FAC Meeting
January 16, 2008
Manners Room 1-3

Minutes

Present:
Peggy Albers, Jeff Ashby, Chip Barksdale, Cathy Brack, Valerie Fennell, MaryAnn Gaunt, Lynda Goodfellow, Cece Grindel, Hugh Hudson, Beth Jones, Guy Leach, Peter Lindsay, San Miller, Jerry Rackliffe, Cherian Thachenkary and Marta White

Minutes of 12/13/2007:
M. Gaunt noted that her name was left off the list of attendees. The minutes were approved with this amendment.

Annual Report of the Faculty Ombudsperson:
V. Fennel gave a summary and brief explanation of the reasons for this report. There was much discussion on this issue and some recommendations were made. These were:

i) C. Thachenkary proposed that the Office of the Ombudsman annually prepares such a report for discussion by the FAC.

The Committee unanimously approved this motion.

ii) C. Grindel proposed that the Child Care Enrichment Center posts their closing dates yearly to give parents ample time to make alternative arrangements for their children.

This motion was approved by the Committee. C. Brack will contact the Director about this issue as well as enquire into the possibility of increasing the number of children in the Center.

iii) Item 2 in the report recommends that newly appointed persons in chair or managerial positions receive managerial training outside the university. V. Fennel said that her office has had complaints regarding faculty/managers behavior towards their subordinates. These complaints include problematic and uncivil behavior.

C. Thachenkary moved that persons newly appointed into chair positions or other supervisory/managerial positions, as well as people already in managerial responsibilities who repeatedly have had problems, receive managerial training outside the University. This recommendation should be made to the Deans or Provost.

The Committee approved this motion and C. Grindel will pass on the recommendation to the appropriate people.

M. White suggested that for future reports, V. Fennel should add the length of time these chairs or new managers had been in their positions as this could be useful data. V. Fennel stated that she would do that.

iv) Item 3 in the report states Georgia State University "can benefit from a clear and practical crisis plan that is tested for its usefulness on a regular basis."
V. Fennel explained that there is not a general crisis plan for the University to follow in the event of a situation such as the 9/11 attacks. Following discussion the committee agreed to ask the University's Crisis person, Mike Raderstorf, to attend a FAC meeting to give an update on security and crisis handling issues, etc.

C. Brack also informed the committee that the Counseling Center at GSU has an agreement with all the Universities in the State of Georgia to attend each other's meetings regarding crisis management. The Directors of these various Counseling Centers have also been trained in crisis intervention.

C. Grindel thanked V. Fennel for sharing the report with the FAC and said she would follow-up with the recommendations.

Career Ladders for Academic Professionals:  
C. Grindel said that the Task Force was in the process of gathering data for this charge. There are no criteria in the university system for promotion of academic professionals. She asked the group for any information on institutions that have a promotion policy for that level in place. C. Brack will provide her with some information on this issue.

Update: Revision of Dean Evaluation Forms:  
P. Albers informed the group that this sub-committee had not finished the revisions yet.

Update: Posting of Maymester Grades:  
C. Grindel said she had not received any information from the Registrar on this issue. She will follow-up with her.

Follow-up: 307.06 Limitation Tenure-Eligible Service:  
M. White said that committee had not heard back from UGA and GA Tech on the formation of a task force but will continue to work on the on the issue.

Update on the SGA Request for Faculty Evaluations:  
C. Grindel said she was still working on how to provide the six points requested to the SGA while protecting faculty's privacy. She will continue to explore options.

Update: Administrator of Evaluations:  
There was no information on this issue. It was deferred until completion of the Dean evaluations.

Family Medical Leave:  
There was no new information on this issue.

New Business:  
C. Grindel said that she is waiting for the policy on Duty to Report by an employee who had been arrested. She will follow-up on it.

Old Business:  
C. Thachenkary asked if a class list of students on an excel spreadsheet could be made available to faculty on GoSolar. He suggested that this request be part of the posting of grades on GoSolar that was submitted by P. Lindsay last month. C. Grindel said she will make the request. P. Lindsay pointed out that faculty evaluations for this semester were not up until January 7. C. Grindel said she will find out why they were up so late as she was informed by IS&T that they would be up sooner.

C. Thachenkary noted that faculty's' SSN's are still being required when they sign on to GoSolar. That requirement should have been switched to Panther ID's. C. Grindel promised to enquire about that as well.
Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:12 pm.