MINUTES
UNIVERSITY SENATE
November 15, 2018


Guests: Chip Hill, William Solomons, Kenleigh Watkins, Ann Williamson

ORDER: The chair, President Mark Becker, called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the April 19, 2018 Senate meeting were approved with no changes.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR: The chair opened his comments by providing the President’s Report. The first item was a report on enrollment, admissions, and graduates. Today GSU is becoming the destination of choice for Georgia and metro Atlanta students. There is a record enrollment of 52,729 students post consolidation. There was an increase in the number of undergraduate students on the Atlanta and Perimeter campuses this fall and a modest increase in the number of graduate students from last fall. This has been a banner year with an increase in freshman applications and the number of freshmen admits. U.S. News and World Report has ranked GSU as the 10th most diverse university in the country. Graduation rate of 55% is an increase for those students that began as freshman and graduated from GSU after 6 years. Perimeter campus graduation increase for associate degrees in three years. The retention rate has increased from 61% to 70%. This is sixth year in a row that GSU has awarded more bachelor’s degrees to African-Americans.

The Burning Bright Capital Campaign launched in October 2015. The goal was to raise $300 million by the conclusion of 2019. This goal was not only met but exceeded In Spring 2018. The campaign has over $322 million and the books will be closed at the end of December. The President thanked Walter Massey and everyone involved in raising funds for the campaign. There was also a substantial donation to GSU from someone who is not GSU alumni nor did their family attend GSU. This is becoming a trend.

The election of the Georgia Governor will have impact on the building of GSU’s convocation center. The legislature forwarded budget to Governor and he signed it. The location will be at the corner of Pollard Street and Hank Aaron Boulevard area. Only design funds have been appropriated at this time. President Becker explained the routing process of his original funding request through the proper channels with the final notice of the approval or veto that should take place in April 2019.

There was a campus wide email sent regarding the USG-Board of Regents Comprehensive Administrative Review. They will visit and look at the efficiency in processes for all 26 USG institutions. The generated report will be helpful.
NEW BUSINESS:

A. The following motions are being presented for consideration by the Senate.
   The Executive Committee recommends a “do pass” on the following agenda items:

1. Motion from the Admissions and Standards Committee; Elizabeth Lopez, chair.
   Amend the Repeat to Replace Policy
   The motion removes the following words from the first paragraph of the policy: “in the
   same department” and replaces it with “at Georgia State”. This is a minor change in
   wording. The question was called. The motion passed.

2. Motion from the Admissions and Standards Committee; Elizabeth Lopez, chair.
   Adopt a New Summer Clock Schedule
   This motion to adopt a new summer clock schedule would provide more options to meet
   during the week with the retention of the three-week May term. The question was called.
   The motion passed.

3. Motion from the Admissions and Standards Committee; Elizabeth Lopez, chair.
   Accept all C Grades for Graduation Requirement
   C minus grades will be used to satisfy graduation requirements as long as both the
   standards of an overall institutional GPA of 2.0 are met. This motion was presented
   because graduation requirements are inconsistent among colleges. Some colleges allow C
   minus grades and others do not which caused an increase in graduation petitions being
   filed. The question was called. The motion passed.

4. Motion from the Admissions & Standards Committee; Elizabeth Lopez, chair.
   Add Repeat Limits on Mathematics Core Courses
   Currently there is no limit to the number of times a student make retake the Math 1111,
   Math 1113, and Math 2211. There are too many students pursuing majors or associate
   pathways that are motivated to repeatedly attempt to pass one of these courses. The
   question was called. The motion passed.

5. Motion from the University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee; Doug Gardenhire for
   Todd Hendricks, chair.
   Amend Article VII, Section 8 of the Senate Bylaws, Committee on Planning
   and Development
   The motion removes the second listing of the Senior Vice President for Finance and
   Administration as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the Committee on Planning and
   Development in Section 8A of Article VII of the University Senate Bylaws. The question
   was called, and the motion passed.

                   2. Summary Report on the Triennial Evaluation of Associate Provost for
                      Graduate Programs, Lisa Armistead
                   3. Admissions and Standards Items: Global Scholars and City Scholars
                   4. University Statutes and Senate Bylaws information item: change/update titles
                      of Senate Committee administrative members
                   5. Nominations Committee information item: Addendum to the 4/19/18
                      Nominations Report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:
Executive Committee (Michelle Brattain, chair): The committee met one time and reviewed the motions
for today’s Senate meeting.
Academic Programs (Shelby Frost for Michelle Brattain, chair): The committee met three times. They approved several certificates, nutrition, biology and multiple academic reports. The committee also approved the agenda for their next meeting on Tuesday, November 20, 2018.

Admissions and Standards (Elizabeth Lopez, chair): The committee met twice. Subcommittees are working on items. The next meeting will be on November 28, 2018.

Athletics (Kris Varjas, chair): No report

Budget (Andrew Butler, chair): The committee has had three meetings. Jerry Rackliffe was a guest speaker to provide the committee with an overview of the University Budget as the Sr VP for Finance and Administration. Mary Beth Walker will be the guest speaker at their November meeting.

Commencement (Mark Becker, chair): The Fall Ph.D. hooding ceremony will be held on December 10 am in the Rialto. The speaker will be Dr. Shannon Self-Brown. The undergraduate commencement ceremony will be held on Tuesday, December 11 for all colleges except the College of Arts & Sciences. The College of Arts & Sciences ceremony will be held on Wednesday, December 12th. Both undergraduate ceremonies will be held at Hank McCamish Pavilion. May Commencement will have a weather and rain relocation alternative. SGA will poll the students regarding an am or pm ceremony.

Cultural Diversity (James Ainsworth, chair): The committee has met three times. There was an LGBQT subgroup meeting held. They are working on trying to get at least one unisex restroom in each building. A special thanks was given to Doug Covey for waiving Alliance Student Group fees. They are working to revisit the Gender pay disparities report from 2014. The committee is also in the beginning stages of working towards creating a cultural diversity academic certificate for students.

Faculty Affairs (Elizabeth West, chair): The committee has met twice. Subcommittees are working on several items: review of policy, class recordings, student query- requiring syllabi, sexual harassment and assault, and revised student evaluation instrument (SEI). The committee hopes to have the revised GSU hiring policy for the next senate meeting.

FACP (Risa Palm, chair): The committee has met once. The committee reviewed 2018 enrollment figures and the impact on the budget. It was approved that there will not be any changes to the mandatory student fees for FY 2020.

IIT (Robert Maxwell for Chris Goode, chair): The committee has met four times. The committee discussed three student tech fee variances. There is no change in student tech fees. It created a subcommittee to determine allocations. The subcommittee has met twice.

Library (Joseph Hacker, chair): The committee has met once. They reviewed onsite storage for students, budgets and periodicals, entrance renovations and new staff administrative changes.

Planning and Development (Jared Poley, chair): The committee has met four times. The committee discussed campus safety, building projects. He referenced the completion of the Courtland Street bridge.

Research (Rose Sevcik, chair): The committee has met five times. It will create a research group to assist Dr. Weyhenmeyer. The committee discussed grant mechanics, updates on the status of analytics and graduate student recruitment and training.
Student Discipline (Anne Murphy, chair): No report

Student Life and Development (Chester Phillips, chair): The committee has met three times. The committee discussed the free speech policy. Dr. Elizabeth Jones has served as a guest speaker to the group.

Sustainability (Valarie Koonce, co-chair): The committee has met three times. They are in the process of gathering recycling and working on transportation initiatives.

University Statutes and Senate Bylaws (Doug Gardenhire for Todd Hendricks, chair): The committee met three times. The committee reviewed committee descriptions in the bylaws and worked to ensure consistency in language within the bylaws.

OLD BUSINESS:
1. March 2019 Reaccreditation Visit from SACS
   Dr. Becker informed the group that the university is preparing for the reaccreditation visit. There will not be any federal aid for students or federal grants for faculty without accreditation.

2. Demolition of Kell Hall
   Jerry Rackliffe explained the process that must take place for Kell Hall to be demolished. He hopes the Board of Regents will be able to view the information and make their decision in their March 2019 meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Since there was no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Dionne Polite
Secretary to the Senate