Senate Budget Committee Minutes
October 16, 2008
3:05 – 4:05 p.m.

Present: Amber Amari, JoAnn Bacon, Chip Barksdale, Margo Brinton, Jennifer Chiovaro, Jeremy Crampton, Louise Gobron, William Downs, Lynda Goodfellow, Skye Hardesty, Andrew Jordan, John Rutledge, Anthony Roberts, Susan McCombie, George Pierce, Bruce Pilling, Bill Prigge, Bala Ramesh, Jeff Rupp, Rose Sevcik, Andrew Sumner

Dr. Hudson welcomed all to the meeting.

TRS – COLA (Dr. Hugh Hudson) Dr. Hudson previously distributed the “Resolution of the Georgia State University Senate on Proposed Changes to the Teachers’ Retirement System Cost of Living Annual Increases (COLA)” to committee members via e-mail. A paper copy was distributed. He described the Governor’s proposal regarding COLA increases and noted that we are currently in a 30-day comment period. Faculty Affairs voted to send the resolution forward with minor changes, which he described. Dr. Hudson opened the matter for discussion. The resolution was unanimously approved.

University Budget (Dr. Jerry Rackliffe) Dr. Rackliffe distributed several budgetary diagrams.

- State Tax and Other Revenue Collections: FY 2008 vs. FY 2009 (year to date) - Tax collections are down 2.6% YTD.
- State Tax and Other Revenue Collections: FY 2008 Actuals vs. FY 2009 Budgeted and Year to Date Actuals - A 4% budget increase was integrated into the FY 2009 budget. The month of September shows collections equaling the budgeted amount, while July and August show budget shortfalls.
- Budget Reduction Plans for FY 2009 and FY 2010 - The BOR’s recommendations as to how universities can accomplish requested reductions at 6%, 8%, and 10%.
- The BOR approved a 6% budget cut on Wednesday, October 15. It requested plans from universities for how they would achieve an 8% and 10% reduction as well.
- It is uncertain how faculty and staff raises will be addressed.

Legislative Updates (Dr. Tom Lewis) Dr. Lewis introduced Mr. Jim Flowers, Associate VP for External Affairs, who has extensive experience with the legislature. Dr. Lewis explained measures that the university is taking during this current economic crisis.

Georgia State President Search (Dr. Hugh Hudson) An e-mail announced the two finalists for University President on Wednesday, October 15. Dr. Hudson asked that committee members consider the following. What does the committee believe that the President should achieve in the next two years regarding the budget? What are the university’s primary budget needs in the next five years?

The meeting was adjourned at 4:05 p.m.