

University of West Georgia
General Faculty Meeting
Townsend Center for the Performing Arts
Wednesday, August 9, 2006
Approved April 27, 2007

- 1) **Call to Order and Opening Remarks**: Acting President Thomas J. Hynes, Jr. called the meeting to order at 9:07 am. All new and continuing faculty and staff were welcomed back for the beginning of the new academic year. Dr. Hynes mentioned that Dr. Sethna sends his regrets for not being able to attend this meeting. Dr. Hynes was excited about the new academic year and indicated that the university is making a lot of progress in a number of areas. Dr. Hynes mentioned three initiatives for the coming year. First, he hoped for improved university communication within the university and between the university and external constituents. Secondly, the administration will continue to provide the support needed to help students achieve success at West Georgia. This effort is consistent with the University System's Retention, Progression and Graduation Initiative. Thirdly, various committees on campus will review the university's strategic goals and objectives during the upcoming year.
- 2) **Approval of Minutes**: A motion to approve the minutes of the May 2, 2006 meeting was made and seconded, and was approved unanimously.
- 3) **University of West Georgia's Centennial Planning**: Drs. Fred and Anne Richards discussed the University of West Georgia's Centennial Celebration. After claiming to be the "real" interim president and emphasizing that the RCOB is not named after him, Dr. Fred Richards provided background information on the centennial celebration and its theme, "rural roots to global reach." Dr. Anne Richards discussed many events associated with the centennial including the gala to be held on August 18. A listing of centennial-related events will be posted on the campus website.
- 4) **Centennial Time Capsule Project**: Dr. Steve Goodson (History) is chairing the UWG Time Capsule Project. An email will be sent out to faculty and staff asking for suggestions of what to include in the time capsule (to be placed in the special collections section of the library). The capsule is to be dedicated on August 15, 2007 and will be opened 50 years later.
- 5) **Student Services Update**: Dr. Melanie McClellan thanked faculty and staff for help with housing and feeding the Katrina Hurricane evacuees who resided at UWG early last fall. Dr. McClellan discussed other topics including the recently opened Campus Center, a request for faculty to schedule more examinations on Fridays to help keep students on campus later in the week, new approaches for dealing with alcohol abuse on campus, and resources for dealing with disruptive or distressed students.
- 6) **Excel Center Award**: Ms. Cheryl Rice, Director of the Excel Center, presented the Faculty First Year Student Advocate Award to Dr. Jane Hill, Chair of the English Department.
- 7) **UWG Civility Project**: Dr. Jane Hill (English) discussed the UWG Civility Project. First year students have all been given a copy of the P.M. Forni book,

Choosing Civility. Civility topics will be integrated in the first year writing classes also. Dr. Hill also highlighted the collaboration between Academic Affairs and Student Services on this project.

- 8) **AAUP:** Dr. Charles Clark (History, Graduate School) encouraged faculty to join the West Georgia chapter of the AAUP. Two AAUP initiatives for this year are salary compression at UWG and the reduction in the state (university) contributions for the ORP retirement program participants.
- 9) **A Day for West Georgia:** Ms. Audrey Baird (Career Services) and Dr. Jon Anderson (RCOB) encouraged faculty and staff to donate money to the A Day campaign this fall. A brief video was shown at the meeting illustrating how a number of students have benefited from funds generated from past A Day fundraising drives.
- 10) **Acting Vice President's Remarks**—Dr. Hynes introduced Dr. Sandra Stone, the Acting Vice President of Academic Affairs. Dr. Stone welcomed all new and returning faculty to West Georgia. In her remarks, Dr. Stone discussed a number of initiatives and events planned for the new academic year. These include the Civility Project, a campus voter registration drive, the newspaper readership program, and a water policy forum. Academic Affairs is also sponsoring a number of faculty development opportunities during the upcoming year including sessions for new faculty, faculty going up for a third year review or promotion and tenure, chairs of academic departments, and chairs of faculty recruiting committees. Campus committees will be working during the upcoming academic year on promotion/tenure guidelines, the UWG strategic plan, the UWG homepage, Area B in the core curriculum, the Faculty Handbook, and a number of other initiatives.
- 11) **Closing Remarks and Adjournment:** Acting President Hynes asked all new faculty and staff in attendance to rise and be recognized. A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:36 am.

Respectfully Submitted

David Boldt (Economics)
Acting Secretary