
Guests: Annette Butler, Terry Fye, Christopher Garcia, Jessica Hood, Robin Jackson, Sheldon Levy, Sarah Munoz, Michael Olajide, Shartara Rox, Tyson Stokes, Jonathan Tshizubu, Shelly Williams

ORDER: The chair, President Mark Becker, called the meeting to order at 3:02 p.m.

MINUTES: There was a motion to approve the minutes and there was a second. There was also a motion to amend the minutes of the April 18, 2019 meeting. Todd Hendricks, Chair, University Senate and Senate Bylaws Committee made a motion to amend the minutes. The amendment was related to Motion 3 under New Business. He requested that the listed committee name simply be changed from Admissions and Standards Committee to University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee. The amendment was accepted, and the minutes were approved as corrected.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR: The chair opened his comments by providing the President’s Report. Dr. Becker provided an update on the past year. There are currently more than 20,000 freshmen enrolled at GSU. This is the largest freshman class in GSU history. GSU has over 53,000 students. GSU awarded more than 10,000 degrees for the first time in history. Fifth year graduation rates have increased. Associate degree program rates have doubled for first year cohorts at Perimeter. The College Dropout Scandal by David Kirp contains a chapter on GSU. The Atlanta premiere of the documentary film, Unlikely, took place in the Rialto in April 2019. This film looks at admission of first-generation and low-income college students to college, the challenges they face, and whether they graduate. GSU has a prominent role in the film. Kalif Robinson, GSU Alumni, 2017 was featured in the documentary. Dr. Tim Renick is also featured in the film in a series of interviews. GSU sought a budget amendment from the Board of Regents for the GSU Convocation Center. The amendment was proposed due to the need to keep all seats included in the original proposal. The plan is to begin construction by summer 2020.

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 Emergency Withdrawal Policy

The motion proposes to expand the membership of the Emergency Withdrawal and Emergency Withdrawal Appeals and Petitions Committee. With consolidation, the Emergency Withdrawal Policy applies to all colleges within GSU. This motion expands the
Emergency Withdrawal and Emergency Withdrawal Appeals and Petitions Committees to include one faculty member and one staff member each from Perimeter College. The chair also mentioned that the Senior Vice President for Student Success title will be updated. The question was called. The motion passed.

2. Motion from the Committee on Admissions and Standards; Elizabeth Lopez, chair. **Waiver of C- Graduation Requirement**
   This motion proposes to revise the current policy. The primary revision is the request to waive the university’s policy of using C- grade to satisfy graduation requirements for courses in Area H for bachelor’s programs that culminate in internships or student teaching. The current grade requirements for the programs that require a “B” or higher in student teaching and the programs that require a “C” or higher in student teaching or internship were listed. The question was called. The motion passed.

3. Motion from the Faculty Affairs Committee; Robert Maxwell, chair. **Policy on Adoption of Faculty Authored Textbooks**
   This motion proposes that faculty members that assign self-authored textbooks or other instructional materials that students must pay to access must receive written permission from their unit head, with input from a faculty committee. Open (free) self-authored materials will not require permission.
   A faculty member asked the chair to clarify the policy. There was also a question from a second faculty member regarding the criteria for the review and approval of the textbooks. The chair read the “Call to Review Section” of the document to the group. He also shared that there will be an Ad Hoc Committee of faculty from each of the departments that would have input on approval. The first faculty member that commented on the policy also raised a concern regarding the possible conflict of interest. Dr. Becker asked the senate if there was a motion to amend the policy as proposed. A third faculty member made a motion to amend the policy so that the review process would extend higher than the department level. A fourth faculty member suggested that the proposed amendment regarding the review process was not a good idea. There was further discussion by the senate. A second was not received on the motion to amend. The last motion to amend did not move forward.
   The discussion continued with regard to the original motion and possible conflict of interest. This led to a faculty member making a motion to amend the policy to include a provision for an appeals process. There was a second. The question was called. The votes were counted. There were 57 votes in favor of the amendment. There were none opposed. The amendment passed. The earliest the policy would be ready may be fall semester 2020. Robert Maxwell, Chair, Faculty Affairs Committee, withdrew the original motion. The Faculty Affairs Committee will work to revise the policy.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Executive Committee (Sally Robertson for Michelle Brattain, chair): The committee has met one time since the last Senate meeting. The committee reviewed the motions for today’s Senate meeting. The committee also had an extended discussion on the technical difficulties they have experienced with trying to provide remote access to senate committee meetings. They discussed possible solutions such as designing spaces with technology across campuses that would make it easier for senators to attend committee meetings remotely on a regular basis.

Academic Programs (Shelby Frost for Michelle Brattain, chair): The committee met four times since the last Senate meeting. The committee has reviewed and approved over 12 proposals to alter academic programs.

Admissions and Standards (Elizabeth Lopez, chair): The committee has met twice since the last Senate
meeting. The committee voted to elect Chester Phillips as Vice Chair at their first organizational meeting. The committee also worked on the two motions on today's agenda.

Athletics (Kris Varjas, chair): The committee met three times since the last Senate meeting. The committee attended the home opener game against Furman, which GSU won. GSU earned Sunbelt overall student graduation rate. Four GSU teams won the top Sunbelt GPA awards (the most in the Sunbelt). GSU also had two Sunbelt post graduate scholarship winners.

Budget (Uni Perera, chair): The committee has met three times since the last Senate meeting. Jerry Rackliffe, Ramesh Vakamudi, Joseph Spillane, Lisa Armistead all gave presentations to the group. The subcommittee is working to report on the retirement system. They will provide this report to the Senate Budget and Faculty Affairs Committees. The final version will be submitted to the full senate. The budget committee is also represented in the subcommittee studying salary compression adjustments among different units here at GSU. Other senate committees in the group include faculty affairs, research, and cultural diversity.

Commencement (Mark Becker, chair): The committee has met once since the last Senate meeting. The committee considered nominations for honorary degrees. The President has received two nominations that he will take to the board.

Cultural Diversity (James Ainsworth, chair): The committee has met three times since the last Senate meeting. The committee has four subcommittees.

Faculty Affairs (Robert Maxwell, chair): The committee has met three times since the last Senate meeting. The committee worked on the motion that was presented today. The committee will now work to amend the policy. The committee is also working on a proposal related to students uploading course materials for commercial and non-commercial sites. The committee has a member that is part of a group working with the Provost Office. The committee may possibly adopt a model after GA Tech for a senior academic professional. The committee is working to try to have an internal change in relation to the use of the term non-tenured faculty. The group is also looking at a policy on the use of pronouns.

FACP (Wendy Hensel, chair): No report.

IIT (Robert Maxwell for Chris Goode, chair): The committee has met twice since the last Senate meeting. The committee reviewed the FY 20 Student Technology Fee Proposal. The recommendations of these proposals were made to FACP. The proposals were approved by FACP and sent to the president. The committee has also reviewed six minor variations from those proposed budgets. This year the committee will continue their discussion on tech fee percentages to administrative and academic units. Capital Space Committee has met one time since the last Senate meeting. A new task of the committee is to review proposals for student technology fees. The proposals were due February 1st and are now being reviewed by the committees of the various academic and administrative units. Those committees are made up of at least 50% students. Each committees’ recommendations are due by March 1st. Their recommendations will be reviewed by IIT & Facilities, and adjustments will be reviewed by unit coordinators. The final review will be conducted by the IIT Committee when they meet the second week in April. IIT Committee recommendations will then go to FACP.

Library (Scott Jacques, chair): No report.

Planning and Development (Jared Poley, chair): The committee has met twice since the last Senate meeting. The first meeting was an organizational meeting. The second meeting was regarding
campus safety issues. Committee members are also working on the Capital Space Committee. This committee has met once.

Research (Mary Ann Romski for Rose Sevcik, chair): The committee has met three times since the last Senate Committee. The committee has welcomed VP for Research and Economic Development Michael Eriksen. The committee worked with the Huron Consulting Group and are awaiting their final report. The committee offered feedback for next generation project at the request of the Provost. The committee also discussed international scholarship and collaboration and conflict of interest issues. The committee worked with URSA on the university’s internal grant program and plans for the university research center.

Student Discipline (Anne Murphy, chair): The committee meets as needed. The committee has held nine hearings this semester. There will be three hearings held soon.

Student Life and Development (Kim Ramsey-White, chair): The committee has met one time this semester. The committee will meet again on Monday, October 21st to review between 20 and 25 applications for new student organizations.

Sustainability (Trish Kanan, co-chair): The committee has met two times since the last Senate meeting. The committee discussed three major items. The committee will meet with GSU Foundation next week to discuss the possibility of starting a Green Fund for energy seeking features on new buildings. The committee is looking at sustainable purchasing to reduce wastes. A sub-committee is investigating a certificate or minor in environmental studies.

University Statutes and Senate Bylaws (Todd Hendricks, chair): The committee has not met since the last Senate meeting.

Speaker: Dr. Becker announced the speaker, Provost Wendy Hensel. Provost Hensel provided the senate with information on The Next Generation of Faculty. This proposal was composed of three pieces: Recruitment/Hiring, Community Building and Retention, and Developing a Pipeline to the Professoriate.

OLD BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Since there was no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Dionne Polite
Secretary to the Senate