Provost Henry discussed the enrollment numbers. The number of students enrolled is just below 25,900, there are over 300,000 credit hours, and over 300 Katrina students have been enrolled. (Now a total of 509.)

The summer budget numbers are $2.5 million below projection, the fall numbers are expected to be $4 million below projection and the Spring numbers will probably be $4 million below projection. Later in the month discussions will take place with FACP to see what needs to be done.

The deadline for registering Katrina students is September 8, 2005. The Katrina students would have until September 15 to enroll in Minimester II courses.

The University has always set an enrollment target and based the budget on that target. The target for FY06 was the same as for FY05; however, the FY05 target was not met. The target was 730,000 credit hours but the actual was between 695,000 – 700,000 (35,000 credit hours short). In the summer the projection was 8,000 credit hours short, and currently, the projection is 4,000 hours short. The difference in projected credit hours could be 40,000 – 50,000 hours below the budget which translates into a fair amount of budget dollars. Last year the uncollected receivables was reduced from 18 months to 6 months, thereby resulting in lower uncollected receivables, but less revenue because the number of students will decrease. We will probably be $8 - $10 million below budget.

The number of freshman students increased to 2300. In the Fall of 2004 the number was 2270. The transfer students target was increased from 1600 to 1800 and that target was met. Last year the number was 1400. The average number of hours per student is 11.6 as compared to 11.2 last year. Under the quarter system the highest ever reached was 11.2.

The number of part-time graduate students and undergraduate students is down significantly. This decrease is probably due to the cost of a 1-credit hour course plus student fees, compared to the cost of other schools like Georgia Perimeter and Kennesaw. It needs to be decided if the cost of student fees should be restructured for students who take less than six hours.

There were two significant changes in HOPE that contributed to the problems with enrollment.

1. The HOPE reconciliation is now being done at the end of the Spring for every student, and therefore a lot of students lost their eligibility for the summer.

2. Each student is now required to apply for HOPE every year. Therefore some of the students didn’t have all of the documentation, because they didn’t realize they had to reapply.
Dr. Henry said the dates for distributing financial aid would be reviewed, e.g. a date of September 2 instead of August 29.

Two request were received from the Committees--

(1) Could the APRC template be amended without going to the full Senate. After reviewing the document, the committee agreed that the changes were editorial and could be put into place. Dr. Winkler suggested a few small revisions.

(2) Faculty Affairs asked for direction on identifying the organization that could conduct a feasibility study of granting tuition waivers to dependents of faculty/staff members up to the age of 21 years. Dr. Henry thought that someone should check to see if there was a Regent’s policy/rule addressing this issue. Dr. Patton said if there was not a Regent’s rule, Jerry’s office would handle.

Dr. Patton commented on his visits with legislators this summer. The main topics discussed were salaries and getting funding for the Science Teaching Lab.

Dr. Winkler commented on Peoplesoft issues surrounding new faculty which resulted in new faculty not getting parking, office keys, rolls, library access, and 2-hour waits in Auxiliary Services. As a solution, Dr. Winkler suggested that Auxiliary Services set up a system to allow the Chairs to provide a list of new faculty, then issue Panther IDs to the faculty based on the Chairs word.

Dean spoke on exit interviews and not having information on why people were leaving. Dr. Henry said the topic was discussed at the Dean’s group and some background research was done through the Library. The consensus was that exit interviews were not very useful. Of the 55 tenured-track faculty that left last year—27 were retirees, 4 were not renewed, and 24 left for various reasons, mainly more attractive offers. Dean suggested an on-line evaluation similar to the student’s evaluation of the instructors.

Dean also spoke about the volume of students in the plaza during class changes. He thought that something should be done to control the crowd, because the vast number of people could lead to a huge liability issue.

Dabney said there was an issue with student health insurance and the students who were enrolled at Universities in New Orleans affected by Katrina. If they drop out of school, they would only have 30 days to switch to COBRA. Dabney agreed to follow-up with Dr. Patton with the specifics of the issue.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 27 at 11:00. The meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.