SENATE COMMITTEE ON ADMISSIONS AND STANDARDS

November 13, 1997

Present: Rankin Cooter, Paula Dressel, Bijan Fazlollhi, Sheryl Gowen, Dan Hammond, Hugh Hudson, Robert Jones, Edith Manns, Richard Miller, Elaine Murphy, John Newman, George Rainbolt, Julie Rainer, Larry Rifkind, Edward Rigdon, James Scott, Rob Sheinkopf, Rick Terrill

Absent: Margo Brinton, Carolyn Crutchfield, Nancy Deel, Ron Henry, Carolyn Keys, Greg Moreland, David Myers, Ram Sriram

1. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of October 2, 1997.
   The minutes of the October 2, 1997 meeting were approved as amended to include the recorder's name.

2. Review of SACS and NCAA Self-Study materials.
   Admissions and Standards had been assigned two short portions of the SACS self-study and one longer portion of the NCAA self-study. Dr. Patricia Carrell was present to discuss the final review materials of the self-studies by SACS and the NCAA. The committee reviewed each page of the documents and offered suggestions and corrections. In particular, it was noted that the data in the NCAA self-study did not seem accurate and that the SACS self-study incorrectly stated that Admissions and Standards has final authority on admissions matters. (GSU's bylaws give the full Senate this authority.)

3. Consideration of Owen's petition.
   Per normal procedure, when a committee member disagrees with the subcommittee's decision regarding a student petition, the full committee hears that subcommittee dissenting opinion. Ms. Leah N. Owen petitioned the committee to waive the regulation concerning academic renewal within the specified deadlines. The subcommittee initially approved her petition. After some discussion, the full committee upheld the subcommittee's decision to approve Ms. Owen's petition.

   Dr. Rainbolt distributed some data on predicted grade point average (PGA) trends which are being used by the 2001 Subcommittee to develop a policy on meeting the Board of Regents' requirement that, by the fall of 2001, GSU raise its admission requirements and switch from basing admission decisions on PGA to basing them on the Freshman Index (FI). Additional data is still needed, e.g. FI data, data on students living in dorms compared with other students, and the relationship between the old formula and the new formula, etc.

   The Committee discussed the report of the 2001 Subcommittee and its recommendations on policy changes required to meet the enrollment targets and the Board of Regents 2001 requirements. The subcommittee will collect the additional data and between the quarter break distribute the information to all senators by the Web and get feedback. A draft of the report will be available on the Web and will be considered again at the Winter meeting.

5. Consideration of a motion from the Mini-mester Finals Subcommittee.
   The subcommittee on Mini-mester Finals considered a potential problem with final exams for courses taught during the first mini-mester of a semester. Currently, all courses are supposed to have a two-hour final exam period. A one-clock hour course that meets on the mini-mester calendar could find its two-hour final exam period conflicting with a course on the regular semester schedule which met in the same room. The Committee approved the subcommittee's request that those exam periods for courses taught in the first mini-mester of a semester which cannot be scheduled consistently with the course's clock schedule be scheduled for a convenient time during the following weekend to preserve the two-hour final exam period. Appropriate accommodations will be made for students whose religious observances conflict with the weekend schedule.

6. Report and/or motion from the Honors Requirements Subcommittee.
The Committee approved the motions from the Honors Requirements Subcommittee to repeal the 90-hours of course work at GSU to be eligible for scholastic recognition at graduation and change the requirements to the same as academic residence requirements for graduation (60 quarter hours in courses numbered 300 or above with an average of 2.0 and one-half of the courses comprising the major).

The Committee also approved a motion from the Honors Requirements Subcommittee to round the grade point averages to two places as used to determine scholastic recognition as they are rounded on student transcripts and PACE forms.

7. **Motion on the Faculty Scholarship Plaque**
   The Committee considered and approved, as amended, proposed guidelines to determine recipients of the Faculty Scholarship Plaque (FSP) when students have credit in a combination of quarters and semesters. Semesters will be required to earn at least 36 semester hours with a 4.0 GPA (no incompletes) completed over no more than four consecutive semesters in residence and within 36 months. The proposal was amended so that, at the end of summer 1998, if a student has credit in a combination of quarters and semesters the total maximum number of both to achieve the plaque would equal six.

8. **Consideration of a motion from the Admissions Procedures Subcommittee.**
   The Admissions Procedures Subcommittee drafted a policy on admissions appeals and presented it to the committee for its review and approval. The current policy allows students who are denied admissions to Georgia State appeal to the Admissions Office, the same office which initially denied them admission. The new procedure would mirror the way student petitions are handled. This issue was tabled until the Winter Quarter Meeting and the Subcommittee was asked to collect additional data including the number of students who could appeal each quarter. Dr. Fazlollhi also asked that guidelines be developed for a uniform decision making process.

9. **Consideration of a motion from the Semester Transfers Subcommittee.**
   The Semester Transfer Subcommittee submitted several motions from the Committee to review.

   **MOTION 1:**
   
   Move that the Offices of Academic Assistance of each college/school be permitted to waive hours shortages of no more than 2.5 semester hours for bachelors’ degree transfer students. All individual course requirements would still be required to be met; the hours shortages that could be waived would result only from transfer of courses that carry fewer hours credit than the corresponding GSU requirement.

   **MOTION 2:**
   
   Move that no minimum number of semester hours in each core area be imposed on students as long as hours shortages in the core areas can be offset appropriately elsewhere in their curriculum.

   **MOTION 3:**
   
   Move that the university disregard ”apparent” hours shortages that result solely from the application of semester-system credit to the records of transition students whose records will continue to be expressed in quarter hours. Course-by-course completion of requirements will be used.

   Motions 1-3 were approved by the Committee. Motion 4 concerned ”full transferability” of the core under certain conditions. This motion was tabled until the Winter meeting.

Recorder, Wanda F. Taylor