Dr. Unil Perera called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

Minutes from September 29th meeting. Motion to approve. Second. Minutes were approved without changes.

Dr. Ramesh Vakamudi (AVP, Facilities) reported on the budget and the timeline for two major projects: Courtland Street Bridge Demolition and Replacement, and Kell Hall Demolition.

1. The Courtland Street Bridge is a project of the city of Atlanta. The Bridge starts at Gilmore Street, cuts through GSU campus, goes to Martin Luther King Jr Boulevard. When the bridge is down, it will create a hole. Some buildings will no longer be possible to reach, entrances/exits will be blocked. Most importantly, Courtland Building, 120 Courtland Street, will need to be relocated. G Parking Deck will be blocked. Both entrances of Sparks Hall will be affected; new entrance will have to be created.

For above reasons, the Bridge project will have a major impact on GSU campus. It is scheduled to start in September 2017. This is a very important time of the fall semester. The GSU administration requested to delay the starting date. As of now, there is no assurance from the DOD that the delay will be agreed upon. So, facilities have to be ready for the September 2017 start. This is a two-year project (end 2017-end 2019, to be completed before Superball). After the demolition, the new bridge is planned to be constructed with the same profile. President Becker asked for sidewalks to be extended. GSU is also lobbying the city of Atlanta for bike lanes and possibly put plants between bike and car lanes.

Courtland Building, next to Sports Arena, is the major concern. 25,000 ft² in Courtland Building, all occupied, will have to be relocated.

2. The Kell Hall/Library Plaza is a GSU project. Funding from the BOR has not been approved yet. GSU administration hopes to get the approval soon. The Kell Hall demolition is scheduled to start in FY 2018; the Library Plaza project begins in FY 2019.

The Bridge and Kell/Library projects are connected. With the Bridge down, there will be no access to Library Plaza. Kell Hall used to be a parking lot, then it got converted to a classroom building. The infrastructure is outdated and the building is no longer usable. Its mechanical and electrical systems are not sustainable anymore.

The goal of the Kell/Library project is to create campus green walkways. Currently, people walk through Kell Hall to Libraries North and South. With Kell Hall down, it will be a green path from Aderhold Building to both libraries. The idea is to open GSU campus to students and community (latest thinking in urban development).

Most of Kell Hall is occupied by the College of Arts and Sciences, mainly the Department of Geosciences. The Department of Geosciences wants to move to Sparks Hall to stay in the center of campus. There is no free space in Sparks. To vacate space for Geosciences, some of the units in Sparks Hall (Accounting and Budget Planning, for example) will have to move out. TRIO programs will also move from Sparks (to 75 Piedmont 3rd floor). Some classrooms from Sparks will be relocated to other buildings on campus (in particular, to the space in Langdale Hall vacated by the College of Arts and Sciences).
Everything needs to come together in 2 years. Biology, Chemistry, and Neuroscience labs need to be relocated from Kell as well. Nursing, Nutrition, Respiratory and Physical Therapy will move to Sports Arena pending the approval of Turner Field project by the BOR. Copy Center in Kell Hall will move to either 1 Park Place or maybe T Deck (together with the Postal Office). MAC Tutoring lab will move to the basement of 25 Park Place (June 2017). All the dates are tentative. The information will be posted on GSU web site and updated as necessary. GSU Facilities will have to investigate which labs in Kell Hall are active and which labs are not. All active labs will be relocated.

Facilities work with all Deans and GSU Community to get feedback, it is important given the complexity of both projects.

3. Other Facilities Projects:

- Classroom South Addition Phase 2
- 25 Park Place Renovations Phase 5 (includes Math & Stat moving to 13th and 14th floors)
- 25 Park Place - Pavilion Renovation
- 58 Edgewood Avenue Lobby and Façade Renovation
- RCB Delta Student Success Center – 55 Park Place
- Alpharetta Campus Science Lab Addition
- T Deck Renovation
- MRR and Infrastructure Projects

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 pm. Minutes prepared by Alexandra Smirnova.

Next Budget Committee meeting: November 17 – Dr. Lisa Armistead (Associate Provost for Graduate Programs) will report on Graduate student matters.