UNIVERSITY SENATE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
Minutes
November 21, 2008

Present: President Carl Patton, Paul Alberto, Dabney Dixon, Siva Nathan
Jeff Rupp, Elizabeth Beck

The minutes from the meeting of October 8, 2008 were approved.

President’s Report

Dr. Patton has met with Dr. Mark Becker, the new president of Georgia State University.

Dr. Patton spoke to a group of honor students in the Speaker’s Auditorium and the attendance has increased significantly over past years.

The Regents did not make a decision on salary increases, so by default there will be salary increases for 2009.

The budget cut is a 6% reduction. Colleges were asked to set aside 1%. That was taken and the colleges were asked to set aside another 1%, which will probably be taken.

The departments should be mindful of the amount of time employees are traveling.

Provost’s Report – The Provost was absent.

Motions from Faculty Affairs Committee

1. Interim motion on tenure clock stoppage – A temporary policy for tenure clock stoppage based on family leave through the end of AY 2008-2009 was proposed. A more comprehensive policy outlining the use of leaves of absence before taking family leave is being developed. The motion was approved and passed to the Senate agenda.

2. Proposal for timing of student evaluation of instructors – The motion would move the deadline for students to fill out the online SEI forms to five days after grades are available via GoSolar, and that the results be made available to instructors within three days of that date. The motion was approved and passed to the Senate agenda.

3. Resolution on the ORP – Resolution to petition the BOR to provide a one-time window to allow members of the ORP to enroll in the TRS. Motion approved and passed to the Senate agenda.

4. Proposed change to Section 311.02.01 of Faculty Handbook – Item is sent back to FAC. Dr. Alberto will speak with them concerning dealing with broader issues around standard course evaluation questions.
5. **Proposed addition to Section 401.01 of the Faculty Handbook** – Motion to add a required statement concerning course evaluations to all course outlines. The committee had mixed opinions, but agreed to send this item to the Senate agenda without endorsement.

Motions from the University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee

1. **Change in duties of the Executive Committee** – Motion that each senate committees would send to the Executive Committee all new policies and procedures. The Executive committee would determine if the item required a vote of the full Senate or may be passed on as an information item. The motion was approved and passed to the Senate agenda.

2. **Amend membership of Student Life and Development Committee** – Motion to change member title from Assistant Vice President for Undergraduate Recruitment and Retention to Academic Director of Student Retention. Motion approved and passed to the Senate agenda.

3. **Revise Bylaws Article IV on meetings** – The Bylaws were amended to allow the Chair of the Senate, or the Chair of the Senate Executive Committee, or a petition of 20% of the membership to call a special meeting of the Senate within 48 hours. Motion approved and passed to the Senate agenda.

Motions from Admissions and Standards Committee

1. **Motion to revise the policy on University-level petitions** – Motion approved and passed on to the Senate agenda.

2. **Motion to revise the Admissions discipline policy** – Motion approved and passed on to the Senate agenda.

Discussion items:

1. Dr. Patton agreed to talk to HR about having more lunch and learns focused on helping employees whose spouses have lost their jobs, benefits, etc.

2. Item from Cultural Diversity Committee re: policies concerning accommodations for individuals with disabilities. Dr. Alberto will meet with Dr. Gallant to discuss having the committee put together a list of critical issues.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.