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Governors State University Board of Trustees Meeting Minutes - March 16, 2007

Board of Trustees

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Governors State University

Board of Trustees Meeting, March 16, 2007 Minutes

The Board of Trustees meeting was held on Friday, March 16, 2007, in the Hall of Honors at Governors State University.

Call to Order

Chair Friefeld called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.

Roll Call

Roll Call was taken, and the following Trustees were present: Bruce Friefeld, Kristi DeLaurentiis, Jack Beaupre, Lois Mayer, Lorine Samuels, and Student Trustee Dwayne Williams. Trustees Kathleen Field Orr and Bill McGee were absent.

Also present were: Stuart Fagan, Paul R. Keys, John Tuohy, Jim Britt, Alexis Kennedy, Colleen Rock Cawthon, Michael Wortham, Kathy Miller, Jerold Hodgkin, and Gary Lyon.

Executive Session

Chair Friefeld requested a motion to move into Executive Session. Mayer moved that the Board convene in Executive Session, as permitted under the "Open Meetings Act," to consider and discuss litigation and personnel matters. Samuels seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote. The general public was asked to leave the room, and the Trustees went into Executive Session at 9:17 a.m.

The Executive Session adjourned at 9:30 a.m. The general public was invited to return to the meeting.

In response to a question from DeLaurentiis, Wortham stated that there will be a ceremony to name a room after Trustee McGee.

New Business:

Approval of Minutes: Chair Friefeld requested a motion for the approval of the minutes of the February 9, 2007 Board meeting. DeLaurentiis moved that the minutes be approved. Mayer seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote. Chair Friefeld stated that the minutes of the December 15, 2006 meeting were not included in the agenda packet for the Trustees' review; therefore, approval of those minutes will be tabled until the June 2007 meeting.

Chair's Report

Chair Friefeld welcomed everyone to the meeting. This is a time of change for Governors State University. The presidential search was recently completed, and Dr. Elaine P. Maimon was selected as GSU's next president. The search committee and the University community contributed significantly to the successful search. Chair Friefeld thanked Trustee Beaupre, who chaired the committee and Trustees Samuels and Mayer who served as members of the committee, as well as everyone who was involved in the process—job well done.

Dr. Maimon is a good fit for GSU. Her experience at upper-division Arizona State University West and her experience working closely with legislators in her role as Chancellor of the University of Alaska Anchorage will serve us well. She believes in the idea of a university as a public square. That principle fits perfectly into

GSU's mission to strengthen the educational, cultural, social and economic development of the region. We look forward to Dr. Maimon's arrival. However, her arrival means the departure of President Fagan; and so the change is bittersweet. Thanks to the strong foundation that Dr. Fagan has laid, Chair Friefeld believes that GSU's future has never been brighter.

The University has been through some difficult times—none bigger than the Master of Social Work (MSW) accreditation problems and the budget crisis. Thanks to the strong, unwavering leadership of Dr. Fagan and the hard work of the Board of Trustees, the University successfully dealt with the situations. The President spent a lot of time in Springfield, and Chair Friefeld accompanied him on some of the trips. One of the things that made those visits successful was that Dr. Fagan not only built relationships with legislators, but he also made an effort to develop friendships. Those friendships have had a positive impact on yearly appropriations and on the University as a whole. Strides have been made to bring appropriations back up to a workable level, and Dr. Fagan has worked to increase GSU's income from other sources. Special funding in the form of grants and earmarks has almost doubled since 2001. GSU received nearly \$21 million in special funding this fiscal year, compared to \$11.5 million just five years ago. Dr. Fagan secured supplemental funding totaling \$1.8 million for FY07. Consequently, and despite the budget pressures from Springfield, this Board has maintained GSU's position as the most affordable and accessible university in Illinois. With a focus on the community, Dr. Fagan worked to make sure that additional funds were used for programs that directly benefit the residents of the region. The College of Education's Metropolitan Institute for Leadership in Education, the College of Business and Public Administration's Global Trade Center, the College of Health Professions' Center for Excellence in Healthcare Education, and the College of Arts and Sciences' Center for Law Enforcement Technology Collaboration are all examples of how GSU used those funds to give back to the community. Dr. Fagan has demonstrated a commitment to academic quality at GSU. He ensured that each program is accredited where an accrediting body exists. Programs without a recognized accrediting body are put through an external review by expert evaluators. That means that GSU students receive an education held to the highest academic standards. Several new degree programs, including the Master of Fine Arts in Independent Film and Digital Imaging and the Master of Arts in Clinical Psychology, have been created during Dr. Fagan's tenure. Most impressive is the creation of the first doctoral program, the Doctorate in Physical Therapy. The University has reached a new level of academic excellence. The Board looks forward to seeing that momentum continue. Chair Friefeld is confident that the new administration will build on everything Dr. Fagan has accomplished. The Chair thanked the President for his leadership, commitment to the community, and for the legacy of excellence he leaves to the Board's stewardship.

Chair Friefeld announced that he will not seek another term as Chair of the Board of Trustees. He served for six terms. He looks forward to working with the Board and continuing to play a role in GSU's future as a Trustee. In his years as a Board member and as chair, he has come to appreciate what a degree from GSU means to the graduates. The graduates have taken steps to improve their qualifications, expand their knowledge base, and improve their own lives and those of their families. With the degrees earned at GSU, the graduates can have remarkable futures, and many have already achieved great success, proving there are no limits to where they can go, what they can accomplish, and how many people they can help. Chair Friefeld tries to attend the Occupational and Physical Therapy pinning ceremonies each year. While the university-wide commencement offers a chance to see all of the graduates celebrate their education, the pinning ceremony provides an opportunity to meet students individually, to shake their hands, and to hear about their lives as students and their futures as graduates. The pride the students feel is no more apparent to me than at those events. GSU makes a difference in the lives of its students and, ultimately, in the region, state, and nation. Chair Friefeld stated that it was a privilege to serve as Chair of the Board, and he thanked his colleagues for that opportunity. He also thanked the Trustees and the entire University community for their hard work, dedication, guidance, and friendship.

President's Report

President Fagan reported that the last commencement was one of the best ceremonies GSU has had. Trustee Samuels set the tone; the President thanked her for her eloquence and vision. Dr. Margaret Burroughs, founder of the DuSable Museum of African-American History, gave the commencement address and received an honorary degree. She gave each graduate a copy of a poem she had written, and she presented Samuels, Keys, and the President with several copies of her prints. Dr. Fagan intends to display them in the Family Development Center and other places around campus. The rest of the prints will be added to the GSU permanent collection. Dr. Burroughs may set a date to exhibit her work; Wortham will keep the Trustees informed.

On January 25, the presidents of the public universities met with Kevin McCarthy, Chair of the House Committee on Higher Education; Ed Maloney, Chair of the Senate Committee on Higher Education; and their staffs. The meeting gave the presidents one more opportunity to state the case to treat education, P-16, as one system, and it afforded them the chance to plead for funding of capital projects. Throughout February, the presidents had several meetings with John Filan and the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE) to discuss IBHE's FY08 budget proposal to the Governor. IBHE recommended a line-item appropriation for GSU of \$26,256,000, an increase of 1.5 percent over the current fiscal year. However, IBHE took no position with respect to the add-on appropriations we or any of the public universities received this year. IBHE also requested an appropriation of \$6.6 million, which would be distributed to the public universities for certain projects; but it is not clear what projects would be funded, how much funding a university would be permitted to receive, or what criteria would apply in making the decision to release the additional funding. On March 1, GSU testified before the House Higher Education Committee on general issues facing higher education. It gave GSU the opportunity to affirm the University's mission and its unique position among public universities. On March 2, more than a week before the Governor presented his budget to the Assembly, David Miller, Chair of the House Appropriations Committee for Higher Education, held hearings on a budget that had yet to be submitted. President Fagan told the Committee that, while he accepted the IBHE recommendation of a 1.5 percent increase in the base appropriation for FY08, GSU needed a continuation of the supplemental appropriation of \$1.8 million. For FY07, the current year, the Assembly appropriated \$25,867,000 to GSU for standard, line-item expenditures and an additional \$1.8 million for special programs. The programs target specific areas of need, including initiatives which address the critical shortage of health care professionals, identify and address issues currently being faced by public school partners, help the region's businesses develop profitable overseas markets through the development of a Global Trade Center, and identify and address the needs of police chiefs in the region. As a result of the additional funding, GSU was able to expand programs in the health professions. Between Fall '03 and Fall '06, undergraduate enrollment in the College of Health Professions increased 60 percent; graduate enrollment increased 89 percent. The College of Business and Public Administration can report success in support of local business, as can the College of Education in support of local school districts, and the College of Arts and Sciences in support of local law enforcement agencies. At the budget hearing, GSU emphasized that if the request for supplemental funding is granted, GSU's total appropriation would grow from \$27,674,000 to \$28,062,000 – a modest increase of only 1.4 percent. It is disappointing that IBHE did not support the public universities and that the Governor and his senior financial advisor say that higher education is tied for fifth on his list of priorities, with attention to be paid to only the top three priorities. Last week, the Governor proposed a 1.9% increase in base appropriations to the public universities, but he zeroed out all supplemental appropriations. Should this stand, the impact would be serious for GSU, for other public universities, and for the state. A hearing is scheduled for March 22, to testify before the Senate Appropriations Committee for higher education. GSU will make the case that there will be damaging consequences for the region if the \$1.8 million supplemental appropriation is not brought forward for FY08. If GSU does not receive the supplemental funds, the University will cut back on some initiatives and programs, such as programs that develop practitioners to meet the critical shortage in health care, programs that develop qualified teachers to meet the shortages in education, programs that create jobs and are engines for economic growth in the region, and programs that help make communities safer. The President will meet

with GSU friends and key legislators to explain how vital the supplemental appropriations are to the well-being of the region. Whatever the budget outcome, it is clear that GSU will have to rely more on its own resources. That means growing the income fund through increased enrollment and raising funds through the Foundation.

Regarding enrollment, overall, headcount for the Winter Trimester is up more than five percent. Credit hours are up 6.5 percent. The growth is primarily at the graduate level. Undergraduate headcount is basically flat, although undergraduate credit hours are up 1.5 percent. Graduate headcount is up more than 10 percent and graduate credit hours are up 13.7 percent. The College of Arts and Sciences is up 3.5 percent in credit hours; the College of Education is up 8.8 percent, congratulations to Dean Russell for that turn around; the College of Business and Public Administration is up 13.8 percent; and the College of Health Professions is up 14.8 percent; while the Bachelor in Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies is slightly down. Students are being accepted into the Master of Fine Arts in Independent Filmmaking and Digital Imaging and the Masters in Clinical Psychology programs. Certificate programs have been added. Enrollment at the education center in Kankakee will continue to grow as new classes are added. The education center at Naperville will soon be offering its first classes. Students from China will be accepted into the Master of Public Administration program this fall. New degree programs and certificate programs are being developed. It is anticipated that GSU will open a third off-campus education center in the Broadview area. The admissions reengineering project, which will be reported on later in the meeting, should help drive enrollment. With the automated system, prospects should know that they have been accepted within four to six days of their applications instead of within four to six weeks. The University continues to meet the highest standards of academic quality. This week, GSU received official notification that the Doctorate in Physical Therapy (DPT) has been approved by the Higher Learning Commission. In January, the Social Work program had a very successful site visit by its accrediting agency. The team had high praise for the quality of the program and the work of the faculty. Congratulations to Dean Samson, Chair Outlaw, the faculty, and staff.

Even as GSU moves forward on the academic front, the University continues to develop initiatives to reach out to those who have historically been underserved by higher education. Project HOPE, a joint project with Prairie State College, encourages students, with parents' support, to complete the students' university educations. GSU has expanded its outreach to the Latino community through a joint grant with Morton College. The University is investing resources that will increase retention and graduation rates of Latino students and has established the Latino Center for Excellence to work with both Latino students and parents and to develop training programs for faculty. Former Representative Senator Miguel del Valle has participated in a number of initiatives. Art Velazquez, founder and president of Azteca Foods, will receive an honorary degree and will speak at the June commencement. Velazquez is a philanthropist, a trustee of the University of Notre Dame, and the father of a GSU graduate.

Much of the credit for the successes GSU is enjoying and the considerable progress GSU has made goes to the Board of Trustees and the leadership provided by Chair Friefeld. President Fagan thanked Chair Friefeld for his service and his friendship. Dr. Maimon, GSU's next president, will benefit from the Board's counsel and support.

Committee Reports:

Executive Committee: Chair Friefeld stated that the Executive Committee had not met since the December meeting; therefore, there was no report.

Academic Program and Policy (APP) Committee: DeLaurentiis, chair of the committee, presented the committee report to the Board. The committee met on February 26. There was no Executive Session.

Resolution 07-35: Professor Emeritus: Upon the recommendation of the President and the review and concurrence of the Academic Program and Policy Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the award of Professor Emeritus to Professor Jay Lubinsky, College of Health Professions; Professor Jeff Kaiser, College of Education; and Associate Professor Donna Gellatly, College of Health Professions. DeLaurentiis moved to approve Resolution 07-35. Mayer seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. Congratulations to the faculty.

The committee received an update on the accreditation status of academic programs and were informed of the successful Doctorate of Physical Therapy (DPT) visit and the positive Social Work accreditation visit. The social work program is waiting for the final decision, which should be made in June at the commission meeting. The counseling program received accreditation for eight years instead of seven; the accrediting body stated that the program should “be commended for the work they completed.” Congratulations to the administration, faculty, and staff who contributed to the successful accreditation visits. Stoll gave a presentation about the education centers in Kankakee and Naperville and the proposed education center in the Proviso Township region. The Trustees are invited to a grand opening at the Naperville Center on March 30.

Finance and Budget Committee: Beaupre, chair of the committee, presented the committee report to the Board. The committee met on March 9. There was an Executive Session.

Resolution 07-36: FY08 Tuition: Upon the recommendation of the President, and the review and concurrence of the Finance and Budget Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves tuition increases effective Fall 2007 trimester. Undergraduate tuition for Illinois resident students who first enrolled prior to Fall 2004 will increase from \$144.00 to \$153.00 per credit hour for the Fall 2007 trimester (a 6.25% increase). Undergraduate tuition for new Illinois resident students who first enrolled in Academic Year 2004-2005 will remain at \$136.00 per credit hour.* Undergraduate tuition for new Illinois resident students who first enrolled in Academic Year 2005-2006 will remain at \$149.00 per credit hour.* Undergraduate tuition for new Illinois resident students who enroll in Academic Year 2006-2007 will be \$163.00 per credit hour. Undergraduate tuition for new Illinois resident students who first enroll in Academic Year 2007-2008 will be \$179.00 per credit hour (an overall 9.8% increase). Tuition rates for new graduate students in the Master of Occupational Therapy and Master of Physical therapy programs will be \$279.00 per credit hour (a 9.0% increase). Tuition rates for new graduate students in the Doctor of Physical Therapy program will be \$374.00 per credit hour (a 9.4% increase). Graduate tuition for all other Illinois graduate students will increase from \$171.00 to \$186.00 per credit hour (an 8.8% increase). Graduate tuition for non-resident students in the Doctorate of Physical Therapy program will be \$744.00 per credit hour. [*Under Public Act 93-0228 (Truth in Tuition law), the tuition rate established for undergraduate students who are Illinois residents and are new to Governors State University beginning in the Fall 2004 trimester or thereafter, the Fall 2005 trimester or thereafter, and the Fall 2006 trimester or thereafter, will remain fixed at the tuition rate for those students at the time of their initial enrollment for twelve consecutive trimesters.] Beaupre moved to approve Resolution 07-36. Mayer seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous roll call vote.

Resolution 07-37: OTS Roof Replacement Contract: Upon the recommendation of the President, and the review and concurrence of the Finance and Budget Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves a contract with Riddiford Roofing of Arlington Heights, Illinois, to replace the roof of the Outreach and Technical Services (OTS) building. The contract cost is \$209,817. With an added 10% contingency, the University’s total authority to spend on this project will be \$230,799. Beaupre moved to approve Resolution 07-37. Williams seconded the motion. Riddiford Roofing was the low-bidder on a public procured request for bids. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 07-38: D Wing Elevator Renovation Contract: Upon the recommendation of the President, and the review and concurrence of the Finance and Budget Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State

University Board of Trustees approves a contract with Colley Elevator of Bensenville, Illinois to complete renovations of the D-wing elevator. The cost is \$282,192. With an added 10% contingency, the University's total authority to spend on this project will be \$310,410. Beaupre moved to approve Resolution 07-38. Samuels seconded the motion. Colley Elevator was the low-bidder on a public procured request for bids. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 07-39: Advanced Computer Science Laboratories – General Contractor Contract: Upon the recommendation of the President, and the review and concurrence of the Finance and Budget Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves a contract with Joseph Construction of Lynwood, Illinois to complete renovations to two (2) classrooms (D2438 and D2440) for Computer Science networking courses and for the creation of new teaching computer labs. The base bid cost is \$375,105 with an “alternate” of \$30,021 for a total cost of \$405,126. With an added 10% contingency, the University's total authority to spend on this project will be \$445,640. Beaupre moved to approve Resolution 07-39. DeLaurentiis seconded the motion. Joseph Construction was the low-bidder on a public procured request for bids. The renovations will be funded from the strategic initiative fees. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 07-40: Advanced Computer Science Laboratories –Hardware Contracts: Upon the recommendation of the President, and the review and concurrence of the Finance and Budget Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves two contracts for the purchase of computer equipment and required maintenance contracts for the two (2) renovated technology classrooms (D2438 and D2440) and a new communications closet as specified. Two contracts will be awarded as follows: Matrix Integration LLC of Springfield, Illinois, \$394,032.00 for sections A and C and Netrix LLC of Bannackburn, Illinois, \$32,118.25 for sections B and D. The total cost of this bid award is \$426,150.25. Beaupre moved to approve Resolution 07-40. DeLaurentiis seconded the motion. The low bidder for each section has been granted the award. These items will be funded from the strategic initiative fees. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 07-41: Seyfarth Shaw LLP Contracts: Upon the recommendation of the President, and the review and concurrence of the Finance and Budget Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves a contract with Seyfarth Shaw LLP of Chicago, Illinois for the amount not to exceed \$250,000 for legal services. Beaupre moved to approve Resolution 07-41. Samuels seconded the motion. These are attorney fees and costs of marshalling evidence for a potential law suit dealing with the construction of the Family Development Center (FDC). The FDC was constructed by the Capital Development Board (CDB), not the University. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 07-42: The South Suburban Consortium for Grow Your Own Illinois Grant—Contract with Prairie State College: Upon the recommendation of the President, and the review and concurrence of the Finance and Budget Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves a one (1) year contract between Governors State University, as the senior institution of higher education, and Prairie State College as a subcontractor for the South Suburban Consortium for Grow Your Own Illinois grant. The cost of this contract is \$104,507.50 over the one (1) year grant period. Beaupre moved to approve Resolution 07-42. Samuels seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

Resolution 07-43: Finance Report: Upon the recommendation of the President, and the review and concurrence of the Finance and Budget Committee of the Board of Trustees, the Governors State University Board of Trustees approves the January 31, 2007 Finance Report. Beaupre moved to approve Resolution 07-43. Samuels seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote.

In addition, the committee discussed a number of information items, including the external audit review, the financial aid report, the deferred maintenance report, and the FY2008 budget.

Personnel Committee: Chair Friefeld stated that the committee had not met since the December meeting; therefore, there was no report.

Institutional Advancement Report

Britt reported that as Advancement enters the fourth quarter, proceeds from both gifts and pledges continue to exceed those of last year, at the same time. There were three campaigns in winter/spring: the faculty staff campaign, the phonathon, and individual meetings with Foundation Board members. Britt's intent is to reach or surpass the goal of \$400,000 by the end of June 2007. A successful Faculty Staff Campaign is very important, because the University can then tell prospective donors how much the GSU faculty and staff support their university. Proceeds from the first Faculty and Staff Campaign were approximately \$15,000; proceeds from the second year were approximately \$17,500; proceeds from this year are approximately \$29,000. This year, the participation rate was nearly 47%. This is remarkable and clearly shows the commitment of the faculty and staff. Britt thanked all those who donated to the campaign. Britt and the President will schedule appointments with Foundation board members throughout April and May. Chair Friefeld added his thanks, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, to all the faculty and staff who donated to the campaign.

Student Senate President's Report

Hodgkin reported that the Student Senate made an emergency loan disbursement in the amount of \$500.00 and replaced the textbooks of a single parent student who was burned out in a fire in December. Hodgkin intends to seek approval of the full Student Senate to add an additional \$5,000 to the GSU Student Emergency Fund, doubling the fund's available working balance. The Senate meeting minutes are now posted on the GSU Website. The Senate had a leadership training seminar on bylaws and elections, under the Direction of Dean Poole and Constitutional Consultant Dr. Bledsoe. The Provost and the Senate are working on the Outstanding Faculty and Outstanding Student Awards. The Senate is actively working on becoming an integral part of the student body through collaborative efforts with student clubs. Hodgkin thanked Senators Priscilla Southern and April Nixon for their outstanding efforts. The Senate has also been active in community activities such as the Thanksgiving and Christmas food, clothing, and toy drives. Hodgkin, as Senate President, serves as the co-chair of the GSU Budget and Finance Committee, which is currently working on budget proposals for the Fiscal 2008-2009 year. The Senate President also serves on several search committees, including the committee for the recently completed presidential search. The Senate voted to join the American Student Government Association (ASGA) and is expecting to send representatives to future meetings. In July 2006, the Student Senate voted to withhold \$25,000 funding from the Family Development Center (FDC) pending that facilities agreement to provide information, each term, on the benefits provided to the students from the use of student fees. In October, FDC did provide the requested information, and \$8,000 was released to cover one term's funding. Since that time, the FDC has made no attempt to provide the requested information, and the Senate has not provided additional funding. At the next Senate meeting, a resolution will be presented to the full Senate to continue withholding the funds and to make the funds available for other student uses. The Senate will discuss possible revisions to student travel rules and allowances.

Faculty Senate President's Report

Lyon reported that the Senate recently heard from Acting Assistant Provost Robinson-Easley regarding the Spellings Commission Report and the upcoming North Central Association Higher Learning Commission NCA/HLC accreditation. The Senate agreed that there must be active participation by the entire University. The Senate encouraged participation of all three senates. This should be an excellent opportunity for the faculty to be leaders. Diane Dates Casey, Eric Wignall, and Lisa Hendrickson presented revisions to two policies regarding the University's position of the use of the GSU website. Linda Buyer, on behalf of the

Alumni Data Task Force, informed the Senate that she has held meetings with a wide range of interested parties. It is apparent that the task force has many ideas to make data collection easier for program coordinators, to take charge of data analysis, and to increase alumni participation. The Senate discussed how the 10-month contract may limit its ability to conduct meetings every month since it may be difficult to obtain a quorum in the summer months. The Senate will conduct a faculty survey regarding what faculty perceive as important issues concerning GSU. It is the intent to conduct the survey electronically, with the help of Luke Helm. The Senate received a request from a faculty member to review the charge of the University Curriculum Committee (UCC) and determine whether or not that committee is fulfilling its proper role. The concern was that the UCC should not hold up implementation of new programs. Muhammad, Chair of UCC, prepared a response to the concern and presented it to the Faculty Senate Executive Committee. The Executive Committee concluded that the UCC understands its role well in relation to the University's constitution and Senate by-laws and that UCC is doing its stated job. The report has not been presented to the full Senate at this time. Lyon has heard nothing further about two issues he reported on at the last Board meeting. One issue was that the Governor's staff had made a recommendation to research the idea that all universities adopt common text. The other issue was that there was a proposal that all elementary education students have a liberal arts major. All of the Illinois faculty members Lyon has spoken with are appalled by that proposal.

Civil Service Senate President's Report

Miller reported that the 3rd Annual GSU Fly-In, organized by Rhonda Jackson, was recently held. The host, Scott Smith, secured donations of prizes from Aramark, Follett's Bookstore, Student Development, and the Senate. This is a feel good event that faculty, staff, and students participate in. The winner of the GSU Flyer was Team Public Affairs. The GSU Flyer will be on display with them for the next year. This may be March, but it is not too early to start planning the next civil service day, or so Miller was told by Mark Kundla who has directed the show for the past three years. Kundla has new ideas and plans for the December event, which are so top secret, even Miller does not know what they are. The Senate has given Kundla the green light and trust in his talent. This should be an exciting event, so mark your calendars now for December 7th.

Once again this past winter, the Senate had no applications submitted for the scholarship/educational assistance fund. This is the third winter in a row with no applications submitted. Each fall and spring, the Senate awards the maximum, which is two per trimester. The Senate is working to find a solution to this problem before next winter. The Senate's goal is to award the maximum amount of awards each fiscal year.

April 25th will be Higher Education Lobby Day in Springfield. This is the first time that all groups including faculty, staff, students, and retirees will lobby together on the same day. The GSU-chapter of the State Universities Annuitants Association (SUAA), and the Civil Service Senate would like to work together with the faculty and students to get the word out and send people to this important event. Details need to be worked out including transportation, whether this counts as a work day, etc. It is imperative that the legislators witness a show of support that will emphasize the importance of higher education in Illinois. Miller thanked the Board and Dr. Fagan for allowing her the experience of serving, as a representative of the Civil Service staff, on the Presidential search committee.

Chair Friefeld recommended that the annual retreats with the Trustees and each of the Senates continue.

Other Business

Election of Officers:

Mayer moved to nominate the following slate of officers: Samuels, Chair; Beaupre, Vice Chair; and DeLaurentiis, Secretary. Williams seconded the motion. There being no further nominations, DeLaurentiis

moved to close nominations. Williams seconded the motion. The motion to close nominations was approved by unanimous voice vote. Wortham distributed ballots to vote on the nominations. The nominations were approved by unanimous ballot vote.

Information Report

Chuck Connolly, Executive Director, Public Affairs; Pam Zener, Student Development; and Greg Kain, Information Technology Services (ITS); gave a presentation on admissions reengineering.

Public Comment Period

Chair Friefeld stated that HB2580 requires GSU to set aside time at each open Board meeting for employees and members of the public to make comments, subject to reasonable constraints. Comments are limited to three minutes for each person. On behalf of the faculty union, Marsha Katz requested to speak.

Katz reported that the successfully negotiated contract will be signed immediately after the Board meeting. The task force is still working on equity issues. If enough faculty, staff, and students are interested in attending lobby day in Springfield on April 25, the union will arrange for bus transportation. Katz stated that the Tribune recently printed a special education section, and GSU was not included. Katz strongly encouraged the administration to take advantage of those types of marketing opportunities in the future. Katz will go to China during the next trimester to teach.

Other Business

Chair Friefeld thanked the Board, the administration, the faculty, the staff, and the students for the courtesy and kindness shown to him while he served as Board of Trustees Chair. He then recognized Trustee Samuels as the new Board Chair.

Chair Samuels thanked Friefeld for his commitment and leadership. She thanked the Trustees for their confidence in her leadership ability. She looks forward to working closely with President Fagan and President Designate Maimon.

Adjournment

Chair Samuels requested a motion to adjourn. Friefeld moved that the meeting be adjourned. Beaupre seconded the motion. The motion was approved by unanimous voice vote. The meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Colleen Rock Cawthon