Administrative Council
Minutes of August 1, 2017

Attendees:

Approval of Minutes:
The committee approved the minutes of June 6, 2017.

Enrollment Update:
Dr. Renick shared admissions and enrollment data for the upcoming fall 2017 semester. Headcount enrollment is up almost 2,000 students from fall 2016, with the increase largely due to growth at Perimeter College. Projections indicate that Atlanta campus enrollment should increase by about 500 students over fall 2016. Average credit hour loads are up for both undergraduate and graduate students.

Dr. Armistead informed the group that graduate program enrollment figures for fall 2017 are down by about 250 international students when compared to the same time last year. This decrease reflects the changing landscape of immigration requirements and associated challenges for accepted students to secure visas. A growing number of admissions are being deferred to provide additional time for accepted students to obtain visas.

Dr. Renick indicated that the Atlanta campus has experienced a record number of freshman applications for the upcoming academic year and freshman applications are up substantially at Perimeter College. The Perimeter College increase reflects the completion of the first recruiting cycle led by the enhanced staffing and systems deployed by the university. Dr. Becker stated that during their financial challenges prior to consolidation, Georgia Perimeter College substantially reduced the resources devoted to recruitment. Georgia State has returned those resources and supplemented them with additional resources made available by efficiencies identified during the consolidation process.

Action Item: Change of Designation for Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions:
Dr. Palm and Dr. Kropf requested approval to change the designation of the Byrdine F. Lewis School of Nursing and Health Professions to the Byrdine F. Lewis College of Nursing and Health Professions. Dr. Kropf provided a brief history of the program, tracing back to the founding of the Nursing program in 1968. Within the University System of Georgia, there is no substantive difference between the use of school and college. By changing to college, the new designation should eliminate organizational confusion since the School of Nursing as a department will reside in the College of Nursing and Health Professions going forward. The change in designation will coincide with the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Nursing program at Georgia State. Dr. Galchinsky confirmed that this change is not subject to review or approval from SACS. The motion was unanimously approved.
Action Item: Approval of Updated Graduate Assistant Policy:

Dr. Armistead distributed and reviewed minor proposed changes to the university’s policy on graduate assistants, last reviewed in 2006. Most of the updates relate to minor HR matters and terminology. The two most substantial changes (1) add a training requirement for Title IX and FERPA requirements to be consistent with Board of Regents requirements, and (2) eliminate the cap on the amount of a semester stipend so that colleges have discretion to offer competitive terms within the discipline. The stipend of $2,000 per semester will remain as the minimum amount to accompany a full tuition waiver. Colleges may use their own internal resources to go above that figure as deemed appropriate by college leadership.

Dr. Becker asked whether HIPAA training should also be included. Dr. Armistead stated that HIPAA training is only required for graduate assistants working in clinical environments. Dr. Heyward confirmed that there is a special process for identifying these graduate assistants and ensuring that they receive appropriate training.

Dr. Rosen inquired as to whether this policy also covers lab training. Dr. Weyhenmeyer clarified that the Office of the Vice President for Research manages lab training and includes anyone working in a lab on campus, including graduate assistants.

The motion was approved.

Enrollment Update:

Dr. Renick shared data relating to summer 2017 enrollment figures. Figures at the Atlanta campus represent a six-year high. The numbers should be viewed cautiously as the final summer semester drop deadline has not yet passed. Transient student enrollment increased by almost 100% over the previous summer, due largely to concerted advertising efforts and innovative summer programming offerings. Perimeter College figures show a sizable increase in enrolling previous students who had not enrolled for at least one year.

Fall enrollment figures are flat at the Atlanta campus, but Perimeter College shows a substantial increase. Atlanta campus figures are down year to year due based on timing of orientation sessions. By the time fall semester classes begin, leadership anticipates an increase in fall enrollment over last year.

Dr. Armistead reported on graduate enrollment figures. The figures show a slight decline in fall graduate student enrollment compared to the same point in time last year. In 2016-2017, the university succeeded in placing 10 graduate students into a variety of prestigious graduate student fellowships, which marked a seven-year high. Dr. Armistead also shared information on a new extension of graduate student orientation. This program will mix 12-15 new graduate students from a variety of disciplines into cohorts with veteran graduate students during the fall semester. The goal is for the new graduate students to experience increased connectedness around the university and better understand resources that can support them in their studies.

Research Update:

Dr. Weyhenmeyer reported that fiscal year 2017 research award activity exceeded $147 million, representing a 22% increase over fiscal year 2016 and a 107% increase over fiscal year 2013. He clarified that this growth in award activity does not necessarily translate into a similar growth of indirect cost
recoveries, as direct awards have a 51.5% indirect rate but flow through awards have a cap of 8% to 12%. The university portfolio for fiscal year 2017 includes 352 unique funding sources, 346 unique faculty members participating in sponsored activity, and 31 faculty members carrying research portfolios that exceed $1 million.

Dr. Weyhenmeyer noted that performance in the 4th quarter is typically strong for award notifications, but factors at the federal level have slowed the processing of grant applications. His office continues to monitor developments as the end of the federal fiscal year approaches and the new fiscal year begins on October 1. Fiscal year 2018 activity already has $22 million pending in award notices.

**Fundraising Update:**

Mr. Massey informed the group that the university raised $50.9 million in gifts during fiscal year 2017, marking the first time in the history of the university that annual fundraising exceeded $50 million. The university has raised a total of $272 million towards the campaign goal of $300 million. Approximately half of the gifts come from foundations and corporations, which is a relatively high percentage of the donor base but reflects the fortunate position of operating in Atlanta, which has a large base for this type of philanthropy. Alumni giving represents 25% of the donor base and growing that segment will likely be the focus of the next campaign that will likely start 2-3 years after the current campaign closes.

**President’s Remarks & Announcements:**

Dr. Becker and Mr. Cobb provided updates on Georgia State Stadium. The Athletic Department conducted a media tour yesterday. The playing surface will be complete by August 9. Fall sports teams all begin practice this week. The first event in the stadium will occur on August 17 and include a football scrimmage.

Dr. Becker noted that the university recently hosted the summer meeting of the Coalition of Urban Serving Universities. The university received tremendous exposure on many dimensions, especially relating to the consolidation of Perimeter College and student advising.

Mr. Lewis stated that the Department of Transportation has issued a contract for the demolition and reconstruction of the Courtland Street bridge replacement project. Facilities Management is working closely with the Department of Transportation on the project, which has an anticipated start date of May 2018 and finish date of late 2018.

Dr. Rackliffe reminded the group that 26 different departments and offices will move from Kell Hall in the next 18 months in advance of the demolition of Kell Hall.

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 am.