ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
Minutes of
January 4, 2012


Minutes of November 2, 2011, were approved as distributed.

Welcome New Members

Dr. Palm introduced new deans, Dr. Berman and Dr. Wilmoth. Dr. Becker welcomed new Senate Executive Committee member, Dr. Goodfellow.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of November 2, 2011, were approved as distributed.

Guidelines for the Creation and Relocation of Academic Programs (Units)

Dr. Palm presented the draft “Guidelines for the Creation and Relocation of Academic Programs”, which had been reviewed with the Deans Group, department chairs, and the Senate Executive Committee. Dr. Palm noted the input components formalized in the guidelines and questions to be addressed in each proposal report. Hearing no objections and with a vote by the Administrative Council not required, Dr. Becker stated the guidelines would be accepted.

Dr. Huss inquired about the existence of a similar set of guidelines for closing academic units. Dr. Palm indicated the topic would be discussed by the Deans Group.

Legislature Update

Ms. Kerlin presented information concerning the upcoming legislative session. She noted this was the second year of the biennial so that legislation left on the table in 2011 could roll over to 2012. Ms. Kerlin listed departures and arrivals in the composition of the legislature and its leadership. She pointed to the following prominent issues: revenue/budget, tax reform, higher education-consolidation/formula funding/guns on campus, health care, and criminal justice reform. Ms. Kerlin summarized the University System budget priorities as $102M for enrollment (formula) growth, $50M for MRRF, and $267M for capital projects. She stated that the normal GSU share of MRRF would be $5.5M.


Enrollment Report

Dr. Renick presented the Spring Semester 2012 enrollment report through January 4, 2012. He indicated that year-to-date comparisons showed Spring Semester 2012 ahead of Spring Semester 2011, with record headcount and record credit hours anticipated. Dr. Renick pointed to the larger entering freshman class for Spring Semester 2012, and the first ever Incept orientation program for Spring Semester new students with 190 participating.
Dr. Renick commented on the size and quality of the early admission cohort accepted during Fall Semester 2011 for admission Fall Semester 2012. He described recruitment of these students as more aggressive than in the first two years of the program and cautioned that UGA was likewise being very aggressive. Dr. Renick pointed out that the early admission acceptances were coupled with scholarship letters with 156 top tier students offered 2nd Century Scholarships. Dr. Renick noted that overall freshmen acceptances are expected to have a 45% yield rate, but early admission acceptances have a yield rate under 40% in a highly competitive environment.

Announcements

Dr. Becker announced University System approval of the neuroethics concentration PhD program at GSU.

Mr. Massey reported fundraising receipts of more than $12M over the first six months of the fiscal year with 1,000 gifts received during the holiday break.

Dr. Becker commented on the final Fall Semester commencement and plans to continue the PhD ceremony in the Fall Semester, but perhaps earlier in the semester.

Ms. Levick announced the hiring of Mr. Leader as women’s soccer coach. She also noted success in basketball and the Samaritan’s Feet game scheduled for January 12, 2012.

Dr. Becker announced that committees were forming to plan the yearlong celebration of the GSU Centennial in 2013.

Dr. Palm announced the first Distinguished Visiting Faculty appointee, Dr. Howard-Matthews, in the College of Education for Spring Semester 2012.

Dr. Palm reminded the deans to submit information about programs rated in the Top Ten.

Dr. Palm announced the establishment of $10K stipends for all Regent’s Professors by the board of the GSU Research Foundation.