
Guests: Lisa Armistead, Jaray Gillespie, Julie Manzella, Dylan Ruedigieg, Mary Seltneider, Rebecca Stout.

ORDER: The chair, President Mark Becker, called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the October 9, 2014 Senate meeting were approved with no changes.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR: President Becker mentioned that the 2015 Legislative Session has begun and the major themes are transportation, education (primarily K-12) and workforce readiness. GSU did get $4.9 million for Classroom South expansion. Enrollment is solid. Fundraising is going strong. Our research funding is at $50 million in six months. The BoR voted to consolidate Georgia State University with Georgia Perimeter College. We have until next January to work out all of the details.

NEW BUSINESS:

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

1. Motion on Priority Registration presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; Sara Weigle, chair. This will give priority registration to veterans. This will put us in compliance with what’s in current practice. The question was called and the motion passed.

2. Motion on Senate Bylaws Article II, Section 1 presented by the University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee; Patrick Freer, chair. This will amend the text to state that the Executive Committee will meet at least once prior to each Senate meeting. The question was called and the motion passed.

Information items:
1. Change of Membership on the Cultural Diversity Committee
2. Academic Program Committee Review Cycle 2013-2020

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Executive Committee (Laura Fredrick, chair): The committee met once to approve today’s agenda.

Academic Programs (Michelle Brattain, chair): The committee met three times and approved proposals for 5 new programs. It has approved changes to 6 concentrations and 4 graduate degrees.
Admissions and Standards (Sara Weigle, chair): The committee has not met. It will be involved with the consolidation effort.

Athletics (Kris Varjas, chair): The committee has met once. It is working on Title IX and the issue of sexual assault. It is addressing some issues that have been in the national news lately. It met with the Student Discipline Committee to put in place some preventative measures to address plagiarism and other issues.

Budget (Cherian Thachenkary, chair): The committee has met three times. It has hosted several guest speakers. It completed a proposal regarding mandatory student fees for graduate students. A subcommittee is working on a comparative salary survey. It wrote the resolution honoring Hugh Hudson’s service to the University Senate.

Commencement (Mark Becker, chair): The committee has met once. He gave a summary of the Fall commencement ceremony. Spring commencement will be on May 9 at 1:00 p.m.

Cultural Diversity (Sarah Pallas): The committee has had regular monthly meetings. It has forwarded 2 recommendations to the Faculty Affairs Committee. It is working on the student evaluation of faculty instrument and the composition of promotion and tenure committees.

Faculty Affairs (Kathryn McClymond, chair): The committee met twice. Subcommittees are working on issues regarding the student evaluation of faculty instrument and also promotion and tenure. It continues to review the evaluation of administrator instruments.

FACP (Risa Palm, chair): The committee met twice. Jerry Rackliffe reported the Summer and Fall enrollment and revenue figures at the October meeting. At the November meeting, the committee reviewed the report from the mandatory student fee committee. There will be no change in fees in 2016.

IS&T (Steve Harmon, chair): The committee met twice. IS&T has finished the renovation of the mezzanine in ALC. GSU now participates in Eduroam, which is a network of networks.

Library (Joseph Hacker, chair): No report.

Planning and Development (George Rainbolt, chair): The committee met four times. It discussed graduate programs, the Master Plan, academic program review, and is composing an updated mission statement for the University.

Research (Rose Sevcik, chair): The committee met twice. It is working to expedite the processing of external rewards. It is working with the Research Office to manage these processes as efficiently as possible. It also has reviewed the professional leave policy for tenure track faculty in regard to the application for these prestigious fellowships.

Student Discipline (Marta White, chair): The committee met 10 times.

Student Life and Development (Elisabeth Burgess, chair): The committee met twice and approved 19 new student organizations. It finalized the changes in its charge and membership as listed in the Bylaws. It reviewed some Code of Conduct issues and it hosted several visitors such as the Director of Housing.

Sustainability (Dabney Dixon, chair): The committee met three times. It continues to work with Facilities Management on reducing energy usage and on encouraging more recycling on campus.

Univ. Statutes and Senate Bylaws (Pat Freer, chair): The committee met once to approve the item on today’s agenda.
SPEAKERS: Vice President for Student Affairs Doug Covey and University Attorney Kerry Heyward gave a presentation on issues surrounding Title IX and sexual assault and what processes are in place on campus for dealing with this issue. Linda Nelson is the Title IX coordinator.

RESOLUTION: President Becker asked Hugh Hudson to come to the stage. The following resolution was read: “Whereas our esteemed friend and colleague, Hugh Dorsey Hudson, Jr., Ph.D., has served in this Senate and Georgia State University meritoriously for 33 years, it is altogether fitting that we should honor his service and contributions on the occasion of his retirement from active service to the University. Be it resolved, therefore, that in honor of his retirement from active service to this University, we here present salute him and extend our deepest appreciation, January 22, 2015.” Signed by President Becker and Provost Palm. The resolution was met with applause. Dr. Hudson made a brief statement expressing his thanks and gratitude.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Since there was no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Nell Stone
Secretary to the Senate