SENATE COMMITTEE ON ADMISSIONS AND STANDARDS
October 2, 2008

PRESENT: Amber Amari, Brenda Blackwell, Scott Burke, Tom Caiafa, Allison Calhoun-Brown, David Cheshire, Laura Fredrick, Patrick Freer, Mary Gebhardt, Michael Herb, Olga Jarrett, Colleen Joyce, Felisha Norrington, Cherise Peters, Jeff Qin, George Rainbolt, Tim Renick, Rebecca Stout, Sara Weiiple, Shelly-Ann Williams

Minutes of the Meeting of April 21, 2008
The minutes of the April 21, 2008 meeting were approved as distributed.

Motion Regents’ Test Exemptions
The motion on exemptions to the Regents’ Tests was approved. This motion reduces the number of Senate actions required each time the BOR modifies the list of exemptions to the Regent’s Tests and streamlines Georgia State’s procedures by automatically implementing BOR-authorized exemptions.

Motion:
All exemptions to the Regents’ Test that are authorized by the Board of Regents will be implemented at Georgia State. The timing of the implementation will be determined by the Provost or her designee.

Motion on New Regents Test Policy
The Committee unanimously approved the motion on the New Regents Test Policy, effective Spring 2009, requiring students, who have not met the Regent’s reading and writing requirements, to take the test in every semester of enrollment including the first semester of enrollment.

Additions
To demonstrate competence in reading and writing, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia requires that students pass RCTR 0198, Regents’ Reading Skills, and RGTE 0199, Regents’ Writing Skills. Students will demonstrate their competence in reading and writing by passing the Regents’ Reading Test and the Regents’ Writing Test. The Regents’ Reading Test and the Regents’ Writing Test are the final exams for RCTR 0198 and RGTE 0199 respectively. Students must pass the Tests to pass the courses. The courses do not count toward the 120 hours requirement (See Section 1470). Students with certain SAT, ACT,
AP or IB scores, nonnative speakers of English, students who hold a baccalaureate degree, and students with documented disabilities are subject to modified rules regarding these requirements. (See below.) After reading this material, students with questions should contact the Student Advisement Center, http://www.gsu.edu/es/advisement.html.

Students taking classes at Georgia State before graduation from high school and transient students are not subject to the Regents' requirements.
Motion to Change the W Day on the Academic Calendar
The motion to change the W day on the Academic Calendar was approved. The midpoint of the Fall semester falls more mathematical to the midpoint of the semester calendar which for Fall would be October 15.

Academic Calendar
DRAFT, September 5, 2008
Deletions Additions
Does not apply to the College of Law

Fall Semesters

Regular Session
First day of class--
The 3rd Monday in August
So the first day of class can be as early as August 15 and as late as August 21.
The first day of class is also the 1st Mon of the Fall Semester Labor Day Holiday*--Labor Day
Mid-point--October 15th.
Mid-point--October 1st.
(If this date should fall on a Saturday or Sunday, the midpoint for the semester will be the following Monday.)
Thanksgiving break*--From Tues before Thanksgiving thru Sat after Thanksgiving
Last day of class--The 16th Fri
Finals--The 16th Sat to the 17th Fri

Minimester I Session
First day of class--The 1st Mon
Labor Day holiday*--Labor Day
Last day of class--The 8th Wed
Final Exams--The 8th Thur to the 8th Fri, during class time

Minimester II Session
First day of class--The 9th Mon
Extra Tues class--The 11th Fri
Thanksgiving break*--From Tues before Thanksgiving to Sat after Thanksgiving
Last day of class--The 16th Fri
Note: The clock for Fall Sat-only minimester II courses will be adjusted to have the required minutes in six meetings.
Final exams--The 16th Sat to the 17th Fri
Motion on Admissions Discipline Questions
After some discussion regarding the motivation regarding the motion on admissions discipline questions, the motion was approved. Dr. Renick explained the protection provided to the university by asking the questions and that admission decisions were not based on the response to the questions. The protections are when serious issues are discovered, the University can use the student’s failure to provide truthful answers as a means of discipline and action. The policy on implementation will be resolved by the Enrollment Management Group (EMG) and distributed to Admissions and Standards.

George will circulate by email, the results of what the military provides regarding the questions on the type of discharge from military service other than an honorable discharge. Also, regarding item (f) if Legal Affairs is okay with removing “otherwise” and replacing it with “has”, the motion will go forward as revised, if not it would have to come back for further discussion.

Motion:
The current admissions discipline policy is repealed and replaced with the following:
If an applicant
(a) is on academic probation, suspension, exclusion, or any other type of academic warning at any previously attended institution,
(b) is ineligible to enroll at any previously attended institution,
(c) is currently charged with, or has been found guilty of, any violation of academic honesty, honor code, or conduct regulations of a previously attended institution,
(d) left a previous institution while there were pending charges of any violation of academic honesty, honor code, or conduct regulations,
(e) is currently charged with, or has been found guilty of, any violation (including first offenses) of a federal, state or municipal law, regulation or ordinance other than minor traffic violations,
(f) has ever entered a plea of guilty, no contest, nolo contendere, or an Alford plea, or otherwise has accepted responsibility for the commission of a crime,

(g) has received any type of discharge from military service other than an honorable discharge,

then the applicant’s case will be reviewed to insure that the applicant meets the satisfactory academic performance, good character, and good conduct requirements noted above.

If, after a letter of acceptance has been issued, information comes to light that shows that an applicant did not meet all admission requirements or that an applicant’s application contained omissions or misrepresentations, the applicant’s offer of admission will be automatically revoked. If this information comes to light after the student has enrolled, the applicant’s enrollment at Georgia State will automatically be terminated and earned credit may be revoked.

Any changes in a student’s record prior to enrollment will necessitate a new review of the application.

Discussion and Possible Motion on A+ Grades
The motion on A+ Grading was approved, effective Spring 2009.

The grading scale is modified as follows:

\[
\begin{align*}
A+ & \quad 4.33 \\
A & \quad 4.00 \\
A- & \quad 3.70 \\
B+ & \quad 3.30 \\
B & \quad 3.00 \\
B- & \quad 2.70 \\
C+ & \quad 2.30 \\
C & \quad 2.00 \\
C- & \quad 1.70 \\
D & \quad 1.00 \\
F & \quad 0.00 \\
WF & \quad 0.00 \\
IP & \quad 0.00
\end{align*}
\]

This motion does not preclude the broader evaluation of plus-minus grading that will be undertaken this year. The BOR’s authorization to use plus-minus grading was as a three-year
pilot. We are in the third year of the pilot and it should be reviewed.

Discussion Repeat to Replace
Tom Caiafa, Vice President of Academic Affairs, Student Government Association presented the proposal repeat-to-replace policy. The Committee discussed the merits of the proposal and with the exception of striking a course grade permanently from a student’s record, agreed to send the proposal to subcommittee for further review and consideration. The Committee applauded Mr. Caiafa and SGA for their hard work and job well done on the proposal.

PROPOSED POLICY: If a student retakes a course, the higher of the two grades earned will be recorded on the student’s transcript and factored into the student’s grade point average, with the lower of the two grades permanently stricken from his or her transcript. The student will have the option of repeating courses in this manner up to six times during their undergraduate tenure.
RATIONALE: During a student’s time as an undergraduate, he or she might have difficulty in a particular course, and therefore receive a less than desirable grade. Currently, if the student retakes the course, he or she will have both grades recorded on their transcript and averaged out in the calculation of their grade point average. This can put the student in a quandary, particularly if they did not do well in a class, yet didn’t qualify for a hardship withdrawal or would receive a WF if they withdrew after the semester midpoint. Therefore, the goal of this policy is to allow the student a second chance at getting a good grade without incurring a penalty on their GPA. Currently, the Board of Regents’ policy regarding academic forgiveness defers to its individual institutions, and most universities in the state of Georgia (including Georgia State University), have grades from both attempts count towards a student’s grade point average.

Three Big Subcommittees Idea, sign up (volunteers to chair?)
George proposed following the lead of CAP (Committee on Academic Programs) of having three big permanent subcommittees for Admissions and Standards effectively lessening his workload and influence. Members of Admissions and Standards should sign up for the subcommittee they are interested in serving and a meeting will then be set up to elect a chair. The subcommittees are:

• Subcom (changes to section 1100 of the Catalog)

• Academic Regs Subcom (changes to section 1300 of the Catalog)

• Graduation Requirements Subcom (changes to section 1400 of the Catalog)

The meeting was adjourned.

Recorded by:
Wanda F. Taylor