Committee on Academic Programs and Continuing Education (APACE)

MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 10, 1998


Absent: Ahmed Abdelal, Jean Bevis, Sam Deitz, Carol Foster, Sherry Gaines, Sheryl Gowen, Edith Guyton, Sidney Harris, Ron Henry, Charles Jones, David Myers, Bill Nelson, Joseph Rabianski, Matthew Roudané, Bill Rushing, Howard Schneider, Brian Winston, and Judy Wold.

Guest: Dee Baldwin for Judy Wold

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

Minutes of the December 2, 1997 Meeting
Ellen Podgor asked that the minutes be amended to reflect that Pat Carrell, Assistant to the Provost, had stated that all changes forwarded to her for the SACS Steering Committee Action Plan would be included in the final document. With this amendment, on a motion by Phil Wierson, seconded by Fred Jacobs, the minutes were approved as presented.

Guidelines for Service/Outreach Centers
Eloise Stiglitz presented the subcommittee report about guidelines for service/outreach centers. She advised that the recommendations followed the outline of the evaluation of research centers. A question was raised about whether the 3-5 year time frame was too frequent a review considering the number of centers to be reviewed. After discussion it was agreed that the time frame should be changed to 5-7 years. It was also pointed out that after an initial review the outline for future reviews should include an assessment of how past activities were meeting the original goals and objectives. Eloise Stiglitz indicated that she would incorporate the recommended changes and she moved, seconded by Carol Winkler, that the guidelines be approved so that the review process of current centers could be implemented. The motion was unanimously approved.

Status of Academic Program Reviews
Tim Crimmins discussed the status of ongoing academic program reviews. He said that outside reviewers will visit in the Spring for the Departments of Educational Psychology and Special Education, Marketing, and Political Science. The schedule of additional reviews has currently been suspended and will be restarted in the Fall Quarter, 1998.

Assessment of General Education
Tim Crimmins discussed the learning goals and objectives for writing. Exit tests for English 112 and the Regents Testing Program have shown that pass rates for writing tests have
declined during the last ten years. First time pass rates for 1987-8 were 80.5% as compared to 71.7% for 1996-7. There was a discussion about why the rates are lower and a comparison of the students of the two periods.

He also reviewed the proposals to improve writing that had been developed during the course of semester conversion. These recommendations included (1) implementing writing across the curriculum, (2) applying for additional funds from Regents initiatives, (3) receiving additional Regents funds, (4) hiring an acting director for the WAC Center, (5) getting a grant for the History Department to develop a writing-to-learn history program, and (6) the creation of writing-intensive history courses that would be required of all students. Carol Winkler asked Tim Crimmins to draft a report about this issue that would be sent to the Assessment Subcommittee.

SACS-Related Issues
Tim Crimmins reviewed that recommendations/suggestions from the SACS Steering Committee that require APACE action. He reminded the committee of the target implementation dates that the Steering Committee had set with the approval of the APACE Chair and requested that work begin to meet these deadlines.

Undergraduate Council Recommendations
Bill Fritz presented the Undergraduate Council's recommendations to deactivate the following programs:

(1) In the School of Music, the Concentration in Music History and Literature.
(2) In the College of Education, the Bachelor of Science in Dance.

The council also recommended the approval of a collaborative program in education for the Deaf/Hard of Hearing with the University of Georgia. After discussion, on a motion by Bill Fritz, seconded by Phil Wierson, the council's recommendations were unanimously approved.

Quality Improvement Funds
Ellen Podgor presented the subcommittee report and provided a list of recommended projects. Proposals in the amount of $857,111 were received and 12 proposals were recommended for funding in the amount of $231,907. Three additional projects were selected if additional funds become available in the amount of $38,000. She advised that a major portion of the funding was for computer related equipment. Tim Crimmins suggested that someone from the Department of Mathematics/Computer Science should be included on the subcommittee to help evaluate the proposals. He also recommended that the colleges should give their approval for the selected projects.

Joint Research/APACE Center Review Committee
The APACE Committee was advised that the committee had met and was in the process of reviewing two centers, Gerontology and Sports Medicine.

The next APACHE Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 10. There being no additional business, he meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

James Bohanan, Recorder