The meeting was called to order by the chair, Paul Alberto, at 11:30 a.m. The floor was turned over to President Mark Becker. He stated that he was glad to meet everyone and was ready to hear questions.

Dr. Alberto gave some background of the shared governance model that GSU follows. He gave reasons why GSU’s University Senate is effective. Dr. Becker was asked about his experience with institutional governance. Dr. Becker said that his past experiences with institutional governing bodies have always been positive ones. Hugh Hudson mentioned the unique and unusual way that GSU deals with the budget. It is a collaborative effort. Dr. Becker stated that he is learning more about the existing structure and has no plans at this time to change that structure. He asked how the deans are involved with the FACP process. Dr. Hudson explained that two deans regularly sit on the committee and that the deans communicate with each other outside the FACP structure as well.

Next, Rose Sevcik gave a summary of the growth of research at GSU. She asked Dr. Becker about his vision for GSU’s growth in the research area. Dr. Becker noted that sponsored funding would need to be increased in order to have growth. Also, there needs to be a research culture at the institution and strong doctoral programs. We need to attract post-docs to sponsored programs that have funding. He talked about looking to where the scholarship of the future is rather than the scholarship of the past.

Elisabeth Burgess talked about the student representation on the Student Life and Development Committee. She asked Dr. Becker how he would prioritize the various issues that evolve with a growing traditional student population. He stated that the entire area is a priority and he mentioned a few initiatives put in place during his time at the University of South Carolina. In his discussions with people across campus, he is hearing that GSU has customer service issues that need to be addressed. Dr. Burgess mentioned that safety is a primary issue as GSU’s population continues to grow. P.C. Tai noted that GSU needs low priced graduate housing.

Peggy Albers gave an overview of current issues involving faculty. One issue is promotion/tenure and compensation. Dr. Becker recalled his previous experiences with P&T. Bad teaching will not be tolerated. Compensation during bad economic times was discussed. Faculty directing doctoral dissertations was discussed. Deron Boyles asked President Becker about the concept of a graduate school. Dr. Becker discussed his experiences with graduate schools at his previous institutions. The strategic planning process was discussed.

Since there was no further business, the committee adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Nell Stone
Committee assistant