



GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY SENATE

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MINUTES OF THE GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY FACULTY SENATE

**Monday, October 15, 2007, 4:15 p.m.
In Leavey Center
(approved 11/14/07)**

PRESENT: Bates, D.Betz, Boettcher, Canzoneri, R.Clarke, Connor-Linton, Cumby, Davis, DeFina, Engler, Fink, Friedman, K.Gale, Goldfrank, Iglarsh, G.Kirkpatrick, Lamiell, J.Larsen, Leister, Lieber, Malkova, McFadden, S.J., S.Mueller, P.O'Connor, P.O'Malley, Osgood, Pfeiffer, Rebeck, Salles-Reese, V.Sheppard, Toporowicz, J.Turner, Vroman, J.Walsh, S.J., C.Weiss, Witek, S.J., Yearwood.

ABSENT: A.Abraham, Aleinikoff, Andrews, Arend, Barbari, Bennett, Bloch, Byrne (lv. 07-08), Cleary, S.Cohn, Marilee Cole, J. Collins, G.Daly, Diamond, Dimolitsas, Dominique (lv fall 07), Eagles, Ecelbarger, Ernst, Federoff, Haft, Hirsh, Jung, Keesling, Kertez, R.Manuel, J.McAuliffe, McCabe, E.Moore, MoranCruz, Morrell, J.Murphy, Norton, J.O'Donnell, J.Peck, Ronkainen, S.Ross, Shad, Shambaugh, Singer, Soldin, Taylor, T.Walsh, Walters (sabb fall 07), Weidenbruch, Wylen.

GUESTS: John Pierce (Univ. Registrar), Mahe Vilauthapillai (Computer Science), Denise Seeley (Registrar, Law C.), Deborah Naylor (Assoc. Registrar, Law C.), Kevin C. Murphy (CIO & Dir., Network & Computing Systems, UIS) Carrie Gillotte (Dir., Banner Blue & Gray Project, UIS), Marcia Mintz (Assoc. Provost), Anne Ridder (Assist. Dean, Sch. of Continuing Studies), Norma Tilden (Eng.), Jeanne Walther (Assoc. Dean, Registrar, Sch. of Medicine)

Business: The meeting was called to order at 4:17 p.m.

At that time, Senate President Wayne Davis, notified the Senate about the sudden death of Professor and Law Librarian Robert Oakley, who died unexpectedly on Saturday, September 29, of cardiac arrest. After noting Bob Oakley's significant contributions to the University and the Faculty Senate during his twenty five years at

Georgetown Law, Professor Davis asked the Senate to observe a moment of silence in Bob's honor and memory.

To read more about Bob's life and significant accomplishments, please visit *Remembering Bob Oakley* <http://www.ll.georgetown.edu/about/oakley/>.

1. Briefing by John Pierce, University Registrar, on the Student Information System (SIS) redesign project, highlighting key decisions faculty will be interested in.

John Pierce, University Registrar, presented an extensive overview on the Student Information System (SIS) redesign project and introduced the Project Executive Director and members of the Project Core Team. Key points centered on the following:

1. What does the Core System, SIS Plus, do now – and why replacement?

The Core System, owned by SGHE, supports Student and Faculty Access+, and through data transfers, other services like Blackboard, dining, Yates, Library, NetID/GOCard and more. The Core System, which is almost 20 years old, will not be supported by SGHE after 2011.

2. What are we installing to replace SIS Plus? Why Banner? What is the project timeline?

SGHE (SCT) Banner was selected unanimously. Some schools that use it include: Notre Dame, Virginia Tech, George Mason, and George Washington. All of the offices currently using SIS Plus **and** Graduate Admissions will use the new system. Some key timelines include: admissions processing will begin in October 2008. All processing for Fall 2009 will be in Banner.

3. How is the project being supervised?

The Provost is the Executive Sponsor responsible for requirements; the Senior VP, CFO, University Registrar, and CIO hold specific responsibilities, with the Project Executive Director responsible for CORE and Advisory Teams.

4. How will this change affect Faculty Access+ services?

Access+ will be replaced with a modified version of Banner Self-Service and eventually a self-service application developed by SGHE and GU. Faculty and students will have an important role on the Self-Service Advisory Tem where many decisions will need to be made, such as how to handle photos and connecting grades/Blackboard.

Mr. Pierce presented additional information about the Project Vision and its Objectives, and provided a listing of Advisory teams. Three teams are in formation – Self Service, Student Affairs, and School of Continuing Studies. Additional faculty representation would be welcomed.

2. Approval of the minutes of the September 11, 2007 meeting. A motion that the minutes be approved, as revised, was proposed:

Motion #1: that the minutes of the previous meeting (Tuesday, September 11, 2007) be approved, with minor modifications. The modifications include changing the term three-year to one-year in section 3.f.; in section 3.g. open-ended was changed to three-year appointment. The motion was seconded and passed as follows:

Aye	Nay	Abstain
36	0	3

3. Briefing by Charles DeSantis, Associate Vice President for Benefits, on proposed changes in benefits.

Mr. DeSantis will present information at the November meeting.

4. Consideration of a recommendation by the Main Campus Executive Faculty (MCEF) concerning reporting of reasons for negative rank and tenure decisions (attached).

As Professor Cumby (Chair, MCEF) explained, there were two primary concerns that the MCEF had regarding fairness to Main Campus candidates for tenure or promotion or both who receive a negative decision and desire clarity concerning the reasons for that decision. The first concern was the candidate's lack of understanding/knowledge about the reasons for an adverse outcome, thus making it difficult for a candidate to determine whether or not s/he should reapply the following year or appeal the current decision. The second concern was the inadequate understanding of the University's standards for promotion and tenure. Having transparency concerning the rationale for a negative tenure decision would begin to write some case law which would help departments and their faculties be informed about what the standards are.

Motion #2: that the motion on Transparency Concerning the Rationale for a Negative Tenure Decision be approved with the following changes (changes are bolded).

For all cases in which its vote is negative or significantly divided (three or more negative votes), the **Senate** recommends that the University Committee on Rank and Tenure (UCRT) provide a rationale for the vote (including the pros as well as the cons) that is as detailed as possible and incorporated into the minutes. The **Senate** further recommends that the President provide an explanation if his or her reasons for a negative decision diverge from those in the UCRT's rationale. When explaining the reasons for the President's negative decision to the candidate and the relevant deans and chairs, the Provost **or campus Executive Vice President** can and should use the resulting text.

The motion was seconded and passed as follows:

Aye	Nay	Abstain
34	0	1

5. Review of a proposed change in the Faculty Handbook to eliminate the possibility of granting tenure to a faculty member who has not been promoted to the rank of Associate Professor (attached). The Senate approved this change last year, on the recommendation of our Committee on Academic Freedom (CAFR). However, CAFR's recommendation (attached) was written on the assumption that the more sweeping changes to the Faculty Rights and Responsibility Section of the Handbook would already be in place. Approval of that whole revision is likely to take some time, but the targeted CAFR recommendation should proceed very swiftly.

Motion #3: that Section III "Faculty Policies and Procedures," Section D. 1. be amended as follows (amendments are bolded):

D. APPOINTMENTS, RANK, AND TENURE

Contents

1. Faculty

All officers of instruction are members of the faculty [9] of the University although assigned to service in distinct schools. A faculty member has a primary appointment in only one department, but may have secondary appointments in one or more units (departments, programs or schools).

Those officers of instruction who by reason of their qualifications have been appointed to one of the four full-time tenure-eligible academic ranks (which in ascending order are Instructor, Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, and Professor) constitute the ORDINARY FACULTY of the University. **A tenured faculty member must hold the rank of Associate Professor or Professor.**¹

The President and, by delegated authority, the Provost or appropriate Executive Vice President are authorized to appoint officers of instruction with such specialized titles as visiting professor, professorial lecturer, lecturer, laboratory instructor, professor (at a specified location), research professor, research associate, adjunct professor and clinical professor.

~~— In exceptional circumstances, an appointment may be made to the position of Instructor of one who does not meet the requirements for appointment to the Ordinary Faculty, but whose teaching ability is superior.~~

~~Such Instructor may be reappointed without limit of years. While not a member of the Ordinary Faculty, such Instructor may, after ten years of service to the University, be promoted to the rank of Assistant Professor if exceptional circumstances so warrant. Because the position is not one contemplated within the Ordinary Faculty, neither reappointment as Instructor nor promotion to Assistant Professor confers tenure or eligibility therefore, no further promotion shall be permitted.~~

Although academic administrators, librarians, [10] and registrars do not have tenure, they share in certain rights and privileges of the faculty. They receive the educational and general benefits accorded to officers of instruction.

~~This clause restricting tenure to Associate Professors and Professors does not apply to faculty who were granted tenure prior to [effective date].~~

The motion was seconded and passed as follows:

Aye	Nay	Abstain
31	0	0

Motion #4: A motion to adjourn was proposed, seconded, and adopted by unanimous consent.

JL/WAD/jhg
(11/15/07)