Faculty Affairs Committee Meeting
April 11, 2007
Manners Room RCB
1 - 3 pm
Minutes

Present: Peggy Albers, Chip Barksdale, Cheryl Delk, Dabney Dixon, Christine Gallant (Guest), Lynda Goodfellow, Cece Grindel, Beth Jones, Jerry Rackcliffe, Tammy Sugarman, Cherian Thachenkary.

Call to Order: C. Grindel called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

Minutes of March 14: The minutes of March 14 were approved.

Administrators Evaluations: C. Grindel informed the committee that the Executive Committee had made some recommendations for the process of administrator evaluations:

❖ Motion: In the evaluation instrument for the Provost for Academic Programs the question on procuring external funds should be dropped as that is not in her job description. The committee approved this motion.

❖ Should the FAC now prepare a template for the committees with a format and minimum information as the reports going to the Executive Committee are usually all different? C. Thachenkary and P. Albers will work with C. Grindel on this issue in the summer to see if there is need for a such a template. C. Grindel will request copies of the reports from Mary Nell to help them work on this issue.

D. Dixon suggested that the bar graphs be modified on the analysis data prepared by OIR. She recommended the data preparers be made aware that the legends at the bottom of the page are always missing hence there is some degree of confusion in matching questions with answers.

C. Grindel will give these recommendations to OIR. The task force will report back to the FAC in the fall.

❖ Motion: The references to departments in the evaluation process for the Dean of the School of Law should be taken out as the Law School does not have any departments. The committee approved the motion.

Update Domestic Partnership Insurance: C. Gallant updated the committee on this issue. The report will now go the University Systems Office and not the Chancellor as she had previously been told. She was advised to prepare a motion/rationale comparable to the Report which, if approved by FAC and the Senate Committee, will be delivered by Paul Alberto.

President Patton has indicated that UGA should go first and GSU
hold off until UGA Senate Committee votes on this issue on April 24. She said the UGA Subcommittee unanimously approved the issue albeit their President did not know anything about the issue at this point.

The motion and rationale will be sent to Paul Alberto for approval in a couple of days. C. Gallant wanted to know if she could then send it to C. Grindel for electronic approval by the FAC. D. Dixon suggested that as President Patton has advised that UGA should take the lead on this issue and GSU should hold off on any further promotion of it, perhaps, the committee should not vote on the motion as yet. C. Grindel will contact the President and Paul Alberto and will forward the motion for approval to the committee if she gets the go ahead from them.

**Criminal Background Check:** This issue was deferred to Fall 2007.

**MARTA Faculty and Staff Subsidy:** D. Miller could not make the meeting hence this issue will be omitted from the agenda until brought forward again.

**Family Medical Leave:** This issue was deferred to Fall 2007.

**307.06 Limitation on Tenure-Eligible Service:** C. Grindel is awaiting information on this issue from Dr. Henry so it is deferred to Fall 2007.

**Update: Evaluation of Teaching Effectiveness:** H. Dangel, chair of this task force, was unable to attend the meeting. However, C. Grindel informed the committee that H. Dangel did submit a report of faculty evaluations to the Deans as was approved at the last meeting. C. Grindel will follow-up on this issue as H. Dangel will not be on the FAC next year.

**New Business:** C. Thachenkary brought the committee's attention to a lawsuit filed by two GA Tech students regarding intellectual diversity. The suit states that professors had taken punitive actions against students for expressing different views, religiously or politically, that are counter to their own viewpoints. As a result two members of the house of Legislature have introduced a bill that will mandate the UGA system to report back to the legislature of GA on initiatives taken by each unit to promote intellectual diversity in the classrooms. He asked if the committee should be proactive and issue a motion for the Senate to hear all opinions. D. Dixon will contact T. Renick, the university Ombudsperson as well as search the internet for more information and report to the FAC in Fall 2007.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2pm.