ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
Minutes of
October 1, 2015


Approval of Minutes

The minutes of September 2, 2015, were approved.

Policy on International Student Recruitment Companies

Dr. Heyward presented the proposed policy on international student recruitment companies. Under the policy, contracts with such companies would be subject to approval by the Office of International Students & Scholar Services and the Office of Legal Affairs to ensure compliance with federal and Board of Regents regulations and consistency with best practices. Dr. Heyward made a motion to approve the proposed policy. Dr. Renick seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mark Chaffin Center for Healthy Development

Dr. Lutzker presented the proposed naming of the Mark Chaffin Center for Healthy Development in memory of Dr. Chaffin, who was an internationally recognized scholar in the field. Dr. Lutzker made a motion to approve the proposed name. Dr. Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed.

University Senate Report

Dr. Fredrick outlined some of the items to be addressed by University Senate committees during 2015-16: Faculty Affairs will focus on factors affecting promotion from associate professor to professor. Student Life will focus on students who become homeless. Athletics will focus on development of an athletics strategic plan and Title IX. Academic Programs will focus on core assessment plans for the consolidated university. Budget will focus on graduate assistant stipends. Sustainability will focus on development of a sustainability strategic plan. Research will focus on ways to support further expansion of research dollars. Cultural Diversity will focus on compression issues.

Consolidation

Dr. Lyons noted key steps toward consolidation including SACS receiving the consolidation proposal on September 15, 2015. The University System approved the consolidated organizational structure plan and related human resources processes. The General Education Council will meet on October 9, 2015, to continue work on the three remaining issues of the common core.

Enrollment

Dr. Renick distributed Fall Semester enrollment figures for 2010 through 2015. Fall Semester 2015 enrollments were down 482 from Fall Semester 2014, the first year-to-year drop in 9 years. Graduate student enrollments were the biggest issue with Fall Semester 2015 graduate enrollments being at the level of Fall Semester 2004. Other contributing factors were increases in
the number of students graduating with almost 2,000 more students graduating per year than 5 years ago and drops in undergraduate transfer students, especially from Georgia Perimeter College. Consolidation and unavailability of seats in courses affected the transfer numbers. Dr. Kropf noted that cohort model degree programs are efficient in predicting number of sections of upper division courses needed. Dr. Armistead commented that the graduate student decline was not so much in first time students as in continuing students stopping out or dropping out with the improving economy. Dr. Palm indicated graduate enrollment would be discussed in Deans Group as there would be budget implications accentuated by the weighted effect of graduate credit hours on state funding. Dr. Lyons commented that the consolidation with Georgia Perimeter College will soften the effect of dropping transfer enrollments due to other consolidations.

Budget

Dr. Rackliffe reported tuition revenues for Fall Semester 2015 would be very close to the projected amount because credit hours were within one half of 1% of enrollment projections. The drop of 2,000 graduate student credit hours was troubling because of the double count implications for the funding formula. The shortfall in headcount would impact mandatory student fee revenues. The units relying on mandatory student fees would be advised shortly of any reductions in projected revenues for the fiscal year.

President's Remarks

Dr. Becker noted the Georgia Research Alliance dinner with the Georgia congressional delegation in Washington, DC, on September 30, 2015, and productive sessions with major media outlets including the Washington Post, Atlantic Magazine, and the Chronicle of Higher Education.

The Burning Bright Campaign kickoff will be October 22, 2015, at Woodruff Park, with a new dynamic video to be shown publicly for the first time. The venue will be tented and secured with valet parking available.

The Turner Field RFP process is underway with the review of proposals to start in November, 2015.

The University Strategic Plan Update Committee has initiated its work. Town hall meetings and other opportunities for input from faculty, staff and students will be announced shortly. The five-year update will be ready for University Senate action in Spring Semester 2016. The committee is co-chaired by Drs. Fredrick and Walker.

Searches are in progress for (1) Vice Provost and Dean of Perimeter College and (2) Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs.

Dr. Becker voiced concern that graduate student grant support had not grown along with the overall increase in sponsored funding from $50 million to $100 million. Over 90% of graduate student support is still from institutional funds rather than grants. The national pattern for top tier research universities is the opposite.

Homecoming is the week of September 27-October 3, 2015, with the golf cart parade on Thursday and the football game on Saturday against Liberty.

Announcements

Dr. Palm commended Dr. Renick for the First in the World Award of $8.9 million for use of analytics to improve retention and progress toward graduation at a national group of institutions with Georgia State as the lead institution.
Dr. Kaminshine announced a collaboration between the College of Law and the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies to present a program on the ten-year perspective on Hurricane Katrina on October 2, 2015.

Mr. Parra expressed gratitude for the new commuter meal plan at university dining facilities.