Administrative Council
Minutes of
August 4, 2015


Approval of Minutes

The minutes of May 5, 2015, were approved.

Introductions

Dr. Becker introduced Jennifer Stephens, ACE Fellow at GSU for 2015-16 from Georgia Gwinnett College, and Sebastian Parra, president of the GSU SGA for 2015-16. Mr. Parra distributed copies of the 2015-16 agenda for SGA and commented briefly on the major points.

Out-of-State Tuition Waiver Policy

Dr. Renick outlined the Board of Regents changes incorporated in the revised GSU out-of-state tuition waiver policy, including the separation of presidential waivers from other types of out-of-state tuition waivers for counting purposes toward the maximum number allowed; the increase of the number of presidential waivers from 2% to 4% of FTE enrollments for the research universities; and the increase in graduate student out-of-state tuition waivers (apart from graduate assistantship based waivers) from 80 to 140.

Dr. Renick made a motion to approve the revised policy as presented. Dr. Heyward seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Enrollment Report

Dr. Renick reported overall and new freshmen headcount enrollments for Fall Semester 2015 were slightly behind Fall Semester 2014 year-to-date, but anticipated the opposite situation after the upcoming INCEPT session. Graduate and transfer student headcount enrollments were also trailing the previous year. The transfer student decrease was attributed in part to Georgia Perimeter students deciding not to transfer prior to the consolidation of Georgia Perimeter with GSU. Consolidations of two-year with four-year institutions generally lead to fewer transfers. Credit hour enrollments were up year-to-date, reflecting higher average course loads.

SACS Substantive Change Policy

Dr. Lyons presented the proposed SACS substantive change policy outlining responsibilities and procedures for ensuring GSU compliance with SACS substantive change reporting requirements. Dr. Lyons made a motion to approve the proposed policy as presented. Dr. Eriksen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Dr. Lyons explained that USG Board of Regents substantive change items are handled differently with Dr. Renick serving as the GSU liaison, and in some cases Dr. Becker merely notifies the Board of Regents rather than submitting proposed changes for approval.

Institute for Insight
Dr. Ryan presented the proposed Institute for Insight to be housed in the Robinson College of Business. The institute will build on recently initiated endeavors in RCB to engage master’s degree students in analytical research linked to big data. The proposed institute will focus on drawing insights from big data, which is a huge need as evidenced by 180 companies pursuing the 19 students in the start-up lab in 2014-15. Thirty-two new master’s students will be in the program in 2015-16. SunTrust and a number of alumni are providing additional financial support for the institute. Dr. Palm noted the institute would provide a logical home within RCB for this RCB master’s degree program.

Dr. Palm made a motion to approve the institute as presented. Dr. Eriksen seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Budget & Facilities**

Dr. Rackliffe reported FY2015 closed out in good shape with first-half summer revenues and 100% exodus from rental space in 10 Park Place and 34 Peachtree Street by June 30, 2015, as promised to the Board of Regents with an annual savings of $2.2 million for FY2016 and beyond. Attention will shift to vacating Kell Hall for its demolition in keeping with the Campus Master Plan Update. Construction of a lab facility adjoining the Natural Science Center Annex on the small green space on the corner is proceeding, and construction of the Classroom South expansion project to add a four floor wing with teaching labs will begin in May-June, 2016 with completion by June 2017. These projects will allow vacating Kell Hall by June 2017.

Dr. Rackliffe noted occupancy of the new College of Law building and plans to consolidate space for the School of Public Health in Urban Life utilizing former College of Law space. Dr. Rackliffe also called attention to the drop in revenues from graduate student enrollments over the past four years, from $48 million to $41 million.

**Fundraising/Capital Campaign**

Mr. Massey reported total fundraising results of FY2015 to be $43.5 million with approximately 1,000 first time donors added. Appreciation was extended to deans, vice presidents, athletics, et al. for reaching the new record fundraising amount. Silent phase capital campaign efforts with the board and steering committee have netted $187 million or 62% of the $300 million goal.

**Legislative Update**

Ms. Kerlin reported visits with key leaders of the legislature would begin August 4 and continue through the fall. Runoff elections in Brookhaven and Warner Robins would bring new members to the legislature as well as the likelihood of special elections to replace legislators to be appointed to posts by Governor Deal. Among committee meetings during the summer were those of the HOPE Scholarship study committee. Congressional staff members will tour campus on September 3.

Ms. Kerlin urged coordination of all requests to the Office of Mayor of Atlanta through the GSU Office of Government and Community Affairs.

**Athletics**

Mr. Cobb announced the first athletic activity for Fall Semester 2015 would be women’s soccer on August 4 and the first football game against Charlotte on ESPNU at 3:30 pm, Friday, September 4, at the Georgia Dome. Plans are developing for a new GSU Athletics Hall of Fame with Dr. Rankin Cooter serving as chair of the Hall of Fame committee. The Hall of Fame has potential as a good development tool. Athletics and Dr. Dan Benardot have formed a partnership on campus nutrition. The new four-sided, ceiling hung video scoreboard at the Sports Arena has been installed. The new weight room at the football facility on MLK Drive is nearing completion.
Mr. Cobb noted the issue of cost of attendance supplements for athletes approved by the NCAA and the recruiting implications. He pointed out the Title IX impact and cost of implementation which are causing most institutions not to pursue the supplements in 2015-16. The estimated cost for GSU is $750,000. Dr. Becker added that Olympic sports may be dropped at many institutions in order to balance athletic budgets. The amounts for cost of attendance are determined by federal regulations and differ for on-campus versus off-campus students.

Research Goal Reached

Dr. Weyhenmeyer reported FY2015 sponsored program awards totaling $101 million, a $20 million increase over FY2014 and a $30 million increase over FY2013. The 5-year goal of $100 million in awards was realized in only 3 years. Four colleges led the way with over $10 million in awards, including Arts and Sciences, Policy Studies, Education and Human Development, and Public Health. The top federal funding agency sources were National Institutes of Health, Department of Education, and National Science Foundation. Eighteen faculty members each received awards in excess of $1 million. Indirect cost recoveries are projected to increase by $4.4 million. Approximately 30% of faculty with grants had more than one grant.

President’s Remarks

Dr. Becker provided an update on the Turner Field proposal. The City of Atlanta and the Atlanta-Fulton County Recreation Authority are expected to issue an RFP soon. Besides the GSU partnership proposal, proposals are anticipated from gambling entities seeking to build casinos. Casino gambling would require a statewide referendum to legalize operation. GSU continues to maintain communications with Mayor Reed about our proposal.

Announcements

Dr. Liu announced the open house for the new Office of International Initiatives in Dahlberg Hall will be September 2, 2015.