty Senate President Muhammad at 1:08 p.m.; Provost Bordelon and Pres. Maimon arrived at 1:23 and 1:27, respectively.
2. Faculty Senate President Muhammad called for additions to *the agenda*. Faculty Senate Vice President Cortese stated that there should be an addition regarding the status of the General Education Task Force. Kasik made the motion to approve the agenda with stated addition; Cortese seconded; the agenda with stated addition was approved by unanimous voice vote.
3. *Update on GSU Website* by Bruce Crooks and Rhonda Brown:
 Bruce Crooks provided answers to questions regarding the new GSU website. First addressed was the difficulty in finding information through the A to Z Index; for example, not all majors/programs are listed. Mr. Crooks stated that the public website is

now a marketing tool; student-centered materials have been moved to the the portal (MyGSU). He suggested using the search field to find specific information; he also asked that complaints and concerns about what is linked, etc., should be sent to ITS and to Marketing. A second issue addressed was that of broken links (i.e., Error 404 messages). Mr. Crooks stated that they hope to have the number of problems in this area down to 20 by Friday (Jan. 17). A third concern voiced was that of documents formerly posted at the Provost's webpage; sunshine laws might require these be available to the public. Mr. Crooks noted that the content owners and managers of each page are responsible for knowing what materials should be on the public website vs. the portal.

Rhonda Brown provided a history of the changes in the GSU website. She stated that two years ago a consultant was hired and a committee was formed with the goal of redesigning the website so that it would function as a marketing tool; subcommittees were formed to represent the various content owners and content managers. A senator noted that there was a problem with the focus being entirely on marketing and also that the process was led by civil servants and administrators; there seems to have been a lack of consideration of faculty and advising needs.

4. *Administrative Updates:*

Pres. Maimon: President Maimon stated that the Renaissance 2014 project is more than just admitting freshmen and instituting student housing for the first time in GSU's history. She said that there is a connection between GSU's past traditions and fulfilling the needs of a full-service university. President Maimon noted that there has been good publicity regarding the general education plans, and she thanked the Faculty Senate for its participation in preparing for fall 2014. President Maimon ended her report with a description of the activities of the Transfer Student Orientation, which was taking place today (Jan. 16).

Provost Bordelon: Provost Bordelon stated that this is an exciting semester of preparations for becoming a full-service university. Provost Bordelon responded to the item on the agenda regarding the internal search for a new associate provost. She stated that the position replaces Colleen Rock's position. The position involves leading GSU's efforts in assessing student learning outcomes in connection with HLC; the new associate provost will assist Assoc. Provost Mayfield with committee (UCC and APRC) and curriculum processes. Preparation for the mid-cycle HLC review and GSU catalog work also will be part of the new associate provost's responsibilities. The reason the search is internal is that the position requires GSU institutional knowledge. In response to a question, Provost Bordelon stated that this will be an addition to the other two associate provost positions; the three will have equal status. Provost Bordelon clarified the mention

of an “Academic Council” in the job posting; it is a monthly, expanded Dean’s Council that includes chairs. Provost Bordelon will consider the proposal to include a representative of the Faculty Senate in the Academic Council meetings. Provost

Bordelon stated that there will be several events in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr., including a day of service for students on the Jan. 20 holiday. There was a discussion about the request for faculty biographies; specifically, some senators expressed concerns about how much consistency in voice, style, etc., should be required. In response to a question about use of the title “clinical faculty” from a senator, Associate Provost Latham stated that it is being discussed in contract negotiations.

Provost Bordelon reported on freshmen admissions. She stated that 87 applications had been approved for admission; 4 of the 87 have confirmed enrollment by placing deposits; about 25 are awaiting decisions regarding direct admission vs. required early start program. Provost Bordelon noted that April 1 is the application deadline and numbers of applications will likely increase in the next few months.

Both Provost Bordelon and President Maimon addressed a question about career services. Provost Bordelon stated that they are looking for ways to connect with corporations, hold more career fairs, etc. President Maimon stated that there is a focus on creating more on-campus employment; this will make students' lives more manageable. As an example, she pointed to the need for resident assistants in the Prairie Place residence hall.

(President Maimon, Provost Bordelon, and Associate Provost Latham left the meeting at 2:15.)

5. *Disabilities Statement for Syllabi*

Faculty Senate President Muhammad stated that the revised Disability Statement is ready for this semester’s syllabi (see attached UCC report). Senator Washington expressed her concerns regarding the wording of the revised statement. For example, it should say "reasonable" accommodations rather than "alternate" in order to make it clearer what faculty members are required to do. Faculty should not even be asked to make accommodations unless the student has registered with the ASSD office and reasonable accommodations have been identified, so wording needs to be adjusted. Cortese made the motion to have Faculty Senate President Muhammad and Senator Washington meet with Robin Sweeney of ASSD to discuss these concerns; Ijose seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

6. *Faculty Senate Budget and Planning Committee*: Faculty Senate President Muhammad announced that volunteers are needed for membership on this new Senate standing

committee. She requested that anyone who is interested in serving on this committee contact her.

7. *General Education Task Force*: Faculty Senate Vice President Cortese stated that the General Education Task Force has not provided a final proposal of the program and curriculum for the cohorts; a student study plan with clear progress of the cohorts is still needed. Cortese made the motion to invite a representative of the General Education Task Force to the next Faculty Senate Executive Committee meeting; Golland seconded. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

8. *Faculty Reports*:

Board of Trustees (BOT) Committees: See attached written reports. Essex asked about the Concealed Carry Policy mentioned in the report from the Board of Trustees Finance and Budget Subcommittee. Faculty Senate President Muhammad stated that she will check on it.

IBHE Faculty Advisory Committee : See written report from Cortese. Cortese noted that budget issues are ongoing focus. In addition, applications for IBHE-FAC Faculty Fellows funding are due March 3.

University Curriculum Committee: Ijose read the report from UCC Chair Parin. See attached written report.

Academic Program Review Committee: Winicki read a report from Gandy. APRC has not met yet this semester; it will meet on Jan. 30. APRC is waiting for revisions to the two programs mentioned at the last Senate meeting.

Graduate Studies Council: Tymkow announced that Dr. Joseph Murphy from Vanderbilt University will be leading a discussion of capstone projects on Jan. 23; Dr. L. Danley in the Division of Education has information about this event.

Educational Policy Committee: Tamulis stated that EPC had a long meeting on Dec. 12 and several policies were reviewed and are nearly ready to be presented to Senate.

Bargaining Unit: Negotiations updates can be found at <https://iftweb.ift-aft.org/4100/563/home>

Executive Committee: Faculty Senate President Muhammad stated that she will email the report she made to the Board of Trustees on Dec. 6 (see attached).

9. *Announcements*:

Faculty Senate President Muhammad announced that Dr. Randall Horton, an award-winning poet, will be presenting at 7:00 p.m. on Jan. 22 in the Center for Performing Arts Lobby.

Senator Golland announced that there will be a series of events to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act; the movie *Boycott* will be shown on Jan. 28.

Adjournment: 2:50 p.m.

Next Meeting: February 20, 2014, 1:00-3:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Winicki
Faculty Senate Secretary

Attachments:

- Report from Board of Trustees Finance and Budget Subcommittee
- Report from Board of Trustees Academic Affairs Subcommittee
- Report from IBHE-FAC
- Report from University Curriculum Committee (UCC)
- Report to Board of Trustees by Faculty Senate President Muhammad, 12/6/13

To: Faculty Senate

From: Susan Ji, Faculty Senate Representative to the Board of Trustees' Budget and Finance Committee

Re: Report on the Board of Trustees' Budget and Finance Committee Meeting on December 6, 2013

Date: December 23, 2013

The Board of Trustees' Budget and Finance Committee convened at 10 am on Friday, December 6, 2013. Attendees include all trustees, President Maimon, Provost Bordelon, faculty senate representatives to the Budget and Finance Committee (Walter Henne, absent; Susan Ji, present) and various guests. Below is a summary of the meeting; details follow in a pdf document.

Information Items

1. Report on purchases \$50,000-\$99,999, September 16, 2013-November 15, 2013

<u>Vendor</u>	<u>Contract</u>	<u>Total Cost</u>
Chicago Heights Construction	Construction work, nursing lab	\$51,827.00
The Hollins Group	Employee search form services	\$63,000.00

2. FY2014 Operating Budget:

With the total remaining the same, the proposed budget for FY2014 was revised to reflect some slight changes in fund allocation.

3. Internal Auditor, David E. Dixon, prepared the annual report for 2012-2013.

4. First reading of board policy on concealed carry.

On December 20, General Counsel Kennedy circulated the document to the GSU community. Further discussion will be at the next Board meeting.

Action Items

5. Minutes approved for the meeting on March 11, 2011

6. Minutes approved for the meeting on October 11, 2013

7. The contract for gym renovation was awarded to Chicago Heights Construction for \$154,500.

8. The contract for commencement venue was awarded to Tinley Park Convention Center for \$300,000.

**Report to the Faculty Senate
Concerning the recent meeting of the
Academic Affairs Committee of the
Board of Trustees
January, 2014**

The Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees met on Friday, October 11, 2013 at 8:30 am. Present were all members of the Board of Trustees, President Maimon, Provost Bordelon, 2 faculty representatives to the Academic Affairs Committee (David Golland-CAS, Shaalein Lopez-COE) and various guests.

Following is a summary of the agenda items covered during this meeting:

A. Information Items

1. GSU Program Accreditation Status Summary as of December 2013

The following updates were reported:

- a. In the College of Business and Public Administration: CBPA submitted its first Plan Implementation Reports (PIR) to the Initial Accreditation Committee (IAC) of AACSB on April 28, 2013. The plan was reviewed at the IAC's July 9, 2013 meeting where it was approved. The IAC recommended that Governors State University enter the Initial Accreditation process. CBPA submitted a letter of application for Initial Accreditation to the IAC on September 13, 2013, requesting an initial accreditation visit in fall, 2015. IAC has appointed a Peer Review Team and set our self-evaluation year as 2014-1. The Peer Review Team visit has been scheduled for October, 2015.
- b. In the College of Health and Human Services: The Health Administration undergraduate program received certification continuing through 2019 by the Association of University Programs in Health Administration (AUPHA). The program has been asked to submit a report to UAPHA by December 1, 2014 providing information on progress the program has made toward addressing criteria that were partially met. The Masters in Health Administration Program (MHA submitted the self-study in preparation for a reaccreditation visit from the Commission on Accreditation of Health Management Education (CAHME). The on-site visit will be rescheduled in April or May 2014.
- c. In the College of Education: The Family Development Center (FDC) received accreditation through the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) in fall 2012. The Preschool for all 3-5 program has been selected for a monitoring visit by the Illinois State Board of Education, with a visit between September 2013 and April 2014. The Early Head Start program will be reviewed by a Federal Monitoring team with a visit sometime prior to September 30, 2014. This may be an unannounced visit. The DCFS child care license will be renewed within the next 30-90

days with an inspection from DCFS.

The Interdisciplinary Leadership Doctorate has submitted the superintendent concentration for ISBE approval. ISBE review is scheduled for December 6, 2013.

The Counseling MA and EdD programs continue to be under review for their reaccreditation by the Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs (CACREP). Additional information was requested of the programs; therefore, a six-month extension was granted for its original review date of fall 2013. The self-study document was submitted in January 2013.

2. Annual Listings

Proposals for the following new programs were reportedly to be forwarded to IBHE pending final revisions for the Faculty Senate Committees, UCC and APRC:

ANNUAL LISTINGS (AL)			
Level	Type of Program	Discipline	Description
1. Undergrad	Minor	Economics	The undergraduate minor in economics is an 18-credit hour sequence of courses for non-economics majors who wish to gain knowledge and expertise in economics as paired with another degree program. The minor includes four required and two selective courses from a set of courses offered for the recently (April and June 2013) IBHE-approved BS and BA degrees in Economics. Since the minor consists of existing courses in the undergraduate economics program, no additional courses, faculty, or resources are needed beyond those already included in the budget for

<p>2. Undergrad</p>	<p>Minor in Gaming Design</p>	<p>Computer Science</p>	<p>The minor in Game Design is appropriate for those students who apply computer graphic principles in the field of computer game development and real-time simulations. It provides a new choice for our students as well as offers advanced courses for our transfer students from community colleges with game design as their major. The 18-credit-hour minor consists of five required and one elective course.</p> <p>Game development is becoming more popular by demand and is no longer limited to big budget console games. Students who are drawn to this minor will mainly be computer science students with an interest in video game design and programming. Others will be students</p>
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			<p>from Art, IFDI, and Communication programs who want to develop technical skills on game development and programming.</p> <p>The minor provides game art and design fundamentals for individuals desiring to be a video game programmer, an entry-level 3D artist in a game production company, or a mobile game developer for devices such as iPad, iPod, and Androids. Other career opportunities include software development in education and training, simulation, and interactive entertainment.</p> <p>In general, the Gaming Design minor will be staffed by full-time and adjunct faculty and staff in the Computer Science program. No new hardware will be needed, and space needs will be met through both current space and additional space after the renovation.</p>
3. Undergrad	Minor in 3-D Animation	Art	<p>The 3D Animation Minor is designed for undergraduate students with an interest in creating animated shorts and interactive applications. Using industry-standard modeling and animation software, students will experience all aspects of 3D animation production; including design, modeling, rigging, animating, rendering, and visual effect. These students will be well equipped to partake in the demand for highly skilled job opportunities including 3D modeler, 3D animator, 3D layout artist, technical director, special effect artist, and lighting or texture artist.</p> <p>The 18-credit-hour minor fills a void in our current digital imaging, film, and computer science programs. It will attract students from varied disciplines, including art, computer science and film. Existing full-time and adjunct faculty are capable of serving this need and will be adjusted accordingly for the demand. Presently,</p>

B. Action Items

1. Approval of Minutes from October 11, 2013: The Minutes were approved.

2. Request for New Unit of instruction (RNUI): Bachelor of Arts in Theater and Performance Studies

BACKGROUND: The Division of Communication, Visual and Performing Arts within the College of Arts and Sciences at Governors State University (GSU) proposes to expand its bachelor-level offerings to include a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and Performance Studies (TAPS). Consistent with GSU's Academic Master Plan, a minor in TAPS successfully was implemented in the fall of 2013, and a BA program in TAPS is being proposed for implementation in 2014. The TAPS program seeks to prepare students who can bring to their professions and communities an appreciation for the performing arts as well as a commitment to justice, compassion, and responsible involvement in our increasingly diverse environment. The program is committed to enhancing students' artistic abilities and sensibilities, leadership capacities, collaborative team building, creative expression, and critical thought.

ANALYSIS: Currently most public and private universities and colleges offer theatre programs, but there are *no* public institutions in the State of Illinois that offer a *combined* Bachelor's degree in Theatre *and* Performance Studies. This fact alone will allow GSU a unique opportunity to attract students and stimulate interest and growth in this combined degree. In addition, GSU will be the only public university to confer a bachelor's degree in theatre and performance studies between Chicago and Urbana-Champaign, making it a significant untapped resource for Chicago's south suburbs and rural "ring" counties.

3. Appointment of a University Task Force for Open Access per Public Act 098-0295

In accordance with Public Act 098-0295 - Open Access to Research Articles Act, Governors State University must establish a task force appointed by the Board of Trustees by January 1, 2014. This task force will consist of voting and non-voting members representing faculty, library, administration and academic publishers. Listed below are the members of GSU's Open Access to Research Task Force.

Deborah E. Bordelon	Provost Office	Voting Member/Co-Chair
Lydia Morrow-Ruetten	Dean, Library	Voting Member/Co-Chair
Carlos Ferran	Faculty - CBPA	Voting Member/UIP Rep
David Golland	Faculty - CAS	Voting Member/Faculty Senate Rep
Walter Henne	Faculty - CAS	Voting Member/Faculty Rep
Elizabeth Cada	Dean, CHHS and Graduate Studies	Voting Member/Administration Rep
Michael Springer	Senior Vice President, Business & Publishing American Dental Association	Non-voting Member/ Publisher Rep

4. Approval of Emeritus Status - Dr. Jagan Lingamneni

The following information was shared regarding Dr. Lindamneni whose emeritus status was approved:

Fifty tenured/tenure track faculty members were eligible to vote on emeritus status. 27 ballots were received electronically by the close of business on Tuesday, November 19, 2013. 26 faculty members voted in favor of granting Emeritus status to Dr. Lingamneni, which represents a majority (52%) of the college.

Dr. Lingamneni has been at Governors State University for 33 years. His primary teaching area has been Criminal Justice. In his service to GSU, Dr. Lingamneni has served as the Program Coordinator of the Criminal Justice program, Chairperson of the University Personnel Committee, Chairperson of the Academic Program Review Committee, Board of Trustees Liaison, and President of the Faculty Senate.

Dr. Lingamneni has contributed widely to the field of Criminal Justice with over 60 publications, papers and presentations throughout his career. His over 33 years of service to Governors State University warrants the awarding of Emeritus status.

C. A period of public response was allowed though no issues were raised by guests attending the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shaalein Lopez, Assistant Professor

Faculty Representative to the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees

January 16, 2013

IBHE FACULTY ADVISORY COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE FACULTY

ILLINOIS BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION

DECEMBER 13 2013 MEETING

<http://www.ibhe-fac.org/>

NOTE: This meeting was the 50th Anniversary of IBHE FAC, so a number of agenda items were abbreviated. The winter storm led to a 1:40pm adjournment, tabling Caucus discussions for January.

Meeting began at 9:00am with an announcement that the 2014 meeting schedule for the IBHE has been released; the FAC will meet with the Board on April 1st at the College of Lake County. In addition, at the last IBHE meeting Dr. James Applegate was named the new Executive Director.

The morning meeting consisted of panelists' reflections of 50 years of IBHE, including the challenges and successes of the organization.

Meeting convened in afternoon with a presentation by Dan Cullen of IBHE Academic Affairs to present the following (***FYI ONLY***):

At IBHE Academic Affairs, there is an initiative to streamline granting authority for Illinois institutions to offer distance education to out of state students, involving state authorization reciprocity agreements.

IBHE Academic Affairs are also working on CCS-PARCC assessment, the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI, which needs to be faculty driven from all sectors), college credit transfer initiatives, transitioning from the military to higher education (credit transfer possibilities), and streamlining the process of meeting new rules for licensing elementary education students (being broken into two degree programs).

Matt Berry from IBHE went over his previously distributed PowerPoint presentation on the FY14 budget review and the outlook for FY15, with primary results that the state appropriations has decreased 17.6% (\$427MM) from its FY 2002 peak, and for public universities, a \$2.1MM increase from FY 2013 is being allocated according to the IBHE model of performance-based allocation. Electronic Version of PowerPoint can be attached to report.

Three-Year Budget shows a deficit (attached), so funding is a serious issue for public universities even in an economic recovery. (***FYI ONLY***)

The next round of IBHE Faculty Fellows (<http://www.ibhe.org/Fellows/facultyFellows.htm>) is available with a March 3, 2014 deadline for applications. (***ACTION REQUIRED BY INTERESTED FACULTY***)

Respectively submitted,
Daniel K. Cortese, Ph.D.
IBHE – FAC Representative
Faculty Senate Vice President

GOVERNORS STATE UNIVERSITY
UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE
UCC Report to Faculty Senate: January 13, 2014 & Happy New Year!

I. UCC, is happy to report that all submissions received through October 25, 2013 have been reviewed and a majority approved. UCC is waiting for a few returned submissions for final approval but other than that we are ready to roll forward into 2014.

II. At this time, there has been NO date set, for submissions of the Gen Ed syllabi due date. UCC asks that everyone do their best to submit these course proposals as quickly as possible.

III. Additionally, if there are any number changes that need to occur or be corrected, before the Freshman arrive, please submit those requests in as quickly as possible.

IV. On the new GSU website, the UCC forms have been relocated to:

Go into “My GSU”

Under faculty senate page

On the left hand side of the page under “Site Links,” Click on “Documents”

On this page, you should see several categories. Under “Category: Forms,” press the “+”

V. UCC reviewed and approved the new disability statement and is asking for faculty senate to review the statement for possible recommendations and /or approval:

Disability Statement – Revision 1/9/14 – based on UCC recommendations:

GSU is committed to providing all students equal access to university programs and facilities. Students who need accommodations based on disability should contact the Director of Access Services for Students with Disabilities (ASSD). Students must register with ASSD before faculty are required to provide alternative accommodations. For more information or to register, please contact the Director of ASSD (Room B1215 or assd@govst.edu or [708-235-3968](tel:708-235-3968)). To ensure that learning needs are met, contact ASSD the first week of classes.

VI. UCC, again will meet Mondays from 1:00 – 3:00. Our first meeting for 2014 will be on Monday, January 27th. If there are any questions please contact myself at Beth Pain at bparin@govst.edu or UCC at UCC@govst.edu

Kind Regards, UCC

Report prepared by Beth Parin-Norris, UCC Chair

Report presented by Olumide Ijose

Board of Trustees Meeting

Report from Faculty Senate President Rashidah Jaami` Muhammad

December 6, 2013

Good Afternoon

As always I want to start by thanking the Board of Trustees for this opportunity to share with you the workings and concerns of the GSU Faculty. We do not want to take for granted this opportunity to participate in shared governance. Author and human rights advocate, James Baldwin once said, "The world changes according to the way people see it, and if you can alter even by a millimeter, the way a person looks at reality, then you can change it." Nelson Mandela changed the way we look at the world. Nelson Mandela changed the world. He said, "Education is most powerful weapon you can use the change the world." As the GSU faculty we honor Mandela's life and his work by taking up his challenge to continue to provide education that will change the world. Acknowledging Mandela's gifts to the world, Pres. Obama said, "Let's us pause and give thanks that Nelson Mandela lived." Truly we have become better humans by Mandela's promotions of peace.

Mindful of the life work of Nelson Mandela, this season of thanksgiving, and the end of remarkable year, GSU has much to be celebrated. We had 21 for Thanksgiving dinner our son and daughters and their spouses, 10 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren. I thought the food would be beyond cold by the time everyone got in their "I am thankful for. . ." so I will try not to take as long as my family, but GSU has much to be thankful for . . . First, We, the faculty, applaud the Maimon administration that has led the charge to change the GSU reality.

Our moves to a full-service four-year university have been incredible: we have a first-year curriculum in place; we have expanded and added new academic programs; we have hired amazing new faculty and we are on target to hire 23 additional faculty members before the first-year students arrive; and our residence hall is near completion. I slow down on my drive in every day, just to check out the progress.

As we prepare for FA 2014, the GSU faculty has some significant concerns:

- (1) Faculty Scheduling to accommodate both day/night classes, the number of hours /days required to be on campus. The workloads will have to be adjusted so that faculty members are not teaching early morning and late night or all day. Considering: teaching, advising, research, course preparation and service, there should be a productive limit to the number of hours faculty are required to be on campus.
- (2) Scheduling: The Faculty Senate is very student-centered and agrees with purpose for an open campus meeting time (for student club meetings, etc.). However, the Senate is opposed to scheduling this time 3:15 to 4:30 PM

every Tuesday and Thursday. A Friday time slot would be more appropriate. Not being able to offer classes during the 3:15 to 4:30 time-frame or classes that may run into this time frame is problematic and will seriously undermine our ability to offer our programs. Courses that are scheduled to run with the lab following would have to be rescheduled.

Courses may have to be offered in shorter blocks of time on multiple days or less often during the academic year, which may mean that a 1 ½ year to two program completion may turn into a 2 ½ to three or more year program completion cycle. While we are preparing for the first-year students we have to continue to consider the needs of our transfer and graduate students.

- (3) Academic Calendar: The consensus of the Faculty Senate is that there must set dates for student withdrawals and instructor grade submissions for courses taught in the 15 week term, exceptions can be made for short term courses.
- (4) Handicapped Parking. I am told that GSU is in compliance concerning the number of handicapped parking spaces. But it hardly seems to be in compliance when handicapped individuals have to park across the street several yards from the entrance or when handicapped students, faculty and staff have to park across the street when those individuals driving fuel efficient cars can park right outside the E and F wing entrance. The handicapped parking situation needs to be re-examined in light of the needs of the GSU population.

Our concerns are few; our challenges are many, but as long as we are working together: the faculty, staff, administration, and students we will be successful! We are poised to be the model university for the 21st century.

Thank you, Peace.

Rashidah Jaami` Muhammad, Ph.D.

President, GSU Faculty Senate,

Professor of English and Secondary Education,

Academic Coordinator, BA and MA in English Programs