Committee on Academic Programs and Continuing Education (APACE)

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 2, 1997


Absent: Ahmed Abdelal, Paul Alberto, Margo Brinton, Sam Deitz, Paula Dressel, Carol Foster, Sherry Gaines, Sidney Harris, Ron Henry, Fred Jacobs, David McCreery, David Myers, Joseph Rabianski, Francis Rushing, Howard Schneider, Paula Stephan, David Vanko, Phil Wierson, and Brian Winston.

Guests: Lauren Adamson, Pat Carrell, Doug Podoll

The meeting was called to order at 3:05 p.m. in Room 718, General Classroom Building by Chair, John Newman.

Minutes of the November 11, 1997 Meeting

On a motion by Judy Wold, seconded by Matthew Roudané, the minutes of the November 11, 1997 meeting were approved as presented.

SACS Steering Committee Action Plan

Pat Carrell, Assistant to the Provost, and the person responsible for the development of the SACS Self Study presented the Action Plan recommendations/suggestions from the SACS Steering Committee. The Action Plan is to give an accurate representation of the current status of 437 compliance criteria required by the SACS review. The three page action plan outlines areas where future action is required and indicates the university senate committee and administrative unit responsible for certifying the needed compliance and initiating action to bring the university in compliance. She advised that an ad hoc APACE Subcommittee consisting of two member each from the graduate and undergraduate councils and the APACE Chair met and reviewed the suggestions/recommendations that were assigned to the APACE Committee by the SACS Steering Committee. The suggestions/recommendations by the subcommittee that resulted in modifications to the Action Plan were highlighted in bold type for the committee’s review.

After further discussion, on a motion by Carol Winkler, seconded by Frank Whittington, the committee unanimously accepted the Action Plan suggestions/recommendations under the responsibility of APACE. On behalf of the APACE Committee, Carol Winkler thanked Pat Carrell for her work in planning, organizing, and editing the SACS Self Study Report.

Doug Podoll, Director, International Services

Doug Podoll discussed the activities of his office and related international issues. He said that Karla Stein, Director of International Programs, had resigned and that currently there are no personnel to provide international program and study abroad information until new staff has been hired.
He advised that the U.S. Immigration Service is considering a program that would require all foreign students, scholars, and their families to be fingerprinted and photographed each quarter. He indicated there would be a fee for the service but that the initiation of the program is 2-3 years away.

He also advised that GSU must work to improve the handling of foreign student health insurance including health insurance for quarters when students are not officially registered for classes. Current U.S. law requires health insurance that includes reparation of remains if death occurs and for medical evacuation to the home country for a medical necessity. Such provisions could be established by developing riders to current policies with the costs paid by the students.

He recommended that GSU departments need to be more aware of proper hosting of foreign scholars such as pick ups at the airport and assistance with housing selection.

There was a discussion of the expenses required by foreign students to apply to GSU including review of documents, ACT or TOEFL exams, providing original documents, the cost of local mail service, travel expenses to take tests, etc. all of which could cost as much as $1,000. Other discussions about financial issues included standardizing the estimated cost of living in Atlanta, and the timing delay in providing funds to students who are given full scholarships but don't receive any of the funds in time to pay initial housing and other required up front costs.

**Announcements**

John Newman advised that Paula Dressel had recommended that with her leaving that the supervision of International Programs be assigned to Steve Langston, Assistant Vice President for Public Service. It was also announced that a search committee is working to select a Study Abroad Advisor with the intent that this person would be on board by early January.

The next meeting of the committee will be on Tuesday, January 13, at 3:00 p.m. There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

James Bohanan, Recorder

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Please send questions or comments to Mary Nell Stone