Administrative Council
Minutes of April 5, 2017

Attendees:

Approval of Minutes:
The committee approved the minutes of March 8, 2017.

Introductions:
Dr. Becker and Dr. Palm introduced Dr. Wolfgang Schlör who is the new associate provost for international initiatives.

Action Item: Policy for the Allocation/Reallocation of Laboratory Research Space
Dr. Weyhenmeyer reviewed the policy submitted in advance of the meeting regarding allocating and reallocating laboratory research space. The policy draws on space allocation metrics and processes at other institutions that are similar to Georgia State and will be used to support the continued growth of research, especially in wet laboratories. The committee approved the policy.

Information Item: University Information Security Policy:
Mr. Ventimiglia, Mr. Flot and Mr. Samuel presented an overview of current measures that protect university information systems. The group also discussed goals over the next two years that will enhance information security at the university.

Enrollment Update:
Dr. Renick shared updated enrollment figures for the summer and fall terms. Summer headcount enrollment at the Atlanta campus is up 6.1% compared to summer enrollment figures one year ago, resulting in an increased summer credit hour count of approximately 4,400 credit hours. Graduate applications for fall semester are down approximately 6% from 2016 to 2017. Summer and fall admissions figures for Perimeter College show strong growth over the previous year.

Dr. Renick also outlined two new initiatives designed to increase enrollment. First, creative collaborations with colleges and undergraduate programs are more actively targeting summer transient students. Second, in an attempt to reduce enrollment melt by accepted students, the group has launched the Ask Pounce chatbot that draws on artificial intelligence to assist students with onboarding activities. The system currently uses a database of 2,000 commonly asked questions and responses. Enrollment staff continuously update these questions and responses. The group is working a platform that will provide similar functionality for graduate students.
Legislative Update:

Mr. Lewis reported that the 2017 legislative session concluded on the morning of Friday, March 31. Legislation and the budget are currently under review by Governor Deal who has forty days to approve or veto these items. Items of significance to Georgia State in the proposed FY 2018 budget include $5 million for the demolition of Kell Hall, $600,000 for equipment at the Alpharetta campus and approval of merit increases for faculty and staff at an average of 2%.

President’s Remarks & Announcements:

Dr. Becker noted several items during his remarks. First, renovations at Georgia State Stadium continue to be on schedule so that the facility will be ready to host football games this fall. Second, the Board of Regents anticipates approving fiscal year 2018 allocations at their April meeting. Finally, university and Board of Regents leadership are working to understand a variety of bills that passed during the legislative session and will affect campus operations if signed into law. Leadership will provide guidance as appropriate once Governor Deal acts upon the legislation.

Dr. Palm and Dr. Weast invited the university community to a student production of Don Giovanni at the Rialto Theater April 20-22.

Ms. Kenya Johnson announced that Ms. Sonda Abernathy is the new chair of Staff Council and Mr. Eric Cuevas is the chair-elect.

Dr. Berman announced that Ms. Noa Erlitzki of the Honors College was recently named a Goldwater Scholar. Two other students in the Honors College received honorable mentions for the program.

Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 10:59 am.