MINUTES
FISCAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO PRESIDENT (FACP)
JANUARY 16, 1998

Members Attending: Cleon Arrington, John de Castro, Bill Decatur, Sam Deitz, Sherry Gaines, Tameka Harper, Ramona Hasan, Ron Henry (chair), Fred Jacobs, Charles Marvin

Members Absent: None

Others Attending: Thomas Conway, Jerry Rackliffe, Edgar Torbert (secretary)

The minutes of January 9 were approved as distributed.

Maymester & Summer Fees

Dr. Henry reminded recommendations had been made for regular semester fees, but not for the 3-week Maymester or 7-week summer term. He proposed summer fees be equivalent to quarter fees (or 2/3 semester fees) with consideration of whether to charge any of the fees for Maymester. He pointed out the proposed summer fees would make the annual effect of semester conversion on fee revenues neutral.

Dr. Gaines raised the question of whether it would be desirable to have this incentive for students to take Maymester. Dr. de Castro suggested charging some fees for Maymester would be appropriate in consideration of programs and services provided during Maymester. Ms. Harper inquired about availability of federal financial aid for Maymester. Dr. Henry responded federal financial aid for Maymester had been confirmed. Dr. de Castro suggested a compromise with students paying none of the fees if enrolled either spring semester or summer term and 1/4 of the semester rate if enrolled only for Maymester. Mr. Rackliffe reacted that this scheme would be difficult to administer. Dr. Torbert commented these fees were based on headcounts rather than credit hours, and that headcounts were more likely to drop than credit hours with semester conversion, so that collecting Maymester fees would provide a small cushion.

Dr. de Castro made a motion to recommend summer fees be 2/3 of the semester fees and Maymester fees be 1/4 of semester fees for all students enrolled. Dr. Deitz seconded the motion. The motion passed.

CBSAC Contingency Fund Requests

Mr. Rackliffe distributed "Statement of Projected Revenues and Expenditures for FY98, As of December 31, 1997" which showed an existing contingency fund balance of $610K. He stated this balance was not expected to grow as a result of winter quarter enrollments, although credit hours exceeded budget. He explained initial analyses pointed to an increased number of graduate assistant waivers, in particular for non-residents. Mr. Rackliffe distributed tables showing trends for matriculation fees, matriculation waivers, non-resident fees and non-resident waivers for FY96-98.

Dr. Henry spoke of the need for further analysis of the total cost of graduate assistants. Dr. Marvin noted the offsetting benefit of graduate assistants teaching classes and generating revenue that way. Dr. de Castro noted state appropriations based on graduate assistant enrollments would still be realized in the subsequent year. Mr. Rackliffe commented on the impact of not realizing institutional revenue projections as an offsetting factor relative to state appropriations. He added that as a result, revenue projections for FY99 should be flat-lined. Dr. Decatur pointed out the waivers were not budgeted as at most institutions. Dr. Henry noted the complexity of the issue, and suggested it would be useful to have information broken down by college or departments.

Dr. Decatur advised discussion of the CBSAC contingency fund request should be postponed until the next
meeting in order to have in-hand the status of contingency fund allocations and commitments to date as well as the CBSAC items. He noted the fund balance was insufficient to cover all.

**Systems Redirection Requests**

Dr. Deitz distributed "Highlights" (budget recommendations from Governor Miller to legislature for University System of Georgia). Dr. Henry distributed draft documents, "System Redirection Requests FY99" and "Strategic Allocation of System Redirection Funds, Georgia State University".

Dr. de Castro noted unevenness in the quality of the narratives accompanying the requests. Dr. Henry pointed out the list would also have to be pared from $8.6M to $4M. He cautioned the Regents had not followed the priorities listed by the university in allocating targeted funds last year.

Dr. Jacobs inquired about the sources of the requests. Dr. Henry indicated the deans had forwarded the requests to him on behalf of their colleges. Dr. Jacobs urged a more "bottom up" approach in the future given the magnitude of the impact on the institution. Dr. Henry responded the requests had been tied in most cases to the University Strategic Plan which had been developed with a "bottom up" approach. He added the deans were cognizant of the University Strategic Plan in making their requests. Dr. de Castro stated such concern about participation in processes was typical of organizations in general. He noted the responsibility of deans to involve faculty and staff in these discussions. Dr. Gaines reported the requests from the College of Health & Human Sciences had been faculty initiatives in anticipation of external funding sources, and the college executive committee had reviewed these.

Dr. de Castro inquired about the process for paring the requests to $4M. Dr. Henry replied the next discussions would be in the Deans' Group on January 21, with follow-up discussion by FACP at the next meeting.

**Internal Redirection Sources**

Dr. Henry distributed a draft document, "University Redirection Plans, FY99-Internal" listing $4.9M of budget actions which could be credited toward the required amount of $4.3M. He indicated this list would be updated prior to the next meeting along with a list of external (return to Regents) redirection items.

Dr. Marvin expressed concern about security in the libraries, in particular regarding anti-social behavior cases. Dr. Decatur responded Ms. Sampson would be meeting with both libraries to propose a security guard arrangement.

Dr. de Castro noted refocussed faculty positions were a "gold mine" for meeting redirection targets. He suggested return of the College of Education "loan" positions might be better applied to external redirection. Dr. Deitz responded these positions should be viewed in the context of the total package, including the requests the college would make for redirected funds.

Dr. Arrington asked for clarification regarding MRR funds. Dr. Decatur noted that while Governor Miller recommended an increase in MRR funds for the University System, it was likely the two- and four-year colleges would again reap the greatest share. He added that the chief financial officers of the universities had recently discussed this problem with Chancellor's staff.

**Housing Fee**

Mr. Rackliffe noted the request to raise the housing fee by $100 per semester from $1,895 to $1,995 was in line with the cap of 5% for mandatory fees. He added the shift of police for the GSU Village from FC10 to housing would offset one half of this increase. Dr. Deitz made a motion to recommend the $100 per semester increase in the housing fee. Dr. Gaines seconded the motion. The motion passed.
Recreation Center Exercise Facility Faculty/Staff User Fee

Ms. Harper inquired about current funding for the exercise facility. Dr. Henry responded it was funded by the student activity fee and FC10, with the "white box" for the facility provided by Olympic funding. Dr. de Castro made a motion to recommend a faculty/staff user fee of (a) $20 per semester and $12.50 for summer term or (b) $50 per year. Ms. Hasan seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Prepared by Edgar Torbert
Approved January 23, 1998

Please send questions or comments to Mary Nell Stone