Administrative Council
Minutes of September 6, 2017

Attendees:

Approval of Minutes: The committee approved the minutes of August 1, 2017.

Action Item: Humanities Research Center  Dr. Rosen proposed the creation of the Humanities Research Center within the College of Arts & Sciences. The center will pursue the goals of becoming an intellectual center within the community for the exchange of ideas relating to the humanities as well as assisting humanities faculty within the college with grant development. The center has an initial grant of $50,000 from a local foundation. These funds will allow the center to cover initial operating expenses as well as develop proposals in the pursuit of other grants. The committee unanimously approved the motion.

Information Item: Overview of Export Controls
Dr. Heyward and Dr. Lombard provided the committee with a summary of federal regulations that govern information sharing and collaboration with international colleagues and countries. These restrictions relate to scientific research, technology, and matters involving the military. The university’s Office of Legal Affairs must be involved in the review of these matters prior to executing agreements, hiring employees, or sharing information to ensure compliance with federal regulations. Dr. Palm asked about the implications for faculty traveling internationally as well as hosting international visiting scholars. Dr. Lombard stated that a brief web training module is currently available to address these items, more robust training materials are under development, and that the travel authorization process can be modified to highlight these restrictions for faculty on the front end of any international travel. Dr. Becker and Mr. Ventimiglia reminded the committee to communicate the importance of traveling with clean devices such as laptops and phones when traveling abroad. University IT can provide support in this area.

Enrollment Update:
Dr. Renick shared enrollment and application data with the committee. This is the second complete cycle of enrollment since consolidation, allowing for accurate year-to-year comparisons. Headcount enrollment is up from the previous year by approximately 550 students across the university. Undergraduate admissions at the Atlanta and Perimeter campuses also shows growth from Fall 2016 to Fall 2017. The Atlanta campus conferred over 5,000 bachelor degrees during the 2016-2017 year and Perimeter conferred 1,985 associate degrees during the same period. Both figures are record highs.

Dr. Berman reported on the incoming class profile in the Honors College, which enrolled 251 students this year. The students enrolled with an average of 20 credit hours already completed. The class
includes 10 Presidential Scholars who have an average SAT score of 1490 and an average of 35 credit hours already completed.

Senate Update: Dr. Fredrick reported on the activities in the University Senate. Accomplishments during the 2016-2017 year include updating the process for the evaluation of administrators, continuing work resulting from consolidation with Perimeter College and creation of the College of the Arts, review of the withdrawal policy, and development of a new university clock policy for class scheduling that will take effect for Fall 2018 classes. In the current academic year, committee priorities will include work related to the demolition of Kell Hall and reconstruction of the Courtland Street bridge, campus safety, preparations for the SACSCOC accreditation cycle, and reviewing faculty manuals and workload policies.

Student Government Association (SGA) Update: Mr. Gray reviewed accomplishments of the 2016-2017 SGA agenda, many of which related to consolidation with Perimeter College. SGA leadership established goals for the current academic year at a retreat in August. The broad theme of the agenda this year is to increase visibility by SGA officers around all campuses so that students have better access to engage with student body leadership. Dr. Eriksen inquired about the use of social media to counteract the potential feelings of isolation by students at different campuses. Mr. Gray stated that SGA is working to integrate multiple social media platforms into a single source so that consistent and inclusive messaging gets to all campuses.

President’s Report: Dr. Becker reported that it is too early to know the impact of recent announcements regarding Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). Georgia State currently has less than 300 students who are DACA students. Appropriate offices around the university will continue to monitor the developments and share guidance as necessary.

Dr. Becker shared that the capital campaign is on track to reach the $300 million goal by the end of calendar year 2017, which would be two years ahead of the original schedule.

Dr. Becker also announced that the university is pursuing design funding for a convocation center. The proposed facility would solve many challenges associated with hosting convocations, commencement ceremonies and other university programs commensurate with the size of the university.

Announcements: Mr. Cobb reported that during the 2016-2017 academic year, 14 of 15 intercollegiate athletic teams had team GPAs over 3.00. Five teams from Georgia State had the highest team GPA for their sport when compared to all other conference institutions, and four more teams finished in second place.

Dr. Covey stated that during the current enrollment cycle, housing experienced a much slower rate of cancellations than normal. As a result, the university placed 281 students in temporary housing arrangements in nearby hotels at the beginning of the semester. Within two weeks, all of those students moved into university housing as rooms became available. All 5,200 university beds are full, with approximately 100 students remaining in temporary accommodations within University Housing. University Housing will move these students to permanent arrangements as rooms become available.

Dr. Galchinsky stated that presentations for three Quality Enhancement Plan proposals are on the schedule for October.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:42 am.