FAC Minutes
October 16, 2008, 1-3 p.m.
COE, Room 654, MSIT Department

Members Present: Peggy Albers, Chip Barksdale, Cathy Brack, John Duffield, Mary Finn, Laura Fredrick, MaryAnne Gaunt, Lynda Goodfellow, Hugh Hudson, Peter Lindsay, David Pavesic, Joe Perry, Wayne Reed, Ruth Stanford, Kris Varjas, Marta White


Guests: J.L. Albert, Paul Alberto

Call to Order
P. Albers called the meeting to order and welcomed Paul Alberto and J.L. Albert to the meeting.

Approval of Sept. 10, 2008 Minutes
Minutes were approved.

Childcare at GSU, Career Ladders, and Off-Campus Housing
P. Albers discussed briefly the updates to continuing issues including childcare at GSU, Career Ladders, and Off Campus Housing. Childcare: S. French-Lee has formed two subcommittees to address tuition differences and space. Career Ladders: FAC Representative M. Gaunt reported that their subcommittee continues to take further directions from those in higher offices. Off-Campus Housing: There is some move to build up the website that identifies how students might find housing. P. Albers will follow up with H. Housley, and will report back to the FAC Subcommittee.

FAC Subcommittee: Cathy Brack, Cheryl Delk

VHS Phase Out
J.L. Albert explained to FAC that the VHS phase out has begun to replace old equipment no longer supported with new technologies. Rooms managed by IS&T will begin to phase out VHS machines as they fail, and they will be replaced by DVD and eventually blue-ray machines. Faculty initiated discussion about the number of videos that they currently use. J.L. Albert stated that faculty will be allowed to bring their videos to the IS&T Faculty Exchange, room 106 in Library South to have VHS converted to DVD as permitted by copyright. The turnaround time will depend on demand.

Grading/Course Evaluations and Student Access to Faculty Evals (both are combined and were discussed)
P. Alberto responded to the four proposals sent back to the FAC for further work. Two issues, Grading/Course Evals and Student Access to Faculty Evals were discussed in tandem. In response to SGA’s request for faculty evaluations, a motion (311.02.01) passed in 2000, P. Alberto informed FAC that no procedure was put in place to disseminate information regarding faculty evaluations. FAC must develop a procedure by which this information will be given to the
together). FAC has also been charged to revise and rework the six common items on all faculty evaluations. A six-month turnaround timeframe was suggested.

FAC Subcommittee members working on these proposals: Peter Lindsay, Laura Fredrick, and Mary Finn.

401.01: Addition to Syllabus and 311.02: Grades Dissemination

Proposed addition to 401.01 of this statement, “Your constructive assessment of this course plays an indispensable role in shaping undergraduate and graduate education at Georgia State. Upon completing the course, please take the time to fill out the online course evaluation” to all syllabi was rejected by the Executive Committee. The proposed addition to 311.02 of this statement, “In the interest of enhancing the value of student course evaluations, students should receive final course grades from the official University source (GoSolar) and not from the course website” to the syllabus was also rejected. An email from one of the Executive Committee members that addressed both of these proposals was shared with the FAC.

FAC Representative: P. Lindsay.

Attendance Policy

P. Alberto discussed the Attendance Policy that is under consideration regarding school-sponsored events and excused absences. This issue will be addressed across university committees: Academic Programs, Admissions and Standards, Athletics, Executive Committee, Faculty Affairs, and Student Affairs.

FAC Representatives: Marta White and Peter Lindsay

Update on Presidential Search

P. Alberto provided FAC with information regarding updates on the Presidential Search. The Executive Committee charged the FAC (in concert with other Senate Committees) to develop a short-term (2 year) and long-term (5 year) agenda that the incoming President should consider as part of his work.

Family Leave and Tenure Clock Delay

M. Finn reported on the work that the subcommittee on Family Leave and Tenure Clock Delay has done since the FAC’s last meeting. She presented to the FAC an Interim Motion for Recommendation to the Provost on Tenure Clock Stoppage. The Interim policy was generated to get us through the year. The subcommittee will continue to work throughout the year to write a stronger policy. The FAC passed this motion and it will be sent to the Executive Committee for review in December.

FAC Subcommittee: Denise Donnelly, Marta White, Hugh Hudson, John Duffield

Customized Textbooks

FAC continued to discuss the issues related to customized textbooks. Two key issues: 1) students are often unaware that they are paying money for books they can not sell back; 2) the ethics of disclosure to students that monies may be generated for department/unit with these textbooks. A subcommittee was formed to investigate this issue.
The FAC agreed that if P. Albers must be absent from a meeting, she can request that another member act as chair in her place.

H. Hudson reported on and presented a Resolution regarding the proposed changes to the Teachers’ Retirement System Cost of Living Annual Increases (COLA) that the Budget Committee had written. The Resolution opposes the change of wording from “TRS shall give its members a 1.5% COLA in July and January of every year” to “TRS may give.” The FAC read and responded to this Resolution. A motion to pass this Resolution was made with a unanimous vote.

FAC continued to discuss the need for a one-time move from one retirement plan to another, especially in light of the economic downturn. H. Hudson reported that W. Virginia and Kansas have endorsed such a decision. FAC is charged to report this to their units and colleges, and to collect faculty and staff input. The FAC will work on a resolution around this concept: GSU University Senate proposes a one-time move from the Optional Retirement Plan to Teachers’ Retirement System or from the Teachers’ Retirement System to the Optional Retirement Plan. A subcommittee will work on this resolution.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:50 p.m.

**Meeting Dates 2008-2009:** All in RCB Manners Room except for Oct 16th:

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**Senate meetings, Thursdays, from 3-5:** October 23, December 11, March 12; April 16 (organizational mtg)