Planning & Development Committee  
March 17th, 2009

Present: Pam Barr, Elizabeth Beck, Brittany Cummings (Student Senator), Mary Finn, Christine Gallant, Sandra Garber, Chris Henrich, Jerry Rackliffe, D. Mike Raderstorf, Jeffrey C. Rupp, Nancy Seamans, Mary Shoffner, Phang C. Tai, Maryann Wysor.


Others Attending: Beth Jones, William John McCullum

The Agenda was for the meeting was as follows:

1. Approval of 2/16/09 Minutes

2. ASUR Committee Reports
   a) Advanced Campus Services
   b) Counseling & Testing Center

3. Subcommittee Reports
   a) Traffic Safety
   b) Any other subcommittee(s)

4. Other Business

   Agenda Item #1 - Approval of the Minutes

Phang Tai called the meeting to order at apx. 1:05pm. Tai asked Jerry Rackliffe to confirm the FACULTY/STAFF OFFICES - 5 Pts Parking Garage section of those minutes and Jerry confirmed. The motion was then made and seconded to approve the 2/16/09 minutes.

The group actually began with Agenda Item # 3a - Traffic Safety
In continuation from the last P&D meeting, Phang Tai opened discussion about safety issues in regards to the Piedmont/Decatur Street intersection by the new Science Building.

Jerry Rackliffe mentioned that he had asked Chief Connie Sampson of the GSU Police Department to “cost” a 12-14 hour/day traffic cop. Phang Tai mentioned that faculty members supported the issue, it would help give more priority to it, and suggested forming a subcommittee to help address/push the issue. Beth Jones mentioned traffic lights, Sandra Garber, a 4-way light, and Mary Shoffner suggested the idea of pedestrian crossing signage. John McCullum explained to the group that if an “uncontrolled intersection” existed, State Law required that GSU provide signage. Robin Morris via email “Another traffic calming idea that has been put forth is changing the lane nearest the new science building into parking (they lose a lane) - plus this would help with our building security issues....”
Elizabeth Beck mentioned that in response to speeders in her neighborhood, the neighbors got together and purchased a $15 speed gun to self chart the problem before bringing it to the attention of their City. It was noted that this method was thought to depend on the number of pedestrians using that particular area. J. Rackliffe also mentioned that removing existing (or plans for) tree planters would add a tremendous amount of pedestrian space. Phang Tai questioned the same safety concerns in regards to the new Greek House area, and J. Rackliffe mentioned that area would also be streetscaped to address the issue.

After the meeting, the Jerry Rackliffe emailed the following in regards to a review of safety alternatives:

3/17/09, 2:11pm from J. Rackliffe

. . . The following ideas were presented by the committee today:

- Traffic Officer from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m. M-Th, 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Friday
- All lights red (4 way all traffic stop) to allow diagonal crossing, etc
- Sidewalk barriers to force crossing at the crosswalk
- Review lower speed limit
- Red Light Camera
- Speed camera alerts
- Bridge or tunnel (either car or pedestrian) at Piedmont and Decatur Street

He asked for a feasibility & cost analysis of the items to be brought back to the next P&D meeting.

Agenda Item 3b - Subcommittee Reports

DIC Subcommittee - Christine Gallant gave a quick update on the DIC Subcommittee. She explained that DIC was a joint committee between P&D and Cultural Diversity and chaired by Susan Easterbrooks. She mentioned the subcommittee had a lot of experienced non-senators in the group including a lawyer, an engineer, several special education faculty, and more. She mentioned the group decided in December to ask that GSU form a policy that would centralize all the initiatives currently on hand and decide “where they could be made better”. She also mentioned that Congress passed a new ADA Amendment Act which changed the definition of “Disabled” and that much work was needed to bring GSU up to speed. Christine then passed out a report from the subcommittee entitled “Issues for proposed University Policy on Accommodating the Disabled” which noted several issues of concern and the rank of importance of those issues.

Green Committee - Sandra Garber gave an update on this newly formed subcommittee. She mentioned that her senate term was current up for renewal within the next month, so (as subcommittee Chair) she hadn’t begun recruiting new members yet. Elizabeth Beck reminded that any suggestions for the subcommittee could also be addressed with Dabney Dixon.

Agenda Item #2 - ASUR Committee Reports
ASUR - ADVANCED CAMPUS SERVICES - Chris Henrich, new ASUR Chair, mentioned that because this report was made before he was, Mary Finn (former ASUR Chair) would lead the discussion. Mary gave a brief overview of the report then asked the group for any questions.

Q&A

Sandra Garber asked whether IS&T had reorganized; Mary Finn confirmed “Yes” and mentioned that the reorganization was one of the challenges for ASUR units under them. Phang Tai questioned item #7 on the report:

7. Under one-year goals, it is unclear what the unit plans to double every 18 months (i.e., computing power, people, equipment). Recommendation: The unit needs to better define what resources are doubled every 18 months. This should be tracked in the yearly WEAVEonline reports.

Phang Tai and Mary Shoffner suggested that ASUR clarify the recommendations. Elizabeth Beck explained that the recommendations were already essentially asking for clarification, and the group agreed. Phang Tai and Mary Shoffner motioned that the report be accepted with a strong emphasis on the unit addressing the recommendations noted. She also added that without clarifying these concerns, funding of the Action Plan could be put at risk. After Mary’s motion, the group accepted the report.

ASUR - COUNSELING & TESTING CENTER - Chris Henrich, ASUR Chair discussed this report and highlighted that it was both thorough and well written. Highlights discussed from the report were: student indicators and future plans (listing ways to measure it), and the support for a student crisis line. Chris explained to the group that with the increased changes in student population and placement, student concerns regarding issues like eating disorders, were on the rise. Mary Shoffner questioned whether there was any development toward this group servicing the on-line community. Mary Finn answered no, but that there were some plans in motion to start addressing it.

Phang Tai gave the unit, then Mary Finn and Chris Henrich praise on their hard work. The motion was made & passed to accept the report.

Phang Tai reminded the group that the P&D committee’s that this was the last meeting for the cycle and that the new cycle would begin in April, then afterwards, adjourned the meeting at apx. 1:57pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Lydia K. Woltz, Admin. Coordinator