Minutes of the Senate Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting
September 23, 1998


ABSENT: Richard Deane, Bernadette Hartfield, Mona Matthews, and Charles Rutheiser.

ALSO ATTENDING: Valerie Fennell, and Jim Bohanan.

Approval of Previous Minutes
Chair Gabor Patonay opened the meeting by asking for any corrections to the minutes of August 26. On a motion by Roger Weed, seconded by Juane Heflin, the minutes were approved as presented.

Bookstore
Bonnie Murphy, Director of the Office of Auxiliary Services, presented information about the bookstore and parking. She reported that the bookstore has had a $300,000 renovation which moved textbooks from the bookstore's second floor to the first floor in order to make them more assessable to students and have the ability to display all titles. This fall, the bookstore increased the number of textbook titles from 2100 to 2400. The percent of new textbooks sold this semester increased 73 percent while the sale of used textbooks decreased 46 percent. Two reasons cited for the change were that there were many new editions this year and also that GSU is now competing with other semester schools for availability of used textbooks.

Several members of the committee told of problems that they have had this semester on the prompt availability of textbooks. They expressed situations where information about specific titles provided by the bookstore was not accurate and where the delay in the receipt of books extended several periods after classes had started. Members emphasized that additional work needs to be done to improve communication between faculty and the bookstore staff. Several instances were mentioned where faculty choose to use outside bookstores for faster service.

Gabor Patonay suggested that the committee's bookstore subcommittee of Bill Kinyon and Diane Willen meet monthly with Bonnie Murphy to establish a continuous dialog about bookstore issues.

Parking
Bonnie Murphy discussed the fall semester parking registration program. She indicated that Auxiliary Services personnel went to individual buildings to simplify the registration process. She indicated that this would be a one time event and there will be no future registrations. When changes are necessary, they will be handled on an individual basis. There was a discussion about the new hang tags and their $25 replacement fee if lost.

There was also a discussion about programming parking hang tags to permit special after hours and weekend parking in lots that are closer to each individual's office when their lot closes and/or for security reasons. Questions were asked about having attendants remain at the lots until the last evening classes are completed. Bonnie Murphy advised that she would investigate these issues.
Faculty Workload Policy
Marsha Clarkson indicated that she will be forwarding to the Senate Executive Committee the five changes to the workload policy that were approved by the committee on August 26, 1998. This document will be reviewed by the Senate Executive Committee, and if approved, sent to the University Senate for its meeting on October 8, 1998.

Benefits Study
Gabor Patonay asked the Benefits Subcommittee to have an organizational meeting prior to the next committee meeting for the purpose of starting a university benefits study. The subcommittee membership has been augmented by several non-committee members.

Evaluation of Administrators
Gabor Patonay reported that the Evaluation of Administrators Subcommittee will meet prior to the next committee meeting to develop the new evaluation instruments for the administrators that will be evaluated during the 98-99 academic year. Administrators that have non-academic staffs will have a staff component added to their evaluation questionnaires this year. Deans will continue to be evaluated by only faculty.

Conflict of Interest
Juane Heflin distributed copies of the subcommittee's latest draft document and asked the committee to review and be prepared to discuss any suggested changes at the next meeting.

Copyrights
Jim Senn raised the question about the national issue of whether colleges and universities should encourage faculty to withhold the transfer of copyrights to publishers because of publishers' abuse of rights and whether this is an issue for the Faculty Affairs Committee. Gabor Patonay indicated that he would investigate whether it should be addressed in this committee.

There being no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m. The next meeting will be on Tuesday, November 3 at 12 noon.

James Bohanan
Recorder

Please send questions or comments to Mary Nell Stone