

COMMITTEE NAME: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS) WITH STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS (SCC)

MEETING DATE & TIME: FRIDAY, JANUARY 5, 2024, 3:30-4:45 P.M.

MEETING LOCATION: ZOOM

ATTENDANCE:

MEMBERS		“P” denotes Present, “A” denotes Absent, “R” denotes Regrets
P	Alex Blazer (CoAS, ECUS Secretary)	
R	Cathy Cox (University President)	
P	Nicolas Creel (CoBT, ECUS Member)	
P	Jennifer Flory (CoAS, Chair Emerita)	
P	Catherine Fowler (CoHS, ECUS Vice-Chair)	
P	Lamonica Sanford (Library, ECUS Member)	
P	Costas Spirou (Provost)	
P	Rob Sumowski (CoE, ECUS Chair)	
P	Andrew Allen (APC Chair)	
P	James “Trae” Welborn (DEIPC Chair)	
P	Stephanie Jett (FAPC Chair)	
P	Brad Fowler (RPIPC Chair)	
R	Greg Glotzbecker (SAPC Chair)	

Legend

Highlighted text denotes follow-up.

Bold text denotes action or recommendation.

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by Rob Sumowski (Chair).

II. Approval of Agenda: A **Motion** to approve the agenda was made and seconded. **The agenda was approved as circulated.**

III. Approval of Minutes: A draft of the 3 Nov 2023 minutes of the Executive Committee with Standing Committee Chairs had been circulated to the meeting attendees via email. A **Motion** to approve the minutes was made and seconded. **The minutes were approved.**

IV. Reports

University President — President Cathy Cox

1. **Regrets, No Report** As President Cox had extended *Regrets* and was unable to attend this meeting, there was no President’s Report.

University Provost — Provost Costas Spirou

1. **Colleges and Library**
 - a. **College of Business and Technology**

- i. **The Halle Foundation** awarded \$96,000 to COBT to support student travel to Germany and AFLAC awarded \$100,000 to the COHS for the mobile clinic.
 - b. **College of Education**
 - i. **Dr. Stacie Petit** will be joining the College of Education as the next Chair of the Department of Teacher Education.
 - c. **College of Health Sciences**
 - i. **School of Nursing NCLEX Pass Rate** for calendar year 2023: 94.81% for first time test takers (135/128 pass). In 2022 we had 97/109 for 88.99%-GA AVG = 82% for BSN.
 - ii. **Simulation Center** The university is working on identifying space to support the growth of the Simulation Center currently operating at the local hospital.
- 2. **Schools and Honors College**
 - a. **Historic Museums**
 - i. **Historic Museums** is developing a promotional strategy to showcase the Mansion and Andalusia across the state.
- 3. **Offices and Programs**
 - a. **MURACE**
 - i. ***Undergraduate Research Journal*** The next issue of *Undergraduate Research* was published in December. We received 50 submissions and featured 5 articles (10% acceptance rate): University of Calgary, Salve Regina University, Monmouth University, Cumberland University, University of Memphis.
 - b. **Office of Admissions**
 - i. **Applications** Our recruitment efforts for the Fall 2024 first year class are underway and our completed applications (4,840 vs. 4,643) and deposits (500 vs. 473) are up compared to last year. Our admittances are down (3,404 vs. 3,636). Additionally, our “High Ability” category is up in completed applications (2,313 vs. 2311) and deposits (295 vs. 245)- *High Ability criteria for Fall 2021, Fall 2023, and Fall 2024 applicants are those who meet either (1) at least a 3.5 GPA *and* 1270 redesigned SAT or 26 ACT, or (2) at least a 3.7 GPA regardless of test score (data from January 2, 2024).
- 4. **Centers and Institutes**
 - a. **Andalusia Institute**
 - i. **Andalusia Institute Programming** for the Spring 2024 term
 - 1. January 25: Letters written in 1958 and 1959, pp. 261-368 of *The Habit of Being*
 - 2. February 15: Letters written in 1960, pp. 368-425 in *The Habit of Being*
 - 3. March 21: Letters written in 1961 and 1962, pp. 425-503 in *The Habit of Being*
 - 4. April 25: Letters written in 1963 and 1964, pp. 503-96 in *The Habit of Being*

- ii. **Interpretive Center** The Georgia Association of Museums (GAM) honored the new Interpretive Center and its exhibitions at Andalusia with a special projects award. Previously, the GAM's recognized the Mansion with the Institution of the Year award.
 - b. **Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship**
 - i. **Business Start-Up Incubator** The university is preparing to launch a GCSU Business Start-up Incubator led by the Center for Innovation and Entrepreneurship.
 - c. **Center for Teaching and Learning**
 - i. **Liberal Arts Skills in Professional Programs** The Center for Teaching and Learning is working on a faculty development initiative titled "Liberal Arts Skills in Professional Programs." The purpose of LASP is to support faculty in reflecting how they can integrate key liberal arts skills (critical thinking, communication, teamwork, problem solving) into their teaching practices.
- 5. **University Committees and Task Forces**
 - a. **Andalusia Task Force**
 - i. **Implementation of Recommendations** The Office of the Provost is working to implement the recommendations of the Andalusia Task Force.
 - b. **Artificial Intelligence Task Force**
 - i. **Launch** The Office of the Provost will be launching an Artificial Intelligence Task Force to investigate the role of AI across the university.
 - c. **Sustainability Task Force**
 - i. **Report** The Sustainability Task Force is nearing completion of its report.
 - d. **University Strategic Planning Committee**
 - i. **College Goals** On December 14, the Deans presented short term/medium term/long term goals to the Academic Leadership Team in accordance with the five pillars of the GCSU Strategic plan. More information about these efforts will be forthcoming.
- 6. **Conferences and Meetings**
 - a. **Momentum Summit VII** opens on January 19, 2024. The face-to-face session will take place on March 1, 2024, at Georgia Gwinnett College.
 - b. **Senator Hickman** The president and provost met with Senator Hickman on November 27, 2023, in Statesboro, GA. Each USG institution was scheduled to meet with the Senator and share the work taking place at their institution. Senator Hickman is the Chair of the Higher Education Committee.
- 7. **Curriculum**
 - a. **CORExplore** During the Spring semester we will be launching the CORExplore program. The purpose of this initiative is to provide students with additional academic opportunities to their program of study through the core.
- 8. **Faculty**
 - a. **Administrator and Faculty Searches**
 - i. **Seth Walker**, Vice President for University Advancement, joined the institution on December 1, 2023. Previously, Mr. Walker served in a similar role at Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville.
- 9. **Calendar**

- a. **Budget Hearing** The GCSU Budget hearing at the USG is scheduled for January 8, 2024.
- b. **New Faculty Orientation** The Spring 2024 new faculty orientation program welcomed 6 colleagues to GCSU.
- c. **Spring Orientation** Spring 2024 Orientation (January 4) included 65 new first year and transfer students.

Academic Policy Committee (APC) — Chair Andrew Allen

1. **Meeting** APC had a meeting schedule for 5 Jan 2024 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. APC had no business to conduct, so its meeting was cancelled.
2. **Student Academic Dishonesty Policy Revision** The proposed policy revision offered to the University Senate by the Academic Policy Committee concerning an update of language regarding plagiarism (to include unauthorized uses of artificial intelligence technologies) was approved by President Cox on October 27, 2023.
3. **Core Curriculum Updates** At the request of the General Education Committee, the Academic Policy Committee advanced a motion to the University Senate to add language regarding the new University System of Georgia-mandated Core Impacts policy to the existing GCSU Required Syllabus Statements policy. The motion was approved by the University Senate on November 28, and was approved by President Cox on December 12, 2023.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy Committee (DEIPC) — Chair James “Trae” Welborn

1. **No Quorum** present so six attending members operated as ad hoc committee to discuss old business related to the following items, with the intent to make suggestions to the whole for formal approval and action at the February meeting. Approval for any proposed new business on agenda for that meeting will be accomplished via email vote prior to the meeting.
2. **Recommended Syllabus Statement** Diversity syllabus statement revision to include preamble specifically outlining purpose and intent of the statement and emphasizing voluntary application and adaptability by faculty for course/learning activity use. Revisions made collectively in advance of next meeting and possible collaboration with APC in February toward making joint motion before Senate in March for inclusion as suggested syllabus statement on the University website. Pending revisions and communication with APC leadership/membership via email.
3. **Equity Policy Review** Discussion of Equity Policy Review guidelines (initially developed in Minnesota University System) document previously shared by Michael Snowden (Chief Diversity Officer, OIE) and how to apply more directly to GCSU policy reviews across campus.
 - a. Michael Snowden suggested bringing in author of equity policy review guidelines at future DEIPC meeting (Feb. or March, pending availability) for guidance in devising similar review policies for DEIPC at GCSU. Also suggested sharing equity policy review guidelines with new campus auditor to ensure consistency and compliance as related to issues of DEI.

- b. Michael Snowden suggested that committee use Equity Policy Review guidelines to devise committee procedures for consistent policy review through DEI lens, with intention to apply said review procedures to policies in all offices on campus throughout next year and offer feedback to said offices as appropriate based on results of these reviews, purportedly completed in DEIPC sub-committees.
- 4. **Training Module** Carol Ward updated attending members on voluntary DEI training module development in HR office, and again conveyed intention to engage DEIPC in review as on-going process proceeds.

Executive Committee of University Senate (ECUS) — Chair Rob Sumowski

- 1. **Presiding Officer Activities**
 - a. **Standing Committees**
 - i. On November 3, 2023, FAPC Chair Dr. Stephanie Jett forwarded officers and the Provost drafts of wording for modifications to the SRIS, IFR (in relation to SRIS), and Emeritus Status policies. She then sent a follow up email on January 1, 2024. Associate Provost Dr. Holley Roberts replied on behalf of the Office of Academic Affairs with suggestions.
 - ii. I have been in touch with remaining Standing Committee Chairs as needed.
 - b. **System-Wide or Tier/Sector Meeting Attendance**
 - i. On December 14, 2023, Dr. Jennifer Flory attended the Academic Leadership Team meeting on my behalf.
 - c. **Academic Conference Attendance**
 - i. Presiding Officer Elect Dr. Catherine Fowler has agreed to chair the January 19, 2024 University Senate meeting due to my joining the Provost at the AACU Conference in Washington, DC.
- 2. **University Senate Budget and Foundation Updates FY 2023 (as of December 30, 2023):**
 - a. 1048105 University Senate (state account) balance: \$4,767.00 as per Fina Endere
 - b. F15320 University Senate (Foundation) account balance: \$583.01 as per Ashley Banks

Subcommittee on Nominations (SCoN) — Chair Catherine Fowler

- 1. **Election Oversight**
 - a. SCoN awaits election results from CoAS, CoBT, and CoE. Lamonica Sanford was elected as EFS from the Library.
- 2. **At-Large Position** The election will be held after election results from the colleges and library have been received.
- 3. **ECUS-SCC Action**
- 4. **Revised Slate of Nominees** A **Motion** to approve the revised slate of nominees was made and seconded. **The revised slate of nominees was approved.**

Faculty Affairs Policy Committee (FAPC) — Chair Stephanie Jett

1. **Meeting** FAPC had a meeting scheduled for 5 Jan 2024 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m.
 - a. **No Quorum** As quorum was not established, FAPC did not meet.
2. **Amorous Relationship Policy** FAPC is coordinating with RPIPC and Human Resources regarding the Amorous Relationship Policy.
3. **Student Opinion Survey Policy** revision language has been drafted.
4. **Emeritus Policy** revision language has been drafted.
5. **Student Academic Dishonesty Policy** revisions are being reviewed.

Resources, Planning and Institutional Policy Committee (RPIPC) — Chair Brad Fowler

1. **Meeting** RPIPC had a meeting scheduled for 5 Jan 2024 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. RPIPC had no business to conduct, so its meeting was cancelled.
2. **Amorous Relationship Policy** We continue our work with FAPC to create Amorous Relationship Policy Procedures. The chairs of RPIPC and FAPC are working in conjunction with Carol Ward from HR to better understand the enforcement of the USG policy before finishing the procedures.
3. **Summer Utility Costs** The members of RPIPC will be spending time in January working on ideas for how the campus may reduce summer utility costs. We will discuss those ideas when we meet in February.

Student Affairs Policy Committee (SAPC) — Chair Greg Glotzbecker

1. **Meeting** SAPC had a meeting scheduled for 5 Jan 2024 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. SAPC had no business to conduct, so its meeting was cancelled.

VI. Unfinished Business

1. There was no unfinished business.

VII. New Business

1. There was no new business.
2. **Steering of Items to Committees**
 - a. No items were steered to committee.
3. **University Senate Agenda and Minutes Review**
 - a. **Tentative Agenda January 19, 2024**
 - i. Motions
 1. SCoN: Revised Slate of Nominees
 - ii. Reports: Administrative reports and committee reports will also be agenda items.
 - i. Supplemental Items of Business: None.
 - b. **University Senate Minutes Review** A **Motion** that the *DRAFT minutes of the 16 Nov 2023 meeting of the 2023-2024 University Senate be circulated for university senator review* was made and seconded. **The motion to circulate the minutes was approved.**

VIII. Open Discussion

1. **Policy Review** Provost Spirou asked for the Office of Academic Affairs to be given a chance to review policies once revisions have been made.

IX. Next Meeting

1. **Calendar**
 - a. University Senate Meeting – Friday, January 19, 3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences 272
 - b. ECUS Meeting – Friday, February 9, 2:00 p.m., Parks Hall 301
 - c. ECUS+SCC Meeting – Friday, February 9, 3:30 p.m., Parks Hall 301
 - d. University Senate Meeting – Friday, February 26, 3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences 272
2. **Tentative Agenda** Some of the deliberation today may have generated tentative agenda items for ECUS and ECUS-SCC meetings. Rob Sumowski will ensure that such items (if any) are added to the agenda of a future meeting of ECUS or ECUS-SCC.

X. Adjournment

1. As there was no further business to consider, a **Motion** to adjourn the meeting was made and seconded. **The motion to adjourn was approved and the meeting adjourned at 4:45 p.m.**

XI. Supporting Documents

1. There are no supporting documents.

Distribution: First, these minutes will be sent to committee members for review; second, they will be posted to the Senate website.

COMMITTEE NAME: EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE UNIVERSITY SENATE (ECUS) WITH STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS (SCC)

COMMITTEE OFFICERS: ROB SUMOWSKI (CHAIR), CATHERINE FOWLER (VICE-CHAIR), ALEX BLAZER (SECRETARY)

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2023-2024

AGGREGATE MEMBER ATTENDANCE AT COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THE ACADEMIC YEAR:
“P” denotes Present, “R” denotes Regrets, “A” denotes Absent

Acronyms	EFS = Elected Faculty Senator CoAS = College of Arts and Sciences; CoB = College of Business; CoE = College of Education; CoHS = College of Health Sciences										
Meeting Dates	9/1	10/6	11/3	1/5	2/9	3/1	4/5	P	R	A	
Alex Blazer <i>EFS, CoAS ECUS Secretary</i>	P	P	P	P				4	0	0	
Cathy Cox <i>University President</i>	R	R	R	R				0	4	0	
Nicholas Creel <i>EFS, CoBT ECUS Member</i>	P	P	P	P				4	0	0	
Jennifer Flory <i>EFS, CoAS Chair Emerita</i>	P	P	P	P				4	0	0	
Catherine Fowler <i>EFS, CoHS, ECUS ECUS Vice-Chair</i>	P	P	P	P				4	0	0	
Lamonica Sanford <i>EFS, Library ECUS Member</i>	P	P	P	P				4	0	0	
Costas Spirou <i>Provost</i>	P	R	P	P				3	1	0	
Rob Sumowski <i>EFS, CoE ECUS Chair</i>	P	P	P	P				4	0	0	
Andrew Allen <i>APC Chair</i>	P	P	P	P				4	0	0	
James Trae Welborn <i>DEIPC Chair</i>	P	R	R	P				2	2	0	
Stephanie Jett <i>FAPC Chair</i>	P	P	P	P				4	0	0	
Brad Fowler <i>RPIPC Chair</i>	P	R	P	P				3	1	0	
Greg Glotzbecker <i>SAPC Chair</i>	R	R	R	R				0	4	0	