

MINUTES
UNIVERSITY SENATE
October 18, 2012

PRESENT: *Senate members:* Jarell Abrams, Peggy Albers, Paul Alberto, Amber Amari, JoAnn Bacon, Pam Barr, Larry Berman, Mark Becker, Deron Boyles, Michelle Brattain, Taylor Briggs, Fred Brooks, Elisabeth Burgess, Catherine Cadenhead, Brendan Calandra, Debby Cannon, David Caudill, David Cheshier, Sara Cook, Doug Covey, Lisa Cranwell-Bruce, Harry Dangel, Charles Derby, Vedica Eastman, Crawford Elliott, Michael Eriksen, Chris Fenn, Mary Finn, Laura Fredrick, Shelby Frost, Peggy Gallagher, Vijay Ganji, MaryAnne Gaunt, Gerald Gay, Stuart Gerber, Charles Gilbreath, Maria Gindhart, Jeffrey Glover, Lynda Goodfellow, Skye Hardesty, Steve Harmon, Robert Harrison, Brenna Helmstutler, Kerry Heyward, Kevin Hsieh, Miles Irving, Miriam Jackson, Olga Jarrett, Jennifer Jones, Jodi Kaufmann, Marcus Kernizan, Nancy Kropf, Jeff Lazarus, Peter Lindsay, Greg Lisby, Jun Liu, Leigh Anne Liu, William Long, Carrie Manning, Walter Massey, Kathryn McClymond, Mark McFarland, John Medlock, Marian Meyers, Jacob Moore, Theo Muhumuza, Tim Nichols, Risa Palm, Dominic Parrott, Chester Phillips, Jason Plemmons, Cora Presley, Mike Raderstorf, George Rainbolt, Jerry Rackliffe, Bala Ramesh, Lesley Reid, Don Reitzes, Tim Renick, Ed Rigdon, Brandon Roberts, Mary Ann Ronski, Shari Schwartz, Rose Sevcik, Mary Stuckey, Andy Sumner, P.C. Tai, Brian Thoms, Jowanna Tillman, Gertrude Tinker-Sachs, Volkan Topalli, Kris Varjas, Bronis Verhage, Bill Walsh, Tai Wang, Sara Weigle, Elizabeth West, Marta White, Katherine Willoughby.

Guests: Jamie Boggs, Jeremy Craig, Alex Osiacacz, Erik Paz, Rebecca Stout.

ORDER: The chair, President Mark Becker, called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the April 19, 2012 Senate meeting were approved with no changes.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR: President Becker had recently given the State of the University address so his comments were brief. He gave an update on the Strategic Plan. GSU has been getting national recognition for its efforts on student success. In the area of research, we had a record year in the number of dollars raised for research by the faculty. Even though Georgia's economy has been problematic, GSU is managing all the factors it can control. Even though it's a difficult time, through the hard work of the faculty and staff, GSU is doing very well.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Executive Committee recommends a "do pass" on the following agenda items:

1. **Create a Signature Experiences/Fellows Program** presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This motion attempts to balance the desire to infuse signature experiences across the curriculum with the desire to improve graduation rates. The question was called. The motion passed.
2. **Approve a Smoking/Tobacco Free Campus Policy** presented by the Planning and Development Committee; P.C. Tai, chair. This motion promotes a clean, healthy, productive, and safe environment for all students, faculty, staff, and visitors. The question was called and the motion passed.
3. **Addendum to the April 19, 2012 Nominations Report** presented by the Nominations Committee; Shelby Frost, chair. The addendum was approved with one adjustment.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive (Don Reitzes, chair): The committee has met twice and are monitoring five *ad hoc* committees working on various issues at present.

Academic Programs (Sara Weigle, chair): The committee has met three times. It has approved some degree and certificate programs and several deactivations and minor curricular changes as well as four APR reports. It also approved the graduate faculty policy.

Admissions and Standards (George Rainbolt, chair): The committee has met three times since the last Senate meeting. Besides approving today's agenda item, it continues to work on a variety of issues that will be coming before the Senate in the near future.

Athletics (Kris Varjas, chair): The committee has met three times and continues to work on the gender equity study for athletes. A survey will be going out to the students this semester to gauge the interest in women's swimming and diving.

Budget (Lesley Reid, chair): The committee has met three times including a joint meeting with the Faculty Affairs Committee. Jerry Rackliffe gave an update on the university budget. It has also reviewed a report on the doctoral funding model. There are two joint subcommittees working on retirement plans and salary compression.

Commencement (Mark Becker, chair): The committee met once. The speaker for the Fall Ph.D. hooding ceremony will be Dr. Louis Ruprecht. The Fall commencement ceremony will be on December 18 with Governor Nathan Deal delivering the commencement address. The committee has submitted two names to the BOR for honorary degrees. The committee is considering whether the Rialto is large enough to host the Ph.D. ceremony going forward.

Cultural Diversity (Elizabeth West, chair): The committee has met twice and is reviewing its membership as stated in the Senate *Bylaws*. It is also reviewing the gender equity study. Other issues being reviewed are the student climate survey, retention of minority faculty, race and gender bias in student evaluation, and domestic partner insurance.

Faculty Affairs (David Cheshier, chair): The committee has met twice. Subcommittees are working on several items: gender equity remediation, revision of the Faculty Handbook, policy on faculty spousal hiring, salary compression, custom textbooks, policy relating to adjunct faculty, graduate faculty policy, and a promotion and tenure manual for non-tenure track faculty.

FACP (Risa Palm, chair): The committee has met three times. It endorsed the recommendations from the tech fee committee. It reviewed Summer revenues, discussed the anticipated budget cuts, and discussed plans to utilize indirect cost revenues.

IS&T (Steve Harmon, chair): The committee has met three times. It discussed the circumstances and ramifications of the recent network outage in August. It is monitoring the transition from ULearn to Desire2Learn. It completed revisions on how tech fees are distributed.

Library (Deron Boyles, chair): The committee has approved the new Honors College journal. It is putting together a proposal to have a seminar on the future of copyright in higher education and forwarded it to the President and Provost.

Planning and Development (P.C. Tai, chair): The committee has met twice and discussed the smoking policy and campus safety. Dr. Tai thanked Beth Jones for her work with campus safety issues.

Research (Rose Sevcik, chair): The committee has met three times. It has reviewed the joint sub-committee (with the Budget Committee) report on funding models for doctoral programs. It has reviewed and given feedback on several of URSA's activities. It is refining a list of research recommendations and priorities and has endorsed a plan for expanding the science park.

Student Discipline (Marta White, chair): The committee has had 5 hearings since the last Senate meeting. All of the cases were about plagiarism.

Student Life and Development (Elisabeth Burgess, chair): The committee has met three times. It has approved several student organization charters. A subcommittee has been formed to review issues regarding the general code of conduct. A subcommittee is reviewing the committee's charge as stated in the Senate *Bylaws*.

Sustainability (Dabney Dixon, chair): No report.

University Statutes and Senate Bylaws (Greg Lisby, chair): The committee met once and is working on a few issues that that will be coming up at future Senate meetings

SPEAKERS: Provost Palm gave an update on the Strategic Plan, Cheryl Levick gave an update on GSU Athletics, and DeAnna Hines gave an update on the events surrounding the GSU Centennial.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Since there was no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Nell Stone
Secretary to the Senate