Administrative Council
Minutes of May 3, 2017

Attendees:

Approval of Minutes:
The committee approved the minutes of April 5, 2017.

Introductions:
Dr. Becker welcomed Ms. Sonda Abernathy and Mr. Corey Gray to the group for the 2017-2018 year as representatives from Staff Council and Student Government Association, respectively.

Action Item: Internal Audit Charter
Mr. Roth from University Auditing and Advisory Services presented an overview of the charter governing internal audit functions at the university. The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia requires the charter. The committee approved the charter.

Information Item: Chancellor’s Call for Policy Review:
Ms. Nelson and Ms. Fernandes delivered a brief presentation regarding a new initiative across the university system. In the coming year, Chancellor Wrigley has charged a working group of representatives from all system institutions with reviewing the policy manual of the Board of Regents. The goals include streamlining the manual, ensuring consistency with policy and practice at institutions, and eliminating unnecessary reviews, approvals and reports. Ms. Nelson and Ms. Fernandes will work with appropriate stakeholders at Georgia State in their review. The group must identify sections requiring revision by September 2017. Appropriate committees at the Board of Regents will review proposed revisions during the winter. Dr. Heyward confirmed that if any policy changes at the Board of Regents require policy changes at Georgia State, the Georgia State changes will move through either the Senate or Administrative Council.

Research Awards Update:
Dr. Weyhenmeyer reported that the university has posted $125 million in research awards to date for FY 2017. This figure exceeds the total research awards of $122 million received in FY 2016. Research leadership anticipates another $10 million in additional non-competitive grant renewals by June 30, 2017. Many disciplines at the university are in strong positions to secure awards and funding during FY 2018. Finally, the National Institutes for Health is considering changes to their methodology for awarding grants in future years. The stated goal of the changes is to make more funding opportunities available to more principal investigators who are early in their careers. University and Research
leadership will continue to monitor these proceedings and develop strategies going forward if the selection methodologies change.

**Fundraising Update:**

Mr. Massey reported that campaign fundraising efforts have secured $264 million of the $300 million campaign goal. The university has received gifts during FY 2017 for $40 million, exceeding the target of $32 million. Most of these gifts are cash. While it is important to maintain this level of cash gifts, the university goal is to supplement the cash gifts with additional deferred and endowed gifts in the areas of faculty and student support.

**Legislative Update:**

Ms. Kerlin stated that Governor Deal has through May 9, 2017 to review the legislation passed during the recently concluded legislative session. The governor has the option to sign legislation into law, veto legislation, or allow a passed bill to become law without a signature. To date, the governor has neither signed nor vetoed the bill regarding concealed carry of firearms on campuses in Georgia. If the bill becomes law, it would be effective on July 1, 2017. As always, the Board of Regents will provide any guidance to public colleges and universities in the state regarding newly enacted laws. Ms. Kerlin and Mr. Lewis will have more clarity at next month’s meeting.

**President’s Remarks & Announcements:**

Dr. Becker reminded the group of the upcoming commencement ceremonies at the McCamish Pavilion at Georgia Tech. Additional communications with detailed instructions for participants and attendees are forthcoming.

Dr. Becker and Dr. Lyons reviewed the sequence of events that culminated in the major financial gift from State Farm. Funds from this gift will help support underserved students realize the goal of a college education. Dr. Lyons recognized Mr. Hale and Ms. Jones for their efforts related to the announcement of this gift.

Dr. Palm announced the selection of a search firm to conduct the national search for the next dean of the College of Law.

Dr. Becker noted that construction at Georgia State Stadium continues to be on time and on budget. One of the first events in the facility will be the Corky Kell Classic on August 18-19.

Dr. Becker noted the investiture of Chancellor Wrigley today in the state rotunda. Among the new chancellor’s priorities are reviewing and streamlining the system policy manual, continuing to look for additional opportunities for efficiencies within the system, and reinforcing the importance of education to upward socio-economic mobility.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:33 am.