Minutes of November 4, 2009 were approved as distributed.

**IPORT**

Dr. Finn and Ms. Bryant-Bonds presented an overview and demonstration of IPORT, the replacement, data warehouse software for StatWare. The switchover will occur January 5, 2010.

Dr. Alberto asked about the availability of the package of reports needed for program review. Dr. Finn responded these were under development.

Dr. Adamson noted problems with faculty data on StatWare. Dr. Finn stated the issue would continue because of the lack of a crosstalk between the faculty information system and Banner, which necessitated creating a shadow system for faculty data. She indicated IPORT would carry the same warning statement as StatWare concerning this matter. Dr. Kaminshine asked about linkage to faculty annual report data. Dr. Finn replied that currently there were too many inconsistencies across colleges and efforts were underway to identify the type of system for all to use.

**Study Abroad Program Director Requirements**

Dr. Heyward and Mr. Hicks introduced a proposed policy statement on requirements for Study Abroad program directors. Dr. Heyward commented that an incident last year had pointed to the need for such a policy, and that the proposed statement had been reviewed by the Deans Group. Mr. Hicks emphasized the need to identify specifically by job title those who cannot be Study Abroad program directors given the magnitude of responsibilities and institutional liability.

Dr. Huss suggested adding a statement about Office of Study Abroad final approval for all program directors, not only those for whom an exception to the policy was sought. Dr. Becker asked about a policy statement for approval of Study Abroad programs, not just the program directors. Ms. Bernardino stated that program approval requirements were a part of the Study Abroad crisis policy. Dr. Becker responded that the policies should be brought together as one package and resubmitted to Administrative Council for approval at the January 20, 2010 meeting. Ms. Bernardino indicated the delay would not negatively impact program planning for Spring 2010 and Summer 2010.

**Enrollment Update**

Dr. Renick presented an enrollment report showing headcount and credit hour registrations for Spring Semester 2010 running 11% ahead of the same year-to-date numbers for Spring Semester 2009. He noted transfer applications for Spring Semester 2010 were down from Spring Semester 2009, which conformed to the national trend as students were less likely to move because of the economy. Dr. Renick added that the quality of the Spring Semester applicants was up.

Dr. Rackliffe asked about the overall Spring Semester 2010 enrollment projection. Dr. Renick answered there would be an increase of 2-3% over Spring Semester 2009. Dr. Becker asked about the distinction between confirmed and registered students. Dr. Renick replied that confirmed students had submitted forms indicating intent to enroll, but had not yet finalized registration. He added that work continued on a strategy of increasing the number of Spring Semester admissions in order to raise the quality of Fall Semester admissions for institutional comparison purposes.

Dr. Renick reported freshman admissions for Fall Semester 2010 were also ahead of year-to-date numbers for Fall Semester 2009. He pointed to an 86% increase in the number of freshman applicants with a Freshman Index greater
Dr. Renick called attention to a new analysis of the impacts of the HOPE Scholarship program on retention and graduation. He noted new freshman with HOPE enrolling Fall Semester 2008 had a 100% one-year retention rate, as did new freshmen without HOPE, who gained HOPE eligibility during the year. He also noted heavy attrition for students who lose HOPE.

Dr. Palm commented that several of the deans were working on 5-year accelerated professional degree programs to attract a larger number of students with HOPE. Mr. Flowers asked about anticipated effects in the event HOPE awards were capped. Dr. Renick predicted a major impact on recruiting for University System institutions across the state. Dr. Becker commented that politically it was more likely award amounts would be capped rather than limiting the number of students eligible for assistance. Dr. Rackliffe stressed the importance of differential award amount caps for the various sectors of the University System, as was done in South Carolina.

**Strategic Planning**

Dr. Palm outlined the initiation of university strategic planning as the means for setting direction for Georgia State for the next 10-20 years and priorities for budgets, reallocations, projects, etc. for the next 3 years. She stated the overall goal: to take strategic, targeted action toward improving performance as a public, urban research university. Dr. Palm noted the Investiture Address provided guidance regarding institutional goals, on which campus community discussion over the next 12 months would expand and make more specific. She spoke to the importance of translating mission statements into action terms, which would enhance educational performance, lead to more success by Georgia State students, greater productivity in scholarly, creative, and research activities, and further the mission of urban university in service to the city, metropolitan area, state, nation and world.

Dr. Palm announced the formation of a small Strategic Planning Committee with the following membership: Greg Abt, Sandra Garber, Michelle Brattain, Michael Eriksen, P.C. Tai, Ralph Gilbert, Allison Calhoun-Brown, Rose Sevcik, Tamer Cavusgil, Paul Alberto, Steve Kaminshine, and Jorge Martinez. She also announced an RFP had been issued for consulting services to help with the strategic planning process, and Maury Cotter, director of strategic planning at the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and David Ward, former chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and former president of the American Council on Education, would be coming to campus January 10-11, 2010 to meet with the Administrative Council and the Strategic Planning Committee to set the stage for the process.

Dr. Palm announced she, Dr. Becker, and the Strategic Planning Committee would visit Arizona State University in January 22, 2010 to learn about the dramatic impact strategic planning had there. Dr. Palm stressed that this was not to emulate the particular changes at Arizona State, but instead to see how a new vision for a university can be translated into actual transformation.

Dr. Palm indicated the steps and timeline for the strategic planning process would take shape after the aforementioned consultations and would result in an analysis of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats; identification of key indicators; and development of a small number of specific action plans for coming years. She stated plans to hold open forums and charettes to gather input from a broad cross-section of the university. She also pointed to opportunities for faculty and others to present new ideas and address issues of particular interest to them through white papers. Dr. Palm noted the process would culminate with hearings in Fall Semester 2010 and approval of the strategic plan by the University Senate.

Dr. Becker reiterated the objective was not to duplicate what Arizona State had done, but to learn from their experience. He cited Arizona State as an excellent example of an institution transformed through its strategic planning. Drs. Rackliffe and Alberto noted national attention to the success of Arizona State. Mr. Caudill noted excitement among staff about their inclusion in the strategic planning process.

**Budget Outlook**

Dr. Rackliffe commented on the FY2010 and FY2011 budget situations. He noted that while the officially announced cut to date to the FY2010 budget by the state was 8.5%, the actual cut to date amounted to 10.5%. He projected an overall cut of 16% by the end of the budget year. Dr. Rackliffe added that the 12.5% cut budgeted by the university up front in tandem with the additional tuition revenues from enrollment growth and the 4.5% set aside in case of additional cuts
would enable the university to handle the FY2010 situation. Dr. Rackliffe indicated no additional furlough days would be necessary unless the state requires them, and further RIFs were also unlikely.

Dr. Rackliffe announced another infusion of federal stimulus funds, which would entail payroll adjustments and budget adjustments to move $5.6M in October 2009 and November 2009 expenditures from state funds to federal stimulus funds. He explained care would be taken to avoid adjustments, which might undermine determination of indirect cost rates. He reminded that federal stimulus funds would continue in FY2011, but not beyond. He stated Board of Regents staff would be holding budget hearings in January 2010 to hear institutional plans to wean off federal stimulus and SIF funds by FY2012. Dr. Rackliffe projected elimination of new cohorts of fixed-for-four tuition students would help offset expiring fund sources. Dr. Becker cautioned additional cuts to the state budget were likely for the next 2-3 years with one-time funds being used to bridge.

Dr. Rackliffe emphasized funding of the funding formula for the University System was the foremost legislative priority for Georgia State. He equated the funding formula impact on Georgia State to a $200M endowment. He indicated the health insurance and OMP portions of the funding formula might be the primary targets, with funding for enrollment growth surviving. Dr. Rackliffe predicted the new workload funding formula dollars and additional tuition dollars would enable Georgia State to mitigate the gap created by the expiring and cut sources of funding. He added that the Second Century Initiative was already incorporated in his budget models in making these projections.

President’s Remarks

Dr. Becker reported on a meeting with Mayor-Elect Kasim Reed in which Mr. Reed spoke regarding attracting talent to his administrative team, public safety, 911 improvements, panhandlers/homeless, fixing the permit process, and transportation/TSPLOST.

Announcements

Dr. Huss reported on the proposed World Affairs Council, the successor to the Southern Center for International Studies.

Dr. Alberto commented on the proposed revisions to the triennial evaluations of university administrators to be brought to the Senate meeting on December 10, 2009.

Dr. Becker reminded that the PhD hooning would be on December 13, 2009 with Dr. Palm as the speaker, and commencement would be on December 14, 2009 with honorary degrees to be awarded to Dr. Louis Sullivan and commencement speaker Mr. Neville Isdell.

Ms. Hines announced the performance of Capitol Steps at the Rialto on January 23, 2009 to be recorded for broadcast on PBS.

Dr. Renick reminded that getting grades to the Registrar on-time was especially important this semester because of the longer winter break.

Dr. Becker noted goals of President Obama regarding enrollments in higher education nationally by 2030 and number of US students studying in China. He mentioned as national higher education issues: graduation rates and tuition rates.

Dr. Adamson announced the annual holiday iron pour on December 12, 2009 under the direction of Dr. George Beasley who is retiring.