Attendees: Paul Alberto, Pam Barr, Mark Becker, Larry Berman, Lynda Brown-Wright, Doug Covey, Michael Eriksen, Mary Finn, Laura Fredrick, Colleen Geary, Charles Gilbreath, Lynda Goodfellow, Don Hale, Kerry Heyward, Fenwick Huss, Steve Kaminshine, Julie Kerlin, Bill Long, Peter Lyons, Walter Massey, Robin Morris, Risa Palm, Jerry Rackliffe, Don Reitzes, Tim Renick, Sterling Roth, Rose Sevcik, Tammy Sugarman, Andrea Thornton, Edgar Torbert, Mary Beth Walker, Peggy Wilmoth, Sallie Wright

The minutes of March 5, 2014, were approved as distributed.

College of Arts & Sciences Strategic Plan

Dr. Long presented an overview of the College of Arts & Sciences strategic plan using the same framework as the University Strategic Plan. Among the many objectives highlighted were experiential learning, signature experiences, early alert program, hybrid courses, PhD student visitation days, Dean’s Graduate Fellowships, 4+1 undergraduate-master’s programs, Dean’s Early Career Awards, workload adjustments for high-performing faculty, CENCIA, media/creative industries, globalization, DEEP, Study Abroad, global student assistantship program, and Global Studies Institute.

Centennial Hall Event Space

Ms. Geary presented guidelines for use of event space on the first floor of Centennial Hall, including the Centennial Hall auditorium, conference room 120, and the lobby area. The changes to existing practice include elimination of Tuesday reservations, maximum of one event per space per day, and rental charges. President and Provost will have priority on Centennial Hall reservations. Use will be restricted to administration, faculty and staff events.

Commencement

Ms. Geary presented a proposal for commencements utilizing the combined venues of the Georgia Dome and the Georgia World Congress Center for the official commencement ceremony and the individual college commencement ceremonies, and centralized coordination of all ceremonies by the University Events Management Office. Colleges would plan and staff individual college events, but UEM would schedule, pay facility fees, etc. Colleges would pay for reception costs, except facility fees.

Enrollment Report

Dr. Renick reported Summer Semester 2014 registrations were tracking close to the preceding summer semester, although the College of Law summer registrations had not yet begun. Summer freshmen registration were up largely due to the Summer Success Academy, which is increasingly sought as an option by applicants and their parents. Fall Semester 2014 freshman applications and admits were down year-to-date from the preceding fall semester; however confirmations were up 18%. Transfer applications, admits and confirmations were up from the preceding fall semester. Graduation rates combined with National Student Clearinghouse data continued to show improvement with 2013 overall graduation and graduation/retention rates rising to 64.1% and 77.5%, respectively. GSU continues to be acclaimed as a success in improving graduation and retention rates with a steady stream of institutions and state systems visiting to learn more about GSU initiatives in this area.

Budget Report
Dr. Rackliffe reported the FY2014 budget was projected in balance, and preparation of the FY2015 budget was on hold pending USG decisions about merit raise guidelines, etc. The vice presidents and deans had been advised to expect reallocations of 1% to complete the merit raise pool.

Legislative Report

Ms. Kerlin summarized the outcomes of the 2014 legislative session. The College of Law Building equipment item of $7M remained on the capital projects list. The gun bill passed with the campus safety zone preserved. The P3 legislation to extend tax exemptions to private partners in student housing partnerships with USG institutions passed and will be a question on the November 2014 ballot.

President’s Remarks

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

Dr. Becker announced Elana Meyers will be the speaker at Spring Semester 2014 commencement.

Dr. Becker commented on recognition by the White House of importance of cultural commitment as well as analytics to accomplish gains in student success as realized at GSU.

Announcements

Dr. Berman announced the GSU Undergraduate Research Conference on April 10, 2014.