University Senate Budget Committee
Minutes
November 12, 1998

Attendance: John de Castro, Bill Decatur, Chuck Derby, Anne Emanuel, Martin Fraser, Janice Griffith, Charlene Hurt, Fenwick Huss, Phyllis Johnson, Susan Kelley, Bill Kinyon, Charles Marvin, Al McWilliams, Robin Morris, Joseph Rabianski, Jerry Rackliffe, James Scott, Paula Stephan, Egar Torbert, Carol Whitcomb

Absent: Ahmed Abdelal, Elliott Albers, Beverly Armento, Cleon Arrington, Roy Bahl, Dan Benardot, David Boykin, Tim Crimmins, Sam Deitz, Richard Fendler, Sidney Harris, Ron Henry, Keith Ihlanfeldt, Fred Jacobs, Michael Jedel, Timeka Lamback, Tom Lewis, Mike Morre, Fran Mullis, Ellwood Oakley, Bruce Palmer, Alvis Washington, Bill Waugh

The meeting was called to order at 1:10 by the Chair, John de Castro

I. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 22, 1998 meeting were approved.

II. Re-draft of the Action Plan for the Strategic Plan

A draft of the re-draft of the action plan for the strategic plan was handed out and it was noted that the memo sent by the budget committee was well taken and was recognized in the re-draft. However, a concern of the committee was that the academic priorities were not listed as requested by the budget committee. It was suggested that the budget committee read the re-draft that was handed and re-visit any comments at the next meeting.

III. FY99 Budget Status

Due to the use of the alternative sources discussed at the last meeting to cover the budget deficit, there is now a budget surplus of $504,000. FACP recommended that $100,000 go to OMP costs related to CHARA since the invoices were already coming in for this. The remainder of the excess was recommended for use by the PeopleSoft Migration.

IV. FY00 Budget Guidelines

The Budget Guidelines for FY00 was handed out to the committee. The document contains instructions and procedures to be followed during the development of the FY00 budget. This publishing of this document was done to address the concerns that FACP and the budget committee had last year about items being rushed through the committee without enough time for consideration.

It was stressed in a cover memo that was missing from the handout that the calendar that was included in this document were estimates. In fact many for the dates have already changed significantly.

Looking at the dates it was the concern of the committee that the departments will not have the final numbers on the spring semester before the budgets are due.

The topic of the May-mester was raised again and it was noted that the Board of Regents is now saying that the revenue will be included in the FY00 budget. This was a major concern to the committee is currently being considered in the FY99 budgets and allocations of work load have already been completed taking the May-mester into consideration. The Board of Regents should make a final decision on this within a week.

V. Y2K Budgetary Requirements
The committee was given an update of the progress of the University with regard to the Y2K problems. It was noted that the level of investigation has grown to investigating the relationships the University has with outside sources (i.e., banking relationships, granting sources, etc.) in order to make sure the steps they take match the steps we are taking.

GSU has requested $5.5 mill in funding to help deal with Y2K problems. The University expects that only $1 million of this request will be funded.

It was brought to the attention of the committee that the system that the library recently purchased is Year 2000 compliant.

VI. CBSAC Update

The Master Plan which has been an 18 month process is scheduled to be completed next month. The goals of the plan are to meet the existing space needs by the current standards and accommodate future needs; to decommission poor facilities (Kell Hall and the Edgewood Building); to enhance functional adjacencies; to integrate institutional buildings into the city environment; and to develop an identifiable campus image.

Some work to achieve these goals has received the appropriate approvals and is underway (classroom building, Wacovia Building, Rec Center, and the Alpharetta Campus).

The total cost for the Master Plan is $500 million. $250 million will be coming from the Board of Regents. CBSAC will meet again on November 30th and then the plan will go to Planning and Development.

VII. FY00 Fee Change Request

The committee was handed out a conceptual proposal where the student fee structure would be revenue neutral. The proposal includes a base fee, which all student would pay, and then a per credit hour fee. At 12 hours the fee plateaus and no extra fees would be charged for credit hours over 12.

The committee was notified that the decision on the new fee structure will be made very quickly and that the budget committee will not have a lot of time to discuss it.

One committee member felt that the base credit hour fee was too low and that it would take too many hours to reach the max fee based on the current student enrollment. Too much weight is put on the students that take 12 hours or more.

Another member felt that the fee structure was a disadvantage to the full-time student, who is the core of the University. Many other committee members agree with the new fee structure.

Chuck Derby motioned to endorse conceptually the model of having a fixed based fee and a per credit hour fee up to a plateau level.

Anne Emanuel seconded the motion.

The motion passed with one no vote.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 PM.