

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

**MEETING DATE & TIME:** FRIDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2022, 3:30-4:45 P.M.

**MEETING LOCATION:** PARKS HALL 301

**ATTENDANCE:**

<b>MEMBERS</b>		<b>“P” denotes Present, “A” denotes Absent, “R” denotes Regrets</b>
<b>P</b>	Alex Blazer (CoAS, ECUS Secretary)	
<b>R</b>	Cathy Cox (University President)	
<b>P</b>	Nicolas Creel (CoBT, ECUS Member)	
<b>P</b>	Jennifer Flory (CoAS, ECUS Chair)	
<b>R</b>	Catherine Fowler (CoHS, ECUS Chair Emeritus)	
<b>P</b>	Lamonica Sanford (Library, ECUS Member)	
<b>P</b>	Costas Spirou (Provost)	
<b>R</b>	Rob Sumowski (CoE, ECUS Vice-Chair)	
<b>P</b>	Sarah Myers (APC Chair)	
<b>P</b>	Linda Bradley (DEIPC Chair)	
<b>P</b>	Sabrina Hom (FAPC Chair)	
<b>R</b>	Damian Francis (RPIPC Chair)	
<b>P</b>	Greg Glotzbecker (SAPC Chair)	
<b>GUESTS</b>		
Brad Fowler, Vice-Chair of the 2022-2023 RPIPC		
Benjamin “Chad” Whittle, Vice-Chair of the 2022-2023 APC		

**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 Jennifer Flory (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:** As this was the first meeting of the year, there were no minutes to approve.

**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. **Schools and Honors College**
  - a. **The Graduate School**
    - i. **Graduate Applications** As we look to the Spring 2023 semester, it is critical to support graduate applicants complete the files for review by the academic department.
  - b. **Honors College**
    - i. **Honors College Convocation** took place on October 1<sup>st</sup>. More than 130 students and their families were present at the event.
2. **Offices and Programs**
  - a. **Academic Affairs**
    - i. **The Academic Affairs Budget Hearing** took place on September 30, 2022 (FY24). The University budget hearing is scheduled for October 27, 2022.
  - b. **MURACE** The MURACE Symposium was held on October 17th from 11-4pm in Kilpatrick. This symposium featured sessions on best student success & retention, as well as student presentations.
  - c. **Office of Admissions** Robust applications for Fall 2023 (35% increase from same time last year).
  - d. **The Office of Institutional Research and Effectiveness** won first place for Best Print Report by the Southern Association of Institutional Research. This is our 7<sup>th</sup> first place award for the Factbook and one second place last year.
  - e. **Office of the Provost**
    - i. **The Fall 2022 Provost RACAA Meeting** took place October 19 & 20 at Georgia Gwinnett College. Some of the topics discussed included enrollment, budget, and student success.
    - ii. **Budget** The Office of the Provost is working on the development of the FY24 budget. The submission is due to the USG in November.
3. **Initiatives and Projects**
  - a. **Information Security Awareness Training** Encourage everyone to complete the required bi-annual Information Security Awareness Training. This training is mandatory to meet the requirements of the University System of Georgia and completion is required of all employees (faculty, staff, and student workers). All training should be completed by Friday, October 21st.
  - b. **Retention** is everyone's responsibility. GC's retention rate is reduced one point for every 15 students lost. All divisions are important to retention: Academic Affairs, The Office of the President, University Advancement, Student Life, and Finance and Administration.
  - c. **Quality Enhancement Plan** The QEP (Student Mental Health) is moving forward (partnership between Academic Affairs and Student Life).
  - d. **State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement** Georgia College & State University has been approved by the Nonpublic Postsecondary Education Commission (NPEC) to participate in the State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA). NPEC is recognized by SREB SARA for the Southeastern region as the State Portal Entity for Georgia. The National Council for State Authorization Reciprocity Agreements (NC-SARA) is a private nonprofit organization [501(c)(3)] that helps expand students' access to educational

opportunities and ensure more efficient, consistent, and effective regulation of distance education programs.

- e. **Masterplan** GC is working on a new Masterplan. It has been 17 years since the last one was created.

4. **University Committees and Task Forces**

- a. **General Education Committee** Cluster Core Initiative by General Education Committee (Sustainability Pathway, Digital Culture Pathway, Gender and Sexuality Pathway, Digital Humanities Pathway).
- b. **University Strategic Planning Committee** The University Strategic Planning Committee is meeting regularly and completed three visits to aspirant institutions (College of Charleston, Elon University, and Miami of Ohio). The final visit will be to the College of New Jersey in November.

5. **Conferences and Meetings**

- a. **Georgia Undergraduate Research Conference** The Georgia Undergraduate Research Conference is scheduled for November 11 & 12, 2022 at Valdosta State University.

6. **Faculty**

a. **Fellowships and Grants**

- i. **Fall 2022 Academic Affairs Small Grants** Congratulations to the faculty recipients of the Fall 2022 Academic Affairs Small Grants program.

1. Dana Gorzelany-Mostak, Department of Music  
*Songs of Political Persuasion: Hearing Music on the U.S. Presidential Campaign Trail, 1840-1918*, \$3,700.
2. David Weese, Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences  
*Ecological Succession in Macroinvertebrate Communities Following a Volcanic Eruption*, \$4,406.
3. David Zoetewey, Department of Chemistry, Physics & Astronomy  
*Understanding the structural mechanism of SARS-CoV-2 membrane fusion during infection*, \$4,956.
4. Natalie Toomey, Department of Professional Learning & Innovation  
*Individual Differences and Multimedia Learning*, \$5,000.
5. Sandra Trujillo, Department of Art  
*Ravenna Mosaic Project*, \$4,976.
6. Kasey Karen, Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences  
*Potential roles of the proteins E4 11k and Ddx6 in RIG-I-dependent interferon activation in an adenovirus infection*, \$5,000.

b. **Administrator and Faculty Searches**

- i. **Dean of the John H. Lounsbury College of Education** The posting for the Dean of the John H. Lounsbury College of Education is now available with an application submission deadline of November 20, 2022.

c. **Application Deadlines**

- i. **Professional Leave** Application deadline is October 15, 2022.

- ii. **Community-Based Engaged Learning Grant** Application deadline is October 17, 2022.
- iii. **Visiting Scholars Program** Applications deadline is October 14, 2022.
- iv. **Affordable Learning Georgia (ALG) Grants**, a USG initiative. ALG includes grants, Open-Education Resources (OER), and training. There are two types of grants: transformation and continuous improvement. Proposals must go through the Office of Grants and Sponsored Projects and are due by October 26, 2022. The OGSP is offering application review and feedback from October 12-20, 2022. Contact Dr. Shaundra Walker for information at extension #0980.

7. **ECUS-SCC Discussion**

a. **General Education Committee**

- i. Comment (Provost): Prior to the pandemic, the system was going to engage in a more general reorganization of the core. Now, the system is moving slower. As the state’s public liberal arts institution, GC is important to the core. The USG focuses on transferability. The Academic Innovation Task Force proposed the idea clustering core courses, which can still be transferred and which students are not mandated to take. For example, a student majoring in environmental science could take three or four core courses clustered around sustainability, or not. Any student who wants to take the cluster can do so, and students can choose not to take clustered classes as well. The GEC came up with four pathways, and we will ask Admissions to promote them: sustainability, digital culture, gender and sexuality, and digital humanities.
- ii. Question: Would theme courses in Composition and World Literature be allowed?
- iii. Answer (Provost): Yes, as long as we come up with a way to rethink the content without changing the learning outcomes. Perhaps faculty could get together to make cluster courses work together. Send ideas to the GEC.
- iv. Question: Are students going to move through clustered courses in a cohort?
- v. Answer (Provost): It would be great if students could do so; however, students need to be able to step in or out of the cluster. The system is interested in practicality. Perhaps think of the cluster as a problem or issue looked at four or five different ways.
- vi. Comment: The clusters should help with retention.

**Academic Policy Committee (APC) — Vice-Chair Benjamin “Chad” Whittle for Chair Sarah Myers**

- 1. **No Meeting, No Report** As there was no business to conduct, APC did not meet.

**Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policy Committee (DEIPC) — Chair Linda Bradley**

- 1. **Required Syllabus Statement** In unified, visible support of Georgia College’s Diversity Statement, as published on the Office of Inclusive Excellence website, DEIPC seeks to

incorporate the following Diversity Statement into the Required Syllabus Statements for all courses at Georgia College.

- a. “Georgia College & State University recognizes that diversity and inclusion are essential to our core values of reason, respect, and responsibility. We strive to achieve diversity excellence in the composition of our community, our educational programs, university policies, research and scholarship, campus life, employment practices, extracurricular activities, and community outreach. We also believe that a welcoming and inclusive environment is critical to attaining the kind of campus climate that allows members of our community to succeed in their endeavors, to be respected as individuals, and to feel a sense of belonging at Georgia College, and we support educational programs designed to achieve this kind of inclusive excellence. Our overarching goal is for Georgia College to achieve preeminence as a model for excellence in diversity and inclusion for our state, region, and the nation.”
2. **Officer Election** We have elected a new secretary, Liz Speelman, following the transfer of Jessamyn Swan to Clayton State.
3. **Clery Process and Policy** We will meet with Shanoya Cordew regarding Clery Process and Policy at Georgia College in November.
4. **ECUS-SCC Discussion**
  - a. **Required Syllabus Statement**
    - i. Comment: I support the idea of a syllabus statement, but I wonder if students will read another linked syllabus statement.
    - ii. Comment (Chair): The goal is to make students aware and create a base understanding of our values.
    - iii. Comment: Instructors can copy the syllabus statement to their syllabi in order to emphasize it.

### **Executive Committee of University Senate (ECUS) — Chair Jennifer Flory**

1. **Presiding Officer Activities**
  - a. System-wide or tier/sector meeting attendance:
    - i. USG Faculty Council
      1. Zoom Meeting, 8/30
      2. USGFCEC Notes 12 Sept 22
      3. <https://bit.ly/USGcuts>
    - ii. Chancellor Sonny Perdue’s installation, 9/9, Capitol building, Atlanta
  - b. Committee/Task Force/Council Attendance:
    - i. Council of Deans & Council of Chairs meeting, 9/16
    - ii. Academic Leadership Team meeting, 10/6
  - c. Met with Provost Spirou on 9/28
    - i. Budget cuts update
    - ii. Academic Innovation Task Force update
    - iii. University Senate holiday gathering planning
  - d. Presiding Officer-Elect Training started in July and is ongoing.
2. **Governance Calendar 2023-2024** We start a week later than we did this year. The revised draft has been sent to Academic Affairs.

3. **University Senate Handbook Review Committee** will be formed from ECUS and chaired by Cat. Please let Cat know if you would like to help with reviewing the University Senate Handbook.
4. **University Senate Recognitions** New Senator pins will be distributed to the following individuals at the University Senate meeting on October 21: Cathy Cox, Stephen Rutner, and a replacement senator for the Library (Jessamyn Swan) if one is selected by then.
5. **University Senate Budget and Foundation Updates**
  - a. 1048105 University Senate (state account) has \$4,767.00.
  - b. F15320 University Senate (foundation) has \$263.79
6. **Recommended Agenda and Minutes Schedules (2022-2023)** I will email to SCO, note especially motions due 10 days prior to the Senate meeting.

#### **Faculty Affairs Policy Committee (FAPC) — Chair Sabrina Hom**

1. **Annual Faculty Evaluations** Dean Tenbus from CoAS came in to discuss the process for aligning departmental T&P/annual evaluation policy with the new university policy. A few takeaways:
  - a. Substantive changes to policy are expected to involve some kind of faculty feedback to be approved by the faculty, but the form of the feedback and approval are not prescribed and the Dean is not checking up on individual departmental processes.
  - b. Some departments are amending their policies by simply passing the University policy as an addition to their existing departmental policy, with a note that the university policy supercedes department policy. In the Dean's opinion, this is not a substantive change since the university policy is not up for discussion.
  - c. If faculty in A&S have concerns, they are encouraged to ask their chair for information first. If concerns remain, they are encouraged to speak with other faculty members to see if they have more clarity on the process. If the complaints are shared, they can be referred to the Dean.
2. **Post-Tenure Review Extension** The committee voted unanimously for the motion to allow an extension to the PTR period in the case of FMLA qualifying events. The committee discussed the suggestion to allow PTR extensions when other extenuating circumstances disrupt research but decided not to move forward at this time.
3. **Student Opinion Surveys** We discussed ongoing concerns about student evaluations of teaching, and the possibility of alternatives. The committee will brainstorm possible policy-based responses and, if a consensus does not appear, will aim to leave this topic aside for the year.

#### **Resources, Planning and Institutional Policy Committee (RPIPC) — Vice Chair Brad Fowler for Chair Damian Francis**

1. **Parking** Rodica Cazacu reported to the committee on the proceedings of the previous PTAC meeting. This report included information on the current state of parking spaces on campus and the upcoming change to the license plate parking tag system. The committee discussed the problem of parking in the Kilpatrick lot in the afternoon due to parents picking up their kids from the Early College program. The committee plans to speak with

someone from public safety at the next meeting. The committee has decided to move forward with a motion to review and potentially update the university's parking a transportation policy.

2. **Accessibility Signage** The committee is going to invite Shea Groebner or Frank Baugh to discuss accessibility signage in campus building at the next meeting.
3. **Budget Shortfall** The committee is planning to hear remarks from Lee Fruitticher about the upcoming 2024 budget shortfall.

### **Student Affairs Policy Committee (SAPC) — Chair Greg Glotzbecker**

1. **SGA** SAPC is back on track/communication with the SGA president, Kaitley Congdon. She will serve as the SAPC secretary for the 2022/2023 academic year. In addition to Kaitley, we had two other students present at the meeting.
2. **Dorm Rooms** Old business about student housing was discussed again. It was mentioned that air/water quality in the dorms is an issue that has been brought to the desk of President Cox by students and parents. To address these concerns the Director of Housing brought in a third-party company to perform mold testing, last year. According to Kevin Blanche, all the dorms passed the required health standards. In the future, SAPC will further discuss associated issues with Larry Christenson, Director of Housing.
3. **Student Activities** A discussion was had about the amount of student activities available on campus. Two students talked about how there seems to be fewer activities on campus, post-COVID. The lack of student activities seems to be impacting upperclassmen the most (Juniors and Seniors). The response of SAPC will be to contact Kristy Johnson (Director of Student Life) and see if pre-COVID activities are being resurrected. We also discussed how there is a need to improve communication between the college and students regarding events and activities. It was noted that GC-Connect is not well utilized by students and possibly event organizers. We would like to see an increase in GC-Connect use with students; perhaps the college can use social media platforms such as Instagram to promote GC-Connect.
4. **Student Parking** It has been brought to our attention that student parking on campus is very bad. Like faculty, students are having a difficult time finding parking in a reasonable distance to their classes. It was observed that some of the congestion is being caused by resident students driving their personal vehicles to campus. Perhaps SAPC can look into ideas or talk to campus parking about limiting resident vehicles on campus.
5. **ECUS-SCC Discussion**
  - a. **SGA**
    - i. Comment: SGA meets every Friday at 2:00 p.m. while SAPC meetins one Friday per month at 2:00 p.m.
  - b. **Student Activities**
    - i. Comment: Dr. Dan Nadler, Interim Vice Present for Student Life, is another resource.
  - c. **Student Parking**
    - i. Comment: The Irwin St Lot shuttle no longer runs.
    - ii. Comment (RPIPC Vice Chair): Few people were using the shuttle, which cost money to run.

**Subcommittee on Nominations (SCoN) — ECUS Chair Jennifer Flory for SCoN Chair Rob Sumowski**

**1. Election Oversight**

- a. Corps of Instruction was received 9/22/22 and forwarded to ECUS/SCC on 9/28/22. Included in that email was apportionment documents with and without administration.
- b. We will vote on whether or not to include administrators, and that decision will affect which Corps of Instruction list is included as an appendix.
- c. **ECUS-SCC Action A Motion** *to approve the corps of instruction with administrators included, as well as the election oversight materials including elected faculty senator apportionment and the letters to the college deans and library director*, was made and seconded. **The motion was approved.**

**VI. Unfinished Business**

**1. None**

**VII. New Business**

**1. University Senate Agenda and Minutes Review**

- a. **Tentative Agenda October 21, 2022**
  - i. Motions
    1. FAPC: PTR Extension
  - ii. Reports: Administrative reports and committee reports will also be agenda items.
- b. **University Senate Minutes Review A Motion** *that the DRAFT minutes of the 16 Sep 2022 meeting of the 2022-2023 University Senate be circulated for university senator review* was made and seconded. **The motion to circulate the minutes was approved.**

**VIII. Open Discussion**

1. There was no open discussion.

**IX. Next Meeting**

**1. Calendar**

- a. University Senate Meeting – Friday, October 21, 3:30 p.m., Arts & Sciences 272
  - b. ECUS Meeting – Friday, November 4, 2:00 p.m., Parks Hall 301
  - c. ECUS+SCC Meeting – Friday, November 4, 3:30 p.m., Parks Hall 301
  - d. University Senate Meeting – Friday, November 18, 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. **Jennifer Flory 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 4:30 p.m.**

## **XI. Supporting Documents**

1. There are three supporting documents.
  - a. *Supporting\_USGFC\_2022-10-21.docx*
  - b. *Supporting\_USGFCEC\_2022-09-12.docx*
  - c. *Supporting\_USGFCEC\_2022-10-18.docx*

**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:** JENNIFER FLORY (CHAIR), ROB SUMOWSKI (VICE-CHAIR), ALEX BLAZER (SECRETARY)

**ACADEMIC YEAR:** 2022-2023

**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	9/2	10/7	11/4	1/6	2/10	3/3	4/14	P	R	A	
Alex Blazer <i>EFS, CoAS ECUS Secretary</i>	P	P						2	0	0	
Cathy Cox <i>University President</i>	R	R						0	2	0	
Nicholas Creel <i>EFS, CoBT ECUS Member</i>	P	P						1	1	0	
Jennifer Flory <i>EFS, CoAS ECUS Chair</i>	P	P						1	1	0	
Catherine Fowler <i>EFS, CoHS, ECUS Chair Emeritus</i>	P	R						1	1	0	
Lamonica Sanford <i>EFS, Library ECUS Member</i>	P	P						2	0	0	
Costas Spirou <i>Provost</i>	P	P						2	0	0	
Rob Sumowski <i>EFS, CoE ECUS Vice-Chair</i>	P	R						1	1	0	
Sarah Myers <i>APC Chair</i>	P	R						1	1	0	
Linda Bradley <i>DEIPC Chair</i>	P	P						2	0	0	
Sabrina Hom <i>FAPC Chair</i>	P	P						2	0	0	
Damian Francis <i>RPIPC Chair</i>	P	R						1	1	0	
Greg Glotbecker <i>SAPC Chair</i>	P	P						2	0	0	