Administrative Council
Minutes of
November 4, 2009

Attendees: Greg Abt, Lauren Adamson, Paul Alberto, Mark Becker, Chandler Brown, David Caudill, Doug Covey, Irene Duhaime, Lacey Enyart, Mary Finn, Jim Flowers, Kerry Heyward, John Hicks, Bart Hildreth, Steve Kaminshine, Randy Kamphaus, Susan Kelley, Cheryl Levick, Robin Morris, Risa Palm, Nancy Peterman, Tim Renick, Sterling Roth, Jeff Rupp, Robert Sattelmeyer, Nancy Seamans, Edgar Torbert

Minutes of October 7, 2009 were approved as distributed.

Student Government Association

Mr. Abt gave a PowerPoint presentation covering the structure, services and goals of the Student Government Association (SGA) with emphasis on professionalizing the SGA, increasing continuity between SGA administrations, focusing on results, and broadening engagement. Mr. Abt also presented an SGA spirit video, entitled “Panther Thirst”. Dr. Becker congratulated Mr. Abt and the SGA for strides already made and their vision of the future for the SGA.

Responsible Conduct in Research Training Policies

Dr. Morris presented the proposed responsible conduct in research (RCR) training policies, which were developed by the University Senate Research Committee in response to new federal requirements, which are subject to audit this year. He added that similar policies at Pennsylvania State University and the University of Maryland were used as models to expedite development of the Georgia State policies. Dr. Morris noted the training would be on-line utilizing the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) applications adopted by many research universities.

Dr. Adamson asked about the expectations for arts and humanities students. Dr. Alberto pointed out the document entitled “Scholarship and Research Integrity” stated waivers for parts of the on-line training could be granted for students in programs for which the training was not appropriate. Dr. Kaminshine noted Professor Leslie Wolf in the College of Law teaches courses on human research ethics, which could be made available to other colleges.

Dr. Becker asked about HIPAA compliance. Dr. Heyward responded Legal Affairs monitored HIPAA compliance for Georgia State in coordination with University Research Services & Administration (URSA).

Dr. Becker asked about the means of checking RCR compliance. Dr. Morris answered the CITI database would show who had completed on-line training. Dr. Alberto added course registrations would provide documentation of research methods courses taken covering other RCR training components.

Dr. Adamson asked about time sequencing of RCR training requirements. Dr. Morris replied timing would not be specified.

Dr. Duhaime asked about provisions for students in programs, which do not have research methods courses. Dr. Morris indicated the requirements could be met with a seminar of approximately 5 contact hours, and also recommended taking advantage of workshops already offered by URSA. Dr. Duhaime asked about applicability to faculty researchers. Dr. Morris replied faculty members are already covered with respect to these training requirements through URSA.

Dr. Becker observed the requirements as stated would impact every research course offered, if doing something practical. Dr. Alberto concurred, and added all students in those courses must be instructed to take the CITI training. Dr. Adamson suggested stating clearly that the requirements applied only to empirical research. Dr. Morris confirmed waivers could be granted for non-empirical research.

Dr. Becker asked if the requirements pertained to sponsored research only. Dr. Morris answered that the training was intended to be university-wide as essential training for empirical research.

Alternative Work Schedule
Mr. Caudill requested feedback on behalf of Staff Council regarding the pilot program of alternative work schedules implemented for Summer 2009. Dr. Becker indicated there had not yet been an evaluation of the program to determine if it should be offered in future summers or extended year round.

**Strategic Planning**

Dr. Becker announced start-up of a strategic planning process to produce a longer range strategic plan than the traditional five-year plans required by the Board of Regents. Dr. Becker stated the plan would provide direction for at least 20 years. He indicated Dr. Palm would be meeting with the University Senate Planning & Development Committee on November 4 to discuss the process. He added that Dr. Maury Cotter, Director of the Office of Quality Improvement at the University of Wisconsin, and Dr. David Ward, former Chancellor of the University of Wisconsin, would be on campus for one day [January 12, 2010] to advise about university strategic planning.

Dr. Palm announced Georgia State will also hire a consultant to help with the year long strategic planning process, in particular to facilitate broad participation. Dr. Palm emphasized the strategic plan would not address every aspect of Georgia State, but rather focus on directions for moving Georgia State forward. Dr. Becker added that Georgia Tech was undertaking a similar approach.

Dr. Alberto noted a meeting with the Regents’ Professors at Georgia State had produced desirable 17 goals, but with no known funding to accomplish them. Dr. Alberto pointed to the need to identify goals, which can be accomplished to change Georgia State, as an objective of the strategic planning process.

**Second Century Initiative (2CI)**

Dr. Becker distributed the latest draft of “2nd Century Initiative 2009-2010” with the goal of hiring 100 new faculty over 5 years in order to increase federally funded research and enhance the overall reputation of Georgia State for excellence in research. Dr. Becker noted the Deans Group and FACP had already had opportunities to comment on the draft, and it was nearing release. He invited feedback directly to Dr. Palm by November 6.

Dr. Kaminshine observed the award amounts cited in the draft would not meet the market rate for faculty stars targeted by the initiative. Dr. Becker replied the participating units would be expected to contribute to the total package for such hires. Dr. Adamson asked about the impact of this funding initiative on university funds for hires associated with Action Plans from program reviews. Dr. Palm answered the deans would now be expected to look for funding for priority Action Plan hires through reallocation within their colleges. Dr. Becker reiterated the importance of budget management by the deans in order to shift resources from one unit to another as necessary as vacated positions are not filled or filled at lesser salaries.

Dr. Becker suggested the most productive approach would be first to pursue a high impact hire and then for subsequent years to seek a cluster of junior faculty to thrive by collaborating with the high impact hire. Dr. Becker added failed attempts to hire high impact faculty would result in return of those awards to the Provost for reallocation to other 2CI proposals.

Dr. Morris asked about 2CI hires of non-tenure track faculty researchers, such as researchers with industry backgrounds in order to get a jumpstart for intellectual property endeavors. He noted one or two such hires at the University of Georgia. Dr. Becker replied 2CI was not intended for such hires, but exceptional cases would be considered separate from 2CI on an individual basis. He reiterated the fundamental goal of 2CI is to strengthen the core faculty.

Dr. Adamson commented the partial 2CI funding for positions might be linked to development efforts to endow professorships. She observed there was a “chicken and egg” problem with donors and 2CI funded positions with respect to timing of decisions for each one in order to secure the other.

Dr. Becker emphasized the multi-year aspects of 2CI as essential to producing the desired results for the university.

**Responsible Conduct in Research Training Policies-Motion**

Dr. Kaminshine made a motion to approve the “Responsible Conduct in Research Training” policy with clarifications
based on discussion at this meeting. Dr. Adamson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

**Budget Outlook**

Dr. Kaminshine asked about the latest forecast for the budget and the prospects for full formula funding for FY2011. Dr. Becker responded that Dr. Rackliffe was continuously updating his budget model, and he would be asked to present his “crystal ball” projection at the next meeting. Dr. Becker stated the funding formula was the number one priority of Georgia State and the University System for the upcoming legislative session.