Minutes of March 3 were approved.

Center for Law, Health & Society

Dr. Griffith presented the proposed interdisciplinary Center for Law, Health & Society, which would focus on ethics, law and medicine. Several colleges and the Institute of Public Health would be involved internally as well as possibly the Centers for Disease Control and Emory Hospitals. The underlying premise would be some problems in the area of health require legal solutions.

Dr. Adamson voiced enthusiasm for the idea of the center, but cautioned that extensive resources would be needed to implement completely as proposed. Dr. Henry clarified that approval by Administrative Council was a first step to approve the center in principle, but not to allocate resources. The center would be listed for the Board of Regents and entered into the review cycle for the University Senate Committee on Academic Programs and Continuing Education (APACE). While university resources would not be allocated at this point, the center could begin pursuing external funding as an approved entity of the university. Dr. Griffith indicated the tuition increase for the College of Law would be tapped to some extent for start-up, and significant external funding was anticipated. Dr. Bahl commented that prospects for success were great for a center with this focus.

Dr. Louis made a motion to approve the Center for Law, Health & Society. Dr. Colarusso seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Center for Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth

Dr. Griffith presented the proposed interdisciplinary Center for Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth, which would focus on urban areas across the US and world, but with an emphasis on Atlanta sprawl. Dr. Louis made a motion to approve the Center for Comparative Study of Metropolitan Growth. Dr. Colarusso seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Racial Climate

Dr. Scott outlined the events, administrative responses, judicial processes and legal considerations relating to the fraternity blackface incident. Of the 12 demands of the Black Student Alliance (BSA), the faculty and staff response group and the BSA reached consensus on 8 demands and were in substantial agreement on 2 more demands. The remaining 2 demands pertained to the suspension of the fraternity and amnesty/immunity for participation in protests. The results of the judicial hearing for the fraternity will be publicized since FERPA applies only to
individual students. A forum on April 13 will attempt to move on beyond this incident.

Dr. Huss asked about the nature of the consensus items. Dr. Henry replied that these mainly concerned a better understanding of what had happened in the 12 years since a 1992 racial incident. Dr. Scott added that the 2004 demands were largely based on the 1992 demands, and the students were unaware of what had been accomplished in the interval.

Ms. Hurt asked about faculty and staff participation in the forum. Dr. Scott replied that the students wanted to see more faculty and staff participating. Dr. Adamson noted it was unclear at the prior forum whether faculty and staff were invited and that if they were invited, it should be structured so they would understand why they were going. She added that it was gratifying to inform the students about the development of the Department of African American Studies.

Dr. Scott commented that attendance at forums had been poor, with some African-American students disagreeing with the BSA and students in fraternities and sororities fearing verbal attacks.

Dr. Huss asked about diversity within the fraternities. Dr. Scott replied that there was one diverse fraternity. Dr. Henry added that the fraternity involved in the blackface incident had one African American and one Asian American member. Dr. Scott noted that all of the fraternities and sororities stated willingness to accept members regardless of race, but in reality they remained segregated.

Dr. Jacobs asked about the particular behaviors in this incident. Dr. Scott answered that the fraternity held a hip-hop party to which an African American fraternity was also invited. Two students in the host fraternity showed up in blackface to the surprise of the fraternity leadership. The fraternity president asked the students to wash off, which they did.

Dr. Griffith asked if the diversity in fraternities and sororities at Georgia State was comparable to other universities. Dr. Scott answered that the pattern was typical across the country and increasingly segregated as Hispanic American and Asian American fraternities and sororities were also appearing.

Budget Update

Dr. Henry reported on the FY2005 budget prospects. The legislature was in its final day with no agreement between the houses on the overall state budget. A special session to resolve the differences loomed. The House was more favorable to education in order to avoid millage rate hikes; the Senate was more favorable to health care to fix systemic problems with Medicare. Dr. Bahl stated the difference as $400M.

Dr. Adamson asked about the probability of an additional 1% budget reduction in FY2004. Mr. Rackliffe responded that the Office of Planning & Budget (OPB) was still looking at the figures.

Mr. Rackliffe reported general salary lists as of April 1 had been sent to all chief administrative officers to check for accuracy for computation of the FY2005 salary pools. No information was available on salary administration rules for FY2005.
Dr. Henry pointed out that the next Board of Regents meeting on April 20-21 would be the normal time to set tuition and fees, but action might be delayed if a special session were required to complete the state budget.

Ms. Hurt asked if the raises must be merit based given only 2% and a cap. Mr. Rackliffe replied that the Board of Regents would likely stipulate merit based. He added that it was unclear whether the cap would be only for calculating the institutional allocation from the Board of Regents or also applied to individuals.

Dr. Adamson asked about the status of the $5M minor capital project. Dr. Henry replied that the legislature had not acted on any of the construction bonds.

**Announcements**

Dr. Henry called attention to an announcement distributed to faculty by a private copying company concerning custom course pack publishing. On request of Dr. Marshall, he cautioned that the agreement offered to faculty by the company gives them exclusive rights to produce their course packs, which would exclude the library, docu-web, etc. Ms. Hurt recommended e-reserves as another option. Dr. Adamson recommended an e-mail broadcast to all faculty about the matter.

Dr. Henry congratulated programs recognized by the US News & World Report. Dr. Bahl noted 4 high rankings for the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies. Dr. Griffith noted the College of Law had moved up to number 89. Dr. Huss cited the flexible MBA program for being in the top ten and Computer Information Systems for being number 8.

Dr. Griffith mentioned that the College of Law would be honoring Justice Robert Benham on April 8.