Members Attending: Ahmed Abdelal, Sid Harris, Ron Henry, Fenwick Huss, Fred Jacobs, Katherine Johnston, Tom Lewis, P.C. Tai, Leslie Williams

Others Attending: Ron Colarusso, Bill Fritz, Jerry Rackliffe, Steve Kaminshine, Edgar Torbert

Minutes of September 12, 2001 were approved.

Board of Regents Budget Requests to Governor & Legislature: FY2002 Supplemental, FY2003 General

Dr. Henry outlined the University System process of making budget requests to the Governor and legislature (recommendations from Chancellor and small group of presidents in June-July, recommendations from Board of Regents in September, recommendations from Governor in December, consideration and action by legislature in January-February).

Dr. Henry noted the $72M request for FY2002 supplemental budget included $30M for workload recovery and $21M for health insurance. He and Mr. Lewis cautioned a more realistic figure for workload recovery prior to the events of September 11, 2001, was $20M.

Dr. Henry provided a breakdown of the $60M request for FY2003 funding formula funds. He explained the $25.5M request for workload dollars was based on system growth of 2.1% in FY2001 (two-year delay in formula impact). He indicated the $3.3M request for continuing education (CEU) workload dollars was a first, with CEUs valued 45% of semester credit hours. Dr. Henry reiterated increasing emphasis on credit hour production by the University System, and pointed out the University System as a whole was still approximately 2% short of fall 1997 credit hours while Georgia State was slightly ahead. Dr. Henry listed the non-credit hour related requests within the $60M, including $10.3M for OMP of new facilities, $11.9M for health insurance, $9.1M for other fringe benefits, and $14.4M to change the funding formula rates for technology (from 1.7% to 2%) and OMP (from $5.75 to $5.99 per square foot). He explained the technology rate had been negotiated by the University System at 1.75% for FY2002, but was not so funded in the final budget.

Dr. Henry also provided a breakdown of the $31.1M request for FY2003 enhancement or special funding initiative (SFI) funds. He pointed out $7.6M to improve access to higher education was targeted at non-traditional students and African-American males. Dr. Abdelal asked if the University System drop in enrollment of African-American males was true at Georgia State. Dr. Fritz responded males were down at Georgia State for all races, except Asians. Dr. Fritz added that non-traditional enrollments were surprisingly flat at Georgia State (25 and older slightly up, but by other definitions flat, including: 40 and older, out-of-school 5 years and less than 30 credit hours, part-time). Dr. Henry cited $9.0M for retention initiatives such as freshman-year experience enhancements like the Freshmen Learning Communities. He and Dr. Fritz quoted increases in freshman-to-sophomore year retention rates for students in FLCs and living in GSU Village, in particular for those in both (83%). They noted overall retention had risen from 73% to 79% in one year. Dr. Henry suggested expansion of FLCs to include a greater portion of freshmen should be
an SFI funding request from Georgia State. Dr. Henry listed other SFI requests from the University System including $5.0M for the eminent scholar pool, $4M for ICAPP to attract high-tech companies and expand the program to health-related industries, $2.85M for compulsory health insurance for graduate assistants to be matched 50-50 by the institutions and students, $750K for a University System master’s degree program for K-12 teachers, $750K for implementation of North Georgia C&SU mission, $1.0M for accountability studies, and $160K for minority PhD assistantships administered through SREB. Dr. Harris noted Robinson College of Business is currently funded by ICAPP along with Kennesaw SU to offer web training for UPS.

Dr. Jacobs asked about the apparent reduction in ORP+TRS funding shown in the overall fringe benefits request. Mr. Rackliffe stated the reduction was keyed to the net change of ORP (up) and TRS (down) rates. Dr. Abdelal asked if the University System institutions would have opportunities to submit requests to the Board of Regents for FY2003 funding. Dr. Henry responded that normally institutions make these requests in January when the Board of Regents have a better feel for what dollars will be available.

Parking & Transportation

Ms. Johnston distributed “Parking and Transportation, Ten-Year Plan” for discussion at the next meeting. She gave a brief introduction of the document noting parking and transportation must be fully funded by auxiliary enterprises. Ms. Johnston called attention to the scenarios presented for (1) building replacement decks and (2) covering the shortfalls for MARTA discounts and shuttle service through fee increases. She reported student use of the discounted MARTA cards had nearly tripled in the last year. She reminded that the parking increases approved for FY2002 had been postponed until January 1, 2002. She commented that the current number of parking spaces seemed to be the minimum for the number of faculty, staff and students. Dr. Harris suggested more students might use MARTA if the discounts were made even more attractive. Ms. Williams added there might then be a shift from stadium parking to MARTA. Dr. Harris suggested a satisfaction survey of students regarding MARTA service. Dr. Fritz asked for consideration of how to treat parking charges for prospective students coming to campus for recruitment events. Dr. Huss urged a look at benchmarks for other urban universities with similar situations of public transportation and parking.

Prepared by Edgar Torbert
Approved October 10, 2001