The minutes of November 6 were approved as distributed.

President’s Remarks

Dr. Patton emphasized the importance of friend-raising during economic down times to cultivate donors for better times ahead. He noted continuing efforts to obtain a Woodruff Foundation gift for the new teaching laboratories building. He reported some significant personal gifts were still being received even during the current economic situation. He stressed the impact of gifts in making the difference between a good and great university.

Smoking Policy

Ms. Price presented a proposal from the Student Government Association to prohibit smoking within 25 feet of building entrances. She cited complaints from students about smoke and burns suffered in these crowded areas. Dr. Griffith commented that 25 feet would afford only slight improvement, and suggested consideration of a 50-75 foot radius. Ms. Price added that the proposal also called for designating smoking areas.

Dr. Colarusso pointed out that in many cases the entrances were at Atlanta public sidewalks, so enforcement would be complicated. Dr. Patton agreed this would require some investigation by Mr. Marshall.

Ms. Van Voris commented that some staff had heard about the proposal and were concerned this action would lead in time to restrictions related to food and perfume odors. Dr. Kelley replied that smoke causes cancer, not food or perfume odors.

Ms. Hurt observed that the problem was very prevalent on the loading docks. Dr. Griffith concurred and added that many Physical Plant personnel were smokers. Dr. Patton responded that the cancer prevention program, discussed at the November meeting, would eventually address stop-smoking initiatives, but that this was a very difficult item at the start.

Dr. de Castro asked about enforcement. Ms. Van Voris quoted fines of $10-100 with Georgia State police to enforce. Dr. Patton responded that self-enforcement would be emphasized. He suggested Dr. Marshall, Ms. Sampson, and others fine-tune the policy and then return it to the Administrative Council for action. Dr. de Castro pointed out such policies had been reviewed by the University Senate Committee of Faculty Affairs in the past. Dr. Patton agreed both the Senate committee and Administrative Council would participate in the approval process.

Ms. Peterman asked about specific smoking areas. Ms. Price responded these were not included by location in the policy, but that the Urban Life Plaza was mentioned as one possibility.
Budget Update

Dr. Henry gave a brief update on the budget situation. He cautioned there might be additional cutbacks in FY2003. He reported a statement of impacts of holdbacks was due to the Chancellor on January 10 and budget plans for FY2004 by January 15. He invited discussion on the impacts of holdbacks.

Dr. Moore commented on the effect on quality of instruction of heavy reliance on part-time and non-tenure track faculty. Dr. Adamson echoed this concern and focused on the impact on undergraduate programs. Ms. Hurt cited fewer book purchases and subscriptions and postponed infrastructure improvements. Dr. Kelley noted a delay in remodeling an anatomy lab. Dr. Adamson added that class sizes had increased dramatically for core courses in which students have the most problems. Dr. Patton suggested phrasing this concern in terms of class size impact on retention and graduation rates. Dr. Griffith indicated the College of Law was impacted by delays in renovating facilities, including replacement of carpet in the College of Law library, which adversely affected recruitment of faculty and students. Dr. Henry observed this was the same other institutions in the current economic climate. Dr. Patton expressed regret that MRRF dollars had not been increased since these projects would add jobs throughout the state. Ms. Hurt pointed to the effect of travel cutbacks on professional development. Dr. Fritz mentioned student complaints about admissions and financial aid responsiveness due to the extremely high ratio of students to counselors in these offices. Mr. Christenberry warned that technology infrastructure would fall farther behind even though funds were not budgeted for this purpose in the continuing budget.

Enrollment Update

Dr. Henry announced spring credit hours were up approximately 8% from the previous year. Dr. Fritz distributed a handout showing enrollment trends. He pointed out enrollment of 26,680 students and 290,610 credit hours with three days of registration to go. He anticipated easily reaching the 702,000 credit hours for the fiscal year projected in FACP for the fiscal year.

Dr. Patton asked about the number of transfers from Morris Brown College. Dr. Fritz replied 113 applied and 61 enrolled. He stated the students were grateful for the extraordinary efforts to get them enrolled. Dr. Henry explained the transfers had been arranged only after a request from the Vice President for Academic Affairs at Morris Brown for assistance. He noted Morris Brown determined which students met the credit hour and grade point average requirements to be certified for the special transfer program. He added that the students were required to take GSU 1010 to help with their adjustment to the Georgia State campus. Dr. Patton reported there had been a meeting with the Atlanta University Center presidents to assure that Georgia State would accommodate, but not openly recruit Morris Brown students. Dr. Fritz reiterated that Georgia State did not contact individual students, but relied on the list provided by Morris Brown.

Dr. de Castro cautioned that the average workload had increased which would mean more of the add-on credit hours were above the tuition plateau. Dr. Henry answered that this effect had been factored in the revenue projections. Dr. de Castro urged that the enrollment reports show credit hours above the plateau. Dr. Louis raised the question of an article in the AJC, which stated workloads were down. Dr. Henry responded that the article pertained to freshmen, who took only
29 credit hours rather than 30 their first year, so their HOPE eligibility would not be affected for the following year regardless of grade point average. Dr. Patton added that only 1/3 of students retain HOPE eligibility.

Dr. Fritz hailed the pattern of more students on track for graduation in 4 years. Dr. Patton observed the increase in June graduations as reflective of this trend. Dr. Henry noted the difficulty in finding part-time work was driving more students to take full loads. Dr. de Castro pointed out most of the workload increase was for freshmen and sophomores.

Ms. Hurt asked about the effect on international enrollments of tougher regulations in the aftermath of September 11. Dr. Henry replied that there had been no effect at Georgia State or nationally. He added that SEVIS might impact in the future. Ms. Hurt applauded the student committee vote in favor of the international education fee.

**Legislative Event**

Mr. Sheheane announced the annual legislative event on January 14. He thanked the colleges and other units for their exhibits. He noted 30% of the senators and representatives would be new, and consequently educating them about Georgia State was especially important. He added that nearly 30 members were Georgia State graduates, including the floor leaders in both houses.

Mr. Sheheane announced new Georgia State car tags will be available this year. He indicated a letter will be sent to current holders of the low-number tags explaining the renewal procedure. He added that the numbering will be different, ST0001 to ST0100 rather than 1 to 100.

**GSU Village Security**

Ms. Johnston reported on the arrest in the December GSU Village assault case. Dr. Patton congratulated the campus police and the counseling center for their work on the case. Ms. Johnston related how the GBI was involved early on, and their involvement in making the DNA match. She indicated the person arrested had confessed and been identified in the line-up by all five women attacked. Dr. Scott outlined measures taken since the incident to bolster security, including the hiring of 4 additional officers, working with residents to be more observant, changing the visitation policy to reduce external traffic, and planning meetings with parents to inform about security.

**Lofts**

Dr. Scott reported initiatives to improve occupancy of the Lofts. She stated rents had been reduced for FY2004, a mass marketing campaign was underway, and room configurations were being changed to increase occupancy for individual units. She added that sections would be reserved for honor students, graduate students, etc. She indicated carpet would be added to reduce noise due to the concrete shell.

**Announcements**

Dr. Patton announced appointment of Dr. Adamson as Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.
Ms. Hurt announced staff volunteers moved 167,000 volumes over the winter break.

Dr. Fritz announced restructuring of the Presidential Scholarships to include housing in the Lofts, Study Abroad support, and a laptop computer.

Dr. Patton announced the GSU Foundation had closed on the Beaudry Ford property.

Ms. Peterman announced a GSU Foundation board retreat to which the vice presidents and deans would be invited.

Mr. Christenberry announced recognition by EDUCAUSE of Georgia State as a national leader in instructional delivery by web.

Dr. Patton announced a visit of Aderhold Learning Center by a distinguished group of architects.