

ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
Minutes of
April 3, 2013

Attendees: J.L. Albert, Paul Alberto, Mark Becker, Larry Berman, Chris Connelly, Doug Covey, Michael Eriksen, Laura Fredrick, Lynda Goodfellow, Don Hale, Kerry Heyward, DeAnna Hines, Fenwick Huss, Steve Kaminshine, Julie Kerlin, Cheryl Levick, Tom Lewis, Jun Liu, Bill Long, Walter Massey, Jerry Rackliffe, Don Reitzes, Tim Renick, Sterling Roth, Nan Seamans, Rose Sevcik, Andrea Thornton, Edgar Torbert, Kris Varjas, Mary Beth Walker, Peggy Wilmoth

The minutes of February 12, 2013, were approved as distributed.

2013 Legislative Session

Ms. Kerlin and Mr. Lewis reported on the 2013 legislative session. Some of the key bills for GSU that passed and were awaiting the signature of Governor Deal included \$58.8 million in capital outlay construction dollars for the GSU Humanities/Law Building; \$63 million in enrollment-growth funding formula dollars to the University System; and continuation of the carry-forward provision for tuition and fee revenues between FY2013 and FY2014. Some other significant bills included \$25 million in capital outlay small capital projects for the University System (noted as a funding trend); ethics legislation excluding University System lobbyists (as state employees); changes in HOPE grant requirements for technical college students; allowing local governments to ease restrictions on beer and wine sales in grocery stores within 100 yards of college campuses; and authorization of fiscal note to determine the impact of a one-time opportunity for faculty and staff with an ORP retirement plan to convert to TRS (state will not subsidize; substantial fee for employee to switch). The gun bill was *de facto* tabled (along with all other legislation that failed to pass) until the 2014 session, which will be the second session of the biennial. GSU will abide by the provisions of the ethics bill regarding lobbyists, even though not explicitly required to do so by the version that passed.

Dr. Becker welcomed Mr. Connelly to the Administrative Council as the newly elected president of the Staff Council.

Department Name Change

Dr. Alberto presented the proposed name change from the Department of Middle-Secondary Education & Instructional Technology to the Department of Middle-Secondary Education as a result of the establishment of the Learning Technology Division and transfer of faculty from the department to the division. Dr. Wilmoth made a motion to approve the name change. Dr. Kaminshine seconded the motion. The motion passed.

International Initiatives

Dr. Liu presented an overview of highlights, challenges and solutions for the Office of International Initiatives during his tenure as Associate Provost for International Initiatives. The presentation topics included: international advisory board; international consortia of institutions addressing critical issues for mega-cities; student mobility; faculty exchange; research collaboration; doubling Study Abroad; reciprocity issues with more incoming than outgoing students; flat GSU enrollment of international students contrasted with national growth; expansion of International Education Week; Global Education Initiative; international agreements; and Confucius Institute.

Travel Warnings Policy

Dr. Heyward distributed copies of a draft travel warnings policy to be considered at the May meeting of Administrative Council.

Enrollment Report

Dr. Becker distributed copies of an enrollment report submitted by Dr. Renick. The deans have been contacted about efforts to boost lagging summer enrollments. The summer freshmen-at-risk program has offset some of the shortfall in summer enrollments overall, and the program has shown strong success in the past in preparing freshmen for the transition to college. Fall enrollment numbers are looking good with the goal of 13,000 applicants well within reach. Confirmed freshmen are up 140% year-to-date. The freshman class includes one student with a perfect score on SAT. Graduate student applications are down, but admits are up.

Dr. Becker commented on the trend toward regulations over legislation in dealing with higher education matters at the national level. Concern about increases in tuition costs is leading to increased interest in monitoring financial matters at institutions.

Budget Report

Dr. Rackliffe indicated the FY2013 budget was in good shape because of the cuts implemented last fall, and that GSU was well positioned for FY2014 as well with the continuation of the same cuts. The tuition increase for FY2014 will be 3.5%.

Commencement

Ms. Hines announced the PhD hooding ceremony will be May 10 at the Rialto Center for the Performing Arts with Dr. Weyhenmeyer as the speaker. The spring commencement will be May 11 at the Georgia Dome [Chris Hughes, co-founder of Facebook, subsequently announced as the speaker]. More than 4,500 graduates had sent RSVPs indicating participation in the commencement, and 90 PhD graduates had sent RSVPs for the hooding ceremony. The stoles given to the undergraduates will have the GSU centennial logo.

Student Code of Conduct

Dr. Covey distributed copies of a draft student code of conduct to be considered at the May meeting of Administrative Council.

President's Remarks

Dr. Becker congratulated Mr. Massey on successful efforts to obtain GSU Foundation Board of Trustees approval of \$4.5 million over three years to accelerate renovations at 25 Park Place and hasten moves of College of Arts and Sciences units into that building. Dr. Becker also commented on parallel developments in Tennessee concerning performance-based funding, conceal-carry laws, and state oversight of public schools.

It was noted that the hate signage posted in 34 Peachtree was not affiliated with GSU, but in violation with GSU policies regarding postings in campus buildings. Dr. Covey reminded that such incidents should be reported immediately to the Dean of Students Office.