Administrative Council
Minutes of September 7, 2016
Revised October 4, 2016

Attendees:

Approval of Minutes:
The minutes of August 3, 2016 were approved.

Conflict of Interest Policy Updates
Dr. Weyhenmeyer and Dr. Heyward presented a brief overview of proposed updates to the university’s policies on Financial Disclosures in Sponsored Projects, and Individual Conflict of Commitment and Conflict of Interest. The updates bring Georgia State policies in line with changes in external regulations governing financial conflicts of interest and commitment. Dr. Heyward is working on a broadcast message to faculty and staff to alert them to the changes and remind them of regular reporting requirements. The Office of Legal Affairs is working with colleges around the university to standardize a reporting template. Dr. Eriksen made a motion to approve the updated policies as presented. Dr. Kaminshine seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Admissions & Enrollment Update:
Dr. Renick distributed reports on undergraduate admissions and enrollment for Fall Semester 2016. The first drop date for non-payment of tuition and fees was last week. The university is experiencing the normal rebound of enrollment figures for the fall semester that occurs after each drop date. Fall enrollment figures are currently at 32,234 students at the downtown campus and 18,699 students at the Perimeter College campuses, for a total enrollment of 50,933. Total credit hours at all locations exceeds 579,000 credit hours. The Fall census will occur in October. There are currently some Banner consolidation challenges that are creating a disconnect for Perimeter College students and their credit hours, but those issues should be resolved within the next week.

Dr. Renick reported that total applications are up approximately 17% compared to the prior admissions cycle, with undergraduate applications increasing 27% while graduate applications are up 12% and Perimeter College applications are up 6%. Undergraduate degree conferrals during the 2015-2016 academic year increased in total (4,867) over the previous year (4,738). Each segment of undergraduate at risk students showed an increase in degrees conferred. With the integration of Perimeter College, conferring 10,000 degrees is a realistic goal for the current academic year.

Research Update:
Dr. Weyhenmeyer reported that as of this morning, $34.9 million in awards have posted with another $17.5 million in Notice of Awards received, resulting in approximately a 20% increase in growth over the previous year. Approximately 270 faculty members currently have research grant funding, with an estimated 80 faculty members holding nearly 80% of the grants portfolio. Efforts will continue to broaden the number of faculty who are engaged in sponsored research.

Dr. Palm recognized Dr. Morris for his recent receipt of substantial funding from the National Institutes of Health to continue his work in children’s literacy.

Dr. Weyhenmeyer concluded his remarks by noting that the university is almost finished with transferring grants for newly hired faculty members from their previous institutions, which is normally a 60 to 90-day process.

Faculty Senate Update:

Dr. Fredrick provided an overview of the items that are priorities for the Senate in the current academic year. Multiple initiatives relate to the integration of Perimeter College and the creation of the College of the Arts. The Committee on Academic Programs is working with units around the university to develop procedures that comply with a new requirement established by The Board of Regents relating to program review for all academic programs throughout the University System of Georgia.

Staff Council Update:

Ms. Johnson provided an overview of the structure of Staff Council, a review of accomplishments during the previous year and goals for the upcoming year. The organization has recently changed to create the new position of Chair-elect, which should foster greater continuity and consistency through annual leadership changes. Many current initiatives relate to the integration of Perimeter College and building community within and across the campuses. In 2017, Staff Council will conduct the biennial staff climate survey which will help guide future efforts toward staff development initiatives.

President’s Remarks:

Dr. Becker and Dr. Lyons provided an update on the site visit conducted by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). The site visit is a follow up to the December 2015 document that was submitted in support of Georgia State’s efforts to integrate Perimeter College and satisfy accreditation requirements for a recently integrated institution. Over a period of 2.5 days, SACS site visitors are meeting a variety of individuals at multiple campuses and will conduct an exit meeting with university leadership at the conclusion of the visit. The site visit team will submit a report later in the academic year as a continuation of the process. Because of the substantive change, Georgia State will delay for a year until 2018-2019 for the next 10-year review period with SACS. Much work has gone into the integration with Perimeter College and initial feedback from the site team has been overwhelmingly positive.

Dr. Becker reported that progress continues with the Turner Field acquisition and we are hopeful of closing the transaction before the end of 2016.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 am.