Members present: Ron Henry (chair), Ahmed Abdelal, John de Castro, Sid Harris, Fenwick Huss, Fred Jacobs, Larry Kelley, Carol Whitcomb, André Young.

Members absent: Tom Lewis.

Others present: Lisa Beck, Tim Crimmins, Jerry Rackliffe, Edgar Torbert.

Minutes of November 5, 1999 were approved.

Fee Requests

Dr. Henry reported Governor Barnes has concerns about the impact of increasing fees on the HOPE scholarship program, which may result in the Board of Regents not approving any fee increase requests for Fiscal Year 2001. He added that at the same time there have been signals the Board of Regents might consent to requests for new technology fees from USGa institutions which were not in the pilot group for these fees. He also noted the possibility of certain fees being excluded from coverage by the HOPE scholarship program.

Child Development Center Fees

Dr. Abdelal spoke for the Child Development Center budget being more user fee-based with the savings in state funds earmarked for redirection. Mr. Kelley voiced support for this approach in part to counter potential unfair competition claims from other downtown facilities which charge appreciably more for their services. Dr. Crimmins pointed out the Child Development Center also serves as a training facility for Early Childhood Education students. Dr. Crimmins suggested the Child Development Center might be treated like a university research center with a college dean chairing an advisory committee. Dr. Abdelal objected to this approach because the Child Development Center is also an auxiliary service. Dr. Abdelal made a motion to recommend increasing Child Development Center fees by 25%, with 5% for salary increases, etc. as originally proposed by Dr. Kaufmann and 20% for potential redirection of state funds. Dr. Harris seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Robinson College of Business Master's Program Fees

Dr. Harris presented requests for two-year fees for the existing Executive MBA program and the new Global E-Commerce master's program. He characterized these requests as standard market-based adjustments. Dr. Huss commented the RCB program fees were still less than those for the Georgia Tech and Emory programs of this type and much less than the program at Duke. Dr. Jacobs made a motion to recommend increasing the Executive MBA program fee from $37,500 to $39,500 for students starting fall 2002. Dr. Abdelal seconded the motion. The motion passed. Dr. Jacobs made a motion to recommend the Global E-Commerce program fee of $39,500 for students starting fall 2001. Mr. Kelley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Housing Fee

Dr. Crimmins noted previous discussion of a special year-round housing fee to attract more summer residents. Mr. Kelley pointed out the reduced occupancy during summers allowed necessary maintenance projects in the buildings. Dr. Henry reported there was a waiting list for the coming spring semester. Dr. de Castro suggested those on the waiting list who would also sign up for summer housing should have a higher priority on the waiting list. Dr. Harris asked about housing fee comparisons with Georgia Tech. Dr. Henry replied that the fees for similar accommodations were comparable. Dr. Jacobs made a motion to recommend housing fees of $2,170 for fall and spring, $1,020 for summer, and $510 for May. Mr. Kelley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Athletics/Student Activities/Student-University Center Fees

Dr. Abdelal pointed out the combined proposed increases would raise mandatory fees from $236 to $250 (including $2 increase for Transportation). Dr. de Castro spoke in favor of examining the requests separately. Dr. Huss expressed concern about the impact on part-time enrollments as the total of mandatory fees increases. He urged a graduated fee as proposed last spring. Dr. Henry also spoke in favor of a graduated and revenue-neutral fee. Mr. Rackliffe advised that Board of Regents staff had not supported the graduated fee previously because of the effect on HOPE.
scholarship funds as full-time students are charge more to make up for the lesser fees paid by part-time students. Dr. Henry replied that other institutions in the University System have graduated fees. Dr. Huss added that the issue would be more important when the Alpharetta Center opens, since a significant number of students there would probably not take advantage of the services and programs funded by these fees. Dr. Abdelal remarked that efforts to increase the number of part-time students could lessen the impact on full-time student fees. Dr. de Castro made a motion to recommend a graduated fee structure. The motion was seconded by Dr. Jacobs. The motion passed. Dr. Jacobs asked how the graduated fee would be computed. Dr. Henry suggested another look at the semester credit hour-based model prepared last spring by Mr. Rackliffe.

Athletics

Dr. de Castro noted questions about the 5% raise figure and academic support upgrade components of the athletics fee request. He also cited concern about the presentation of the budget for softball as an obligation. Dr. Henry responded that there are Title IX implications and fund raising efforts underway. Dr. de Castro asked for a breakdown of the required number of athletic scholarships. Dr. Henry characterized the primary budgetary problem for athletics as chronic deficits, which Mr. Manning would be addressing through fund raising. Dr. Crimmins suggested tying salary increase dollars to fund raising as a motivation for fund raising. Dr. Henry added that an objective was to get away from using GSU Foundation dollars to cover deficits. Dr. de Castro suggested approving the fee increase in order to give Mr. Manning a fair chance to succeed in fund raising. Dr. Abdelal agreed with the understanding that the 5% raise pool would be adjusted. Mr. Kelley made a motion to recommend the athletic fee be increased $3 to $78 per semester. Dr. Harris seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Student Activities Fee

Mr. Young reported the SGA Senate had revisited the issue of raising the student activity fee by $6 and, with new information available, had endorsed the proposed increase. Dr. de Castro spoke against the fee increase in light of the proportion designated for replacing unrealized revenue and the potential program savings related to cessation of Student Center service charges. Dr. Abdelal commented that the $6 request was too high. Dr. Abdelal made a motion to recommend a $3 increase to $49 per semester. Dr. Harris seconded the motion. Dr. de Castro made a substitute motion to recommend a $2 increase. The substitute motion was not seconded. Dr. Huss put forth an amendment to limit use of the $3 increase to programming costs. Drs. Abdelal and Harris accepted the amendment. The amended motion passed.

Student-University Center Facilities Fee

Dr. de Castro observed that the Student Center was staff heavy. Dr. Henry noted the possibility of using OMP for the Student Center as a redirection source at some point. He added that building the facilities reserve was a legitimate objective. Dr. de Castro cautioned that fees need to be held down as much as possible to improve chances of Board of Regents approval of the overall package. Dr. de Castro made a motion to recommend no increase in the Student-University Center facilities fee. Mr. Young offered an amendment to recommend a $1 increase designated for the reserve. The amendment was accepted by Drs. de Castro and Abdelal. The amended motion passed.

Parking & Transportation Fees

Mr. Kelley presented revised materials pertaining to the fee increase requests for parking and transportation along with a plan for replacing S (2004), K (2006) and N (2006) decks. Dr. Crimmins asked if the replacement decks would provide additional parking spaces. Mr. Kelley replied that the plan allowed for one-for-one replacement, but could possibly be expanded. Dr. de Castro voiced support for the overall plan of replacing the decks, but again spoke in favor of parking bearing the cost. Dr. Abdelal pointed out that the proposed percentage increases in faculty and staff parking fees far exceeded the anticipated percentage increase in salaries. Dr. de Castro countered that parking rates were currently cheap for downtown. Dr. Abdelal responded that nearby State of Georgia lots charged less than the university. Ms. Whitcomb expressed concern about the impact of the parking increase on lower paid staff. Dr. de Castro asked about increasing only the parking fees and not transportation. Mr. Kelley estimated the impact would be a $2-3 per month increase for parking fees over-and-above the proposed increases. Dr. Crimmins suggested looking at the cost of riding MARTA as a gauge of what faculty and staff should pay. Dr. Abdelal observed that parking should be viewed as a fringe benefit for faculty and staff, not as a source of revenue. He encouraged focus on the transportation fee. Dr. Harris cautioned that raising student parking and transportation fees could be counterproductive to efforts to increase enrollment. Dr. de Castro commented that holding down parking fees was not the way to address the problem of underpaid staff. Dr Huss asked about utilization of student lots. Mr. Kelley cited nearly 100% use at peak times. Dr. Abdelal asked for clarification as to what was driving the proposed increases. Mr. Kelley replied the driver was operating costs for transportation, in particular lot rental and shuttle bus service. Dr. de Castro added deck replacement as a factor. Dr. Huss asked if it was essential to replace all three decks. Mr. Kelley responded that it was not possible to rent more spaces at the stadium. Dr. Huss asked if the objective was to encourage or discourage on-
campus parking. Dr. Henry replied the objective was to discourage on-campus parking. Dr. Abdelal made a motion to recommend a $2 increase in the transportation fee to $16. Mr. Kelley seconded the motion. The motion passed. Dr. Abdelal made a motion to recommend a 3% increase in parking fees. The motion was not seconded. Dr. de Castro made a motion to recommend a 6% increase in parking fees. Mr. Kelley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Prepared by Edgar Torbert
Approved December 10, 1999