



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

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Minutes of the Georgetown University Senate

Monday September 11, 2006
Leavey Program Room
(approved 10/10/06)

PRESENT: Andrews, Barbari, Bates, D. Betz, P. Betz, Boettcher, R. Clarke, Cleary, Connor-
Linton, Davis, De Fina, Diamond, Dimolitsas, Engler, Friedman, Gale, Glazer,
Goldfrank, Iglarsh, Jung, Keesling, Kirpatrick, Lamiell, R. Manuel, S. Mueller,
Norton, G. Owens, Pedrick, Rebeck, Ronkainen, Shad, Shambaugh, Sheppard,
Singer, Tinkcom, Toporowicz, Vroman, L. Walters, Witek , Yearwood.

ABSENT: Aleinikoff, Bennett, S. Bloch, Bondurant, D. Brown, Byren, Canzoneri, S.Cohn,
Cumby, G. Daly, Dominique, Eagles, Ernst, Fink (sabb. fall '06), Haft, Hirsch,
Kertesz, Larsen, Lieber, McCabe, McFadden, S.J., Moran Cruz (excused fall '06),
E.Moore, Morrell, J.Murphy, R.Oakley, J. O'Donnell, J. McAuliffe, O'Malley,
Pfeiffer, S. Ross, Sistrunk, Soldin, K.Taylor, J. Verbalis, L. Walker, J. Walsh, T.
Walsh, C. Weiss, Weidenbruch.

GUESTS: Charles De Santis (Associate Vice-President of Faculty and Staff Benefits), Molly
Huntsman (GUMC), Gloria Massaro, Marcia Mintz, Sue Mulroney

Business: The meeting was called to order at 4:20 p.m. and adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

1. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of May 17, 2006

Motion #1: that the minutes of the previous meeting (Wed, May 17, 2006) be approved without
amendment. The motion was seconded and passed as follows:

Table with 3 columns: Aye, Nay, Abstain. Values: 28, 0, 3

2. Introduction of new members

Senators recently elected for the first time to serve on the senate were introduced to the existing senators.

3. Elect a Vice-President for the Main Campus

Since Tony Arend is no longer a Senator, his position needs to be filled for the rest of his term. The Steering Committee placed before the Senate the nomination of Jeff Connor-Linton (Linguistics) to fill out this vacancy. Nominations from the floor were solicited but none was forthcoming. A motion was proposed and seconded:

Motion #2: that the period for accepting nominations for the Vice President for the Main Campus be closed. The amended motion passed as follows:

Aye	Nay	Abstain
30	1	1

A subsequent motion was proposed and seconded:

Motion #3: that Jeff Connor-Linton (Linguistics) be appointed as the Vice President for the Main Campus. The motion passed as follows:

Aye	Nay	Abstain
31	0	1

4. Replacement for Jeff Peck as the Senate representative to the Main Campus Executive Committee

The Steering Committee placed before the Senate the nomination of Jeff Connor-Linton (Linguistics) to replace Jeff Peck. A motion was proposed and seconded:

Motion #4: that Jeff Connor-Linton (Linguistics) be appointed as the Senate representative to the Main Campus Executive Committee. The motion passed as follows:

Aye	Nay	Abstain
33	0	1

5. Update on the resolution of concern for Dr. Waskar Ari

The Senate had previously voted to adopt a resolution of concern regarding the issue of Dr. Waskar Ari, a GU graduate who was denied a visa to return to the U.S. to take up a position at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln. Wayne Davis updated the Senate and noted that he had been contacted by a representative from the Department of Homeland Security on July 4th. However, no further contact has been forthcoming, despite repeated attempts to contact the Department. Wayne Davis will continue to keep the Senate informed of any further developments regarding Dr. Ari's case.

6. Update on the appointments issue

As requested at the last Senate meeting, the issue of the process of appointments precipitated by the discussion initiated from the floor (relating to the appointment of Douglas Feith) was briefly considered. Wayne Davis advised the Senate that a subcommittee has been formed and charged to examine the existing process for appointments and to explore whether this process has been appropriately followed with respect to recent appointments. The committee will report to the Senate and provide recommendations as needed. The committee members are LeRoy Walters, Jo Ann Moran Cruz, and Tony Arend.

7. Presentation by Spiros Dimolitsas and Charles DeSantis on new benefits options

Spiros Dimolitsas introduced Charles DeSantis, the recently appointed Associate Vice President for Faculty and Staff benefits. A new medical plan will be added - a point of service, open access plan from CareFirst. The new plan will offer several choices and differences from existing plans, e.g., no referrals will be needed for access to in-network specialists or out-of-network physicians. The plan has a large local HMO network and offers guest privileges for faculty working at other institutions or with family members studying outside the local area. A new dental plan will be introduced to replace the existing plan that will sunset this year. The plan also is offered by CareFirst and it was selected in close consultation with faculty; five plans were fully examined during the selection process. A vision health program also will be offered for the first time in several years. The plan is to be provided by EyeMed. A web-based tool will be provided to enable faculty and staff to choose among the various exiting and new plans. The Choose Tool should be available before November 1st. Furthermore, there will be several town meetings and mailings to publicize the changes and to inform GU community members. Charles DeSantis offered to attend faculty meetings and other appropriate faculty groups to explain further the details of these new plans. He can be contacted by email at ced33@georgetown.edu.

8. Review of Faculty Handbook revisions

The Senate Governance Committee has been meeting weekly for the last couple of years on a major revision to the Faculty Handbook. It believes that the first instalment of that revision is nearly ready to go out to the faculty for university wide discussion and then hopefully on to the Board of Directors for approval this academic year. One of the goals of the revision is to have a clear separation of the Faculty Handbook proper (which is part of every faculty member's contract) from other information and policies that are in the 1999 Faculty Handbook. A proposed outline of the overall "University Policy Resource for Faculty," was presented. This outline includes the Faculty Handbook as a definitive subsection. The outline was discussed at length. Among the criteria for separating out several sections from the handbook were that the issues relate to faculty, that they are contractually binding, and that these sections are governed by a specific revision procedure. It was recommended that Tab A – Introduction be removed from the Resource document, since this information is freely available elsewhere. Concern was raised that key sections now excluded from the Handbook (and now included into a section entitled "Tab C - Other University Policies") should be referenced and more clearly incorporated as part of the Handbook. For example, the Sexual Harassment and Consensual Relations policy and the Intellectual property policy apply to all members of the community but these were considered to contain important contractual rights, responsibilities, and protections for faculty. No final resolution of how best to accommodate these and similar key university policies was achieved and the organization of the Handbook will be reconsidered at a later date.

