Minutes of May 5 were approved as presented.

President's Remarks

Dr. Patton welcomed new members: Kurt Keppler, Larry Kelley, and Sid Crow. Mr. Christenberry introduced Bill Paraska and consultant Bruce Briggs.

Dr. Patton reported credit hour enrollments at other University System institution had also been adversely affected by students taking fewer than five courses. He pointed out for Georgia State the high number of graduation students, but on the other hand the large freshman and sophomore classes in the pipeline. Dr. Henry cited partial recovery of the number of credit hours per student over successive terms from 11.2 to 9.9 to 10.0 to 10.2 in fall 1999. He added that UGA had experienced a drop in credit hours per students from fall 1998 to 1999. Dr. Henry also noted that the number of seniors at Georgia State had dropped by approximately 1,000 from two years ago. Dr. Patton observed that retention had improved, which helped soften the impact for graduation losses. Dr. Henry commented that revenue shortfalls resulting from credit hours falling below budget projections could be addressed after spring 2000 registration figures are known, and that in the meantime the focus would be on boosting spring enrollments.

Dr. Patton reported the Fiscal Year 2001 capital projects list for the University System did not include any projects for the research universities not any institution in Atlanta. He added that Georgia State did receive $1M in ADA funds for the University Center/College of Law project, and the $5.5M minor capital project for completing renovations of the University Center/College of Law was on the University System list. He stated his efforts would now be directed toward getting the teaching lab building on the capital projects list for Fiscal Year 2002.

Dr. Patton reported that demotion of the Atlanta Police Department/jail property was underway, and a committee would be making a recommendation to governor Barnes concerning its transfer to Georgia State or other use.

Dr. Patton reported that the GSU Foundation was considering development of housing for graduate and married students.

Dissolution of Department of Academic Foundations

Drs. Henry and Abdelal presented plans to dissolve the Department of Academic Foundations. Dr. Henry indicated that the new admission standards had resulted in no learning support admissions and significantly fewer students needing learning support. He stated that the recommendation was to dissolve the department and reassign its tenured faculty. Dr. Abdelal elaborated that the number of learning support students had declined form 800 to zero admittees and only 40 non-traditional students. He characterized the quick replenishment of these losses with quality students as remarkable and noted that this change in the student profile had not diminished the number of minority students. Dr. Abdelal outlined the reassignment of faculty to retention efforts, English, Mathematics, and Middle-Secondary
Education & "suspended" students. He stated that faculty and staff had been consulted regarding the proposed change and the plan had the approval of the Provost. Dr. Henry mad a notion to dissolve the Department of Academic Foundations. Dr. Abdelal seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Data Stewardship and Access Policy

Mr. Christenberry reintroduced the data stewardship and access policy discussed at the March 3, 1999 meeting. He commented that the policy reflected recognition of data as an important asset. Dr. Crimmins asked about the length of time to implement the policy. Dr. Christenberry replied implementation could be immediate, but he would work with the data administration committee and Institutional Research. Dr. Marshall cautioned that use of the term "sensitive" for data as in the policy statement did not protect that form Open Records requests. Mr. Christenberry made a motion to adopt the data stewardship and access policy as presented. Dr. Crow seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Financial Aid

Dr. Babey and ms. Francis presented by means of a flow chart an overview of the financial aid application process. Ms. Francis pointed out that feudal financial aid forms are not available until December for the following academic year and must be submitted after January 1. She added that processing by the federal agency takes 4-6 weeks and involves cross-checks with IRS, draft, immigration, etc. Ms. Francis explained that HOPE Scholarships cover tuition and fees minus federal financial aid, which necessitates applications for federal aid from HOPE certificates had not been received this year until August 23, which contributed to the delay in getting financial aid awards to students. Dr. Patton asked about students who appear wanting their HOPE Scholarships but whose paperwork is incomplete. Ms. Francis responded that GSFC had made allowances for covering "walk-ups". She added that high schools were not adequately communicating information about the HOPE Scholarship application process to their students. Dr. Alberto suggested an explanation of the HOPE Scholarship application process should be attached to a mailing to all applicants. Dr. Henry replied this was being done. Dr. Patton asked if financial aid officers had met with GSFC to discuss the problems with administering the program. Ms. Francis responded that they had met with GSFC and the procedure for dealing with "walk-ups" was an outcome of one such meeting.

Dr. Crimmins reported on the crisis management team set up to deal with undelivered financial awards, which had enlisted help from other units across the university. He also stated the students were very graceful for the telephone calls made by the team to notify them of their awards. Dr. Henry inquired about the current status of awards. Ms. Francis presented a table showing processing numbers as of September 3, 1999. She indicated awards approximately 3,000 students who had applied by the deadline would be completed by September 17, 1999, and their checks would be ready by September 30, 1999. She noted applicants after the deadline and enrolled students with still incomplete files totaled approximately 2,600.

Dr. McGinnis added that the GSU Foundation had provided $200K in emergency loans to help deal with the financial aid situation. Ms. Francis explained that these funds were used for tuition only for those who did not qualify for deferments. Dr. Babey pointed out the cooperation of the GSU Bookstore and the work of Student Accounts with banks to help students with cash flow difficulties.

Dr. Abdelal suggested staff in other areas should be cross-trained to assist with financial aid processing since heavy activity is seasonal. Dr. Crimmins stated that electronic facilitation of the process was only about 1/3 in place. Dr. Griffith observed that students need to be educated more completely about the financial aid process and suggested posting this information on a website. Dr. Abdelal recommended that communications to students be in a bullet format rather than narrative, because students do not read memos. Dr. Keppler noted that Ms. Francis had spoke with students at the Leadership Conclave, and it was clear students want someone to express concern.
Organizational Assessment

Dr. Patton announced PricewaterhouseCoopers would be engaged to assess the administrative structure of the university given the rare concurrence of three vice presidential vacancies. Dr. Patton emphasized he had no preconceived notion regarding restructuring of the vice presidential areas. He indicated the review by PWC would be quick with their report due in time for the October 6, 1999 meeting of the Administrative Council. Dr. Henry outlined the proposed schedule of interviews for the PWC consultants.

Announcements

Dr. Abdelal announced a $20M NSF neural-science grant for Georgia State, Emory, Georgia Tech, and Clark Atlanta.

Dr. McGinnis announced a unit name change from Development and Alumni Support Services to Advancement Service and reported attainment of $68M of the $75M goal for the capital campaign.

Dr. Kelley announced a three-year leave for Dr. Baldwin to serve as executive director of the statewide women's health office.

Dr. Keppler announced 92 freshman "emerging leaders" were enrolled in GSU 1010, and ground breaking for the recreation center would be in early November 1999.

Dr. Abdelal asked about the ground breaking for the Aderhold Learning Center. Dr. Patton replied that asbestos removal and demolition would occur after January 1, 2000.

Dr. Deitz announced Drs. Hurley and Sehgal had been named to the Professional Standards commission marking the first time two persons from the same institution had been appointed.

Dr. Hurt announced on-line renewal of library books for faculty.

Dr. Griffith announced the first Georgia State law school graduate to make partner with King & Spalding.

Mr. Christenberry announced Village Net was operational with more than 300 students connected.

Dr. Henry announced Yamacraw funding of $550K for Georgia State with external reviewers ranking the Georgia State proposal second in the state.