Senate Budget Committee Minutes
January 24, 2008
3:00 – 4:06 p.m.

Present: Paul Alberto, Dee Baldwin, Chip Barksdale, Deron Boyles, Michelle Brattain, William Downs, Irene Duhaime, Peggy Gallagher, Hugh Hudson, Robin Huff, Charlene Hurt, John Kesner, LaLoria Konata, Tom Lewis, Susan McCombie, Bruce Pilling, Jeff Rupp, Cherian Thachenkary, Frank Whittington

Dr. Hudson began the meeting by introducing Dr. Whittington to discuss MRRF.

**MRRF (Major Repair and Renovation of Facilities) Report (Dr. Frank Whittington)** Dr. Whittington began his presentation by explaining the process by which the report is produced, the types of items that are included for repair and renovation, and the approval process. The Board of Regents approved $4.5 million in renovations for this year; however, $17 million in needs were identified. The University cannot use money other than that allocated by the BOR to make repairs. Dr. Whittington proposed for committee approval the list of repairs. Dr. Hurt moved to approve the renovation list. The move was seconded, and the committee voted without opposition to approve the list.

**Disabilities Initiatives Committee (Dr. Frank Whittington)** Dr. Whittington proposed *ex officio* representation on the MRRF Committee so that ADA needs could have a greater voice in the committee. Dr. Hudson will appoint three members, along with Dr. Boyles, who will review proposals and return to the committee with suggestions.

**Fiscal Advisory Committee to the President Feedback (Dr. Hugh Hudson)** Dr. Hudson solicited faculty input regarding funding. Provost Henry sent an email outlining that $4-5 million would be spent on (1) compression, (2) graduate assistants, (3) typical commitments, and (4) new focus initiatives. Faculty discussed the need for compression and graduate assistants. Dr. Hudson will present to the FACP that compression, graduate assistants, and new focus initiatives are worthy of funding.

**Legislative Session (Dr. Tom Lewis)** Dr. Lewis reported on news from the legislative session. (1) The Alpharetta facility has been funded for $12 million. (2) A 2.5% raise employees has been recommended. This is not a sufficient fund for competitive faculty recruitment. (3) GSU will be pushing for more money in MRR. The university system has some serious infrastructure problems, and GSU has $100 million in campus needs. (4) Formula funding is also an area of concern, in particular whether funding will be counted at the drop/add date or the end of the semester. (4) Legislation is currently up that will require universities to accept 24 hours of college credit to all IB graduates. (5) There is continued discussion of consolidating the university health and state system health plans.

The FACP meeting will be held on January 30, 2008.
The next Budget Committee meeting will be February 14, 2008.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:06 p.m.