Members Attending: Paul Alberto, Pam Barr, Al Baumstark (for P.C. Tai), David Caudill, Hugh Hudson, Steve Kaminshine, Susan Kelley, Robin Morris, Risa Palm, Jerry Rackliffe, Terrance Rogers (for Greg Abt)

Others Attending: Lauren Adamson, Farrah Bernardino, Doug Covey, John Hicks, Fenwick Huss, Beth Jones, Cheryl Levick, Marvin Lewis, Tim Renick, Scott Levin, Edgar Torbert

The minutes of October 28, 2009, were approved.

Robinson College of Business tuition and program fee increases

Dr. Huss presented the following tuition and program fee increases:

- MBA differential tuition from $338 to $358 per credit hour for in-state and from $1,186 to $1,206 for out-of-state
- EMBA program fee from $59,950 to $63,500
- Professional MBA program fee from $40,000 to $43,600 for in-state and from $60,200 to $83,616 for out-of-state
- Global Partners MBA program fee from $52,000 to $55,000
- Executive Doctorate in Business program fee from $95,000 to $99,500
- Professional MBA/MHA program fee from $50,000 to $54,700 for in-state and from $70,000 to $106,124 for out-of-state

Dr. Huss confirmed these increases reflected pricing in line with competing institutions.

Dr. Kelley made a motion to accept the proposed increases. Dr. Kaminshine seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Mandatory fee increases

Dr. Covey presented recommendations from the Student Mandatory Fee Committee in favor of the following fee increases:

- Athletic fee from $227 to $251 per semester
- Recreation activity fee from $20.53 to $28.53 per semester [earmarked portion of overall student activity fee which would be raised from $92 to $100 per semester]
- International education fee from $5 to $15.
Dr. Barr made a motion to recommend the increases as presented to the President. Dr. Rackliffe seconded the motion.

Dr. Hudson asked how the proposed increases related to the positions taken by the Board of Regents on new and increased mandatory fees, at first a moratorium and later only with student endorsement. Dr. Rackliffe replied the Board of Regents had subsequently issued a call for fee proposals with a January 22, 2010 deadline. Dr. Rackliffe stated the new SIF of $100 allowed (a) for inclusion of new or increased mandatory fees under the $100 SIF cap using the normal fee proposal process or (b) new or increased fees beyond the $100 SIF with documented, extraordinary student support. He reminded in any case SIF would go away July 1, 2012, except for any portion designated for mandatory fees. He observed the SIF as structured was in fact a TIF. Dr. Hudson expressed on-going concern about the situation in 2012.

Dr. Alberto asked about the impact on Spring 2010 of any decision to incorporate mandatory fees under the SIF cap. Dr. Rackliffe answered the full amount of the $100 SIF would be available to offset cuts in Spring 2010 and Summer 2010 since the mandatory fee increases would not go into effect until Fall 2010.

Dr. Baumstark asked about the tuition revenues attributable to anticipated enrollment increases for Fall 2010 and Spring 2011. Dr. Rackliffe replied FACP had already allocated the additional revenues to the colleges and support units in order to conduct hiring to meet the needs of the additional students.

Dr. Rackliffe noted a new round of federal stimulus dollars had been released to the Board of Regents to offset state funds. He advised Georgia State must report expenditure the $5.6M in federal stimulus funds in three days, and that adjustments to the October and November payrolls would be the method employed. He added that the federal stimulus dollars would also disappear in FY2012.

Dr. Kaminshine asked if FACP should make decisions on the mandatory fee requests on their own or in tandem with SIF. Dr. Palm noted the question as whether to reallocate $42 of the $100 SIF to the units making the fee requests. Dr. Kaminshine suggested some prioritization of the fee requests, in particular the athletics fee request since that commitment had already been made. Dr. Rackliffe commented this would change the fee/SIF split from $42/$58 to $24/$76.

Dr. Hudson pointed out that allocating a portion of SIF would be betting on the Governor not reducing the Board of Regents budget even more in FY2011. Dr. Adamson asked if the budget projections prepared by Dr. Rackliffe assumed continuation of furloughs in FY2011. Dr. Rackliffe responded that no furloughs were included in FY2011.

Dr. Morris asked about the worst case scenario if the mandatory fees were not approved. Ms. Levick indicated the fee increase was essential to fielding the football team, the Title IX women’s sports to be added, administrative costs due to one third more athletes, and the marching band. She predicted failure to approve the athletics fee increase would necessitate elimination of some men’s sports and postponement of start-up of the marching band. Dr. Hudson remarked all areas of the university had endured cutbacks because of the recession.
Mr. Hicks stated denying the international education fee increase would impact the long-term quality of the program and efforts to increase from the current 600 Study Abroad students per year. He explained the fee revenues funded grants of $250 to $1,000 to Study Abroad students, many of whom could not take advantage of the program without this support.

Mr. Levin noted the recreation program fee had not been increased since August 2001, while programs, students served, and hours of operation had grown substantially. He pointed out the impact of on-campus student housing on use of the Recreation Center with the center now open 100 hours per week.

Mr. Caudill asked Ms. Levick about the rising salary line projections for future years. Ms. Levick replied these increases were due to new positions, not raises. Dr. Barr asked if the students had voted for the annual $12 increases. Dr. Rackliffe responded this was the case. He added that a significant part of the athletic fee budget was for scholarships, which put these mandatory fee funds back into the state budget of the university to fund academic and support programs and services.

Dr. Baumstark asked about the number of students, who could be added to the Study Abroad program if the international education fee increase was approved. Mr. Hicks responded the increase would be in the range of 100-150 students depending upon the size of the grants.

Dr. Hudson suggested pursuing the $24 athletic fee increase on top of the $100 SIF. He made a motion to table the motion to recommend the fee increases pending follow-up with the students. No second was heard.

Mr. Caudill asked when the next opportunity would occur to submit fee increase proposals. Dr. Rackliffe answered the Board of Regents only entertained proposals once per year.

Dr. Baumstark suggested approaching the proposed fee increases on dual tracks, one as above the $100 SIF and the other as inclusive if the first option failed. Dr. Kaminshine added this amendment to the original proposal could also include a provision for reviewing the fee requests in the spring.

Dr. Kaminshine restated the amended motion to recommend the fee proposals as presented, but with stipulations to seek student approval of increasing fees beyond the $100 SIF and to revisit the issue in the spring when student support for the add-on fee and the disposition of the Board of Regents regarding the matter were known. Dr. Kelley seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Prepared by Edgar Torbert
Approved February 17, 2010