
ORDER: The chair, President Mark Becker, called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the October 27, 2011 Senate meeting were approved with no changes.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR: The chair welcomed Dean Peggy Wilmoth and Dean Larry Berman to GSU. The Legislative Session has begun and will probably be a shorter session since this is an election year. When the governor gave his state of the state address, he talked about the importance of education in charting a course for the future. Also, he stated he has confidence in the USG. We will have a 2% cut in the budget for this year. The governor added formula funding back into the budget. There will be no increases in student fees for this year.

In the past six months, GSU has been awarded more than $7 million from foundations, alumni, and friends to support the first goal in our Strategic Plan. The chair congratulated Tim Renick and Joe Piffaretti and all those that work with them on their success in this area.

NEW BUSINESS:
A. Election of a replacement senator to serve on the 2011-2012 Executive Committee. President Becker opened the floor for nominations. The names were recorded as nominated:

Kris Varjas, College of Education

The nominations were closed. Since there was only one nomination, Dr. Varjas was elected to serve on the Executive Committee.

B. The Executive Committee recommends a “do pass” on the following agenda items:

1. Promotion and Tenure Manual presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee; David Cheshier, chair. This review process has been ongoing for about a year. It had been 15 years since the manual was last reviewed in this manner. Donald Reitzes was recognized for chairing the ad hoc task force that put together a comprehensive draft of this document that was brought forward to the full Faculty Affairs Committee for review and potential revision. The floor was opened for discussion. Mary Ann Romski made a friendly amendment to add a sentence to the end of Section I: “If a college requires more time to review and revise departmental guidelines and the college manual, the Dean may petition the Provost for a one year delay in implementing the University’s P&T Manual”. This was accepted as a friendly amendment. The question was called. The motion passed.

2. Credit for End of HS Examinations from countries other than the U.S. presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This will allow departments to award college credit for subject examinations taken at the end of high school in countries other than the U.S. The question was called. The motion passed.

3. Amend the Definition of “Student” in the Student Code of Conduct presented by the Student Life and
Development Committee; Elisabeth Burgess, chair. This change to the definition of “student” will align it with current GSU policies and expand the definition of “student” to include a new category called “continuing student”. The question was called. The motion passed.

4. **Amend the Senate Bylaws, Article VIII: Committees** presented by the University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee; John Duffield, chair. This will increase the number of faculty senators serving on the Student Discipline Committee from seven to ten. The question was called and the motion passed.

5. **Resolution on 9% Salary Cap for Summer Faculty** presented by the Budget Committee; Katherine Willoughby, chair. Dr. Willoughby reported that this resolution was presented to FACP the day before this meeting and FACP approved restoring the cap on summer salaries to 10%. The resolution was therefore withdrawn.

6. **Annual Status Report on the Progress of the Strategic Plan** presented by the Executive Committee; Paul Alberto, chair. There will be an annual report from the Provost’s Office to the P&D Committee on the current status of the progress on the University Strategic Plan. The question was called. The motion passed.

The chair reviewed the three information items that were included in the Senators’ packets.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Executive (Paul Alberto, chair): Dr. Alberto stated that invitations to serve on a subcommittee to look at a promotion manual for NTT faculty were sent out today. He encouraged those who were invited to respond in the affirmative. Invitations were also sent out today to serve on a joint sub-committee of the Academic Programs Committee and the Executive Committee to look at program review.

Academic Programs (Sara Weigle, chair): The committee has met twice. The committee approved American Sign Language for use in the core curriculum. Two degrees in Geosciences were approved. A sub-committee has been working on the concept of global competence. A survey has been sent out and a pilot program is being developed to train faculty in globalizing their courses.

Admissions and Standards (George Rainbolt, chair): The committee has met twice and approved the items on today’s agenda. Sub-committees are working on the signature experience program, upper-division admission requirements for Exercise Science and RCB, and a possible amendment to the academic honesty policy. He invited senators to come to the forum on grades, academic standards, grading, and student learning.

Athletics (Kris Varjas, chair): The committee has met once and also toured the new athletic facilities on MLK Jr. Drive. This year its focus will be on a gender equity study and a drug testing policy for athletes. The committee teamed up with the Student Discipline Committee to address issues around plagiarism and academic honesty regarding student athletes. The Athletics Department will modify its summer orientation program to address these issues.

Budget (Katherine Willoughby, chair): The committee has met twice. In addition to the resolution on today’s agenda, the committee presented a report to FACP on mandatory student fees at off-campus centers and online programs. The committee is reviewing the governor’s budget as well as the consolidations done by the BOR last week. Subcommittees are also working on a variety of topics.

Commencement (Mark Becker, chair): The committee met once to prepare for the Fall commencement. The committee has started planning for next May’s commencement ceremony. There will still be two Ph.D. hooding ceremonies each year, one in Spring and one in Fall.

Cultural Diversity (Julie Ancis, chair): The committee has met twice. Items being worked on are: a pipeline proposal for underrepresented minority Ph.D. students, a replication of the 2005 climate study in order to track the progress made since the first survey, and the salary equity initiative. It is hoped that the external consultant for the salary equity initiative will have his/her initial draft report completed by the end of January.

Faculty Affairs (David Cheshier, chair): The committee has been meeting monthly, primarily working on the P&T manual approved at today’s meeting. Other issues include: a proposal to create a university level faculty committee to advise the President and Provost on P&T, several FAC members will be serving on the sub-committee to create a NTT promotion manual, developing a policy that will clarify the governance role for NTT faculty, worklife issues, spousal hiring matters, and salary compression. A review of adjunct and contingent faculty has begun.
FACP (Risa Palm, chair): The committee has met twice. At the first meeting, the committee reviewed recommendations from the student mandatory fee committee and one professional tuition increase from RCB. It received a report from the Budget Committee on fees charged to off campus students. At the second meeting, two proposals were considered: one regarding study abroad monies and the other regarding the 9% summer salary cap.

IS&T (Brendan Calandra, chair): The 2012-13 tech fee distribution committee has been formed. The tech fee process committee is still at work and a report to the full committee is expected soon.

Library (Katherine Willoughby for Deron Boyles, chair): The committee met once. It is still waiting for the verdict in the copyright lawsuit. The committee is planning seminars dealing with the issues of publishing and copywriting. The committee is drafting a policy for the submission of thesis and dissertations to the library.

Planning and Development (P.C. Tai, chair): The committee met with Robin Morris for an update on the strategic plan. CBSAC submitted the MRRF list to the committee for review. Another issue the committee is working on is campus safety.

Research (Rose Sevcik, chair): The committee has met twice. The joint sub-committee (with the Budget Committee) on funding models for doctoral programs is hard at work. The committee is exploring new indirect cost recovery models. An ad hoc subcommittee has met to discuss ongoing hiring issues for research scientists and post-doc fellows.

Student Discipline (Marta White, chair): The committee has had 6 hearings since the last Senate meeting. The committee is working with Athletics Department and the Athletics Committee on issues of academic honesty and student athletes.

Student Life and Development (Elisabeth Burgess, chair): The committee has met twice. VP Covey gave the committee his “state of student affairs” address. There are many exciting things happening in the Division of Student Affairs. It has approved several student charters. Sub-committees are working on various issues.

Sustainability (Dabney Dixon, chair): The committee met twice. The website called “gogreen.gsu.edu” is up and running. The committee has completed a study of sustainability offices at universities in the Urban 13. It has completed a proposal for a sustainability director and office on campus.

University Statutes and Senate Bylaws (John Duffield, chair): The committee will be meeting soon to work on changes to the Senate Bylaws to reflect the change in the university organizational structure.

OLD BUSINESS: Hugh Hudson announced that the Georgia legislature is again dealing with the issue of guns on campus. The BOR and AAUP oppose this bill.

ADJOURNMENT: Since there was no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Nell Stone
Secretary to the Senate