GEORGIA STATE UNIVERSITY
MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON RESEARCH
April 6, 1998
Room 718, General Classroom Building

Present: Benardot, Boykin, Clarkson, Decatur, Derby, Emanuel, Hughes, Keil, Lederberg, Manson, Martin, Reitzes, Romski, Rumbaugh, Schultz, Stephan, Thomas, Vaishnavi.


Meeting began at 3:06 PM.


II. Mary Jane Casto (Director of University Computing and Network Services) made a presentation encouraging Committee support for Georgia State membership in SURA (Southeastern Universities Research Association) which would entail a $10,000 membership fee and $3,000 annual fees. Membership would enable GSU to participate in the decision making process which may shape the next generation of the Internet and SURA may provide some monetary support to assist in connecting to the next generation network. The committee decided to ask the Chair of Physics and Astronomy, the Vice President for Research, and the Provost for further information about the advantages of SURA membership.

III. Committee Reports
A. Joint Research/APACE Research Center Review Subcommittee (Chair and reporting, Mary Ann Romski)
   1. Gerontology Center Report
      The Subcommittee made 6 recommendations:
      1. The Gerontology Center should develop a set of guidelines for how faculty are recruited and affiliated with the Center.
      2. The Gerontology Center should develop a formal set of policies and procedures for (a) the distribution of monetary resources that are devoted to the research mission of the Center and (b) a set of procedures for assessing faculty accountability for their use of resources in support of the research mission of the Center.
      3. The Gerontology Center should develop a plan for broader faculty involvement in the research mission of the Center.
      4. The Gerontology Center should develop a five year strategic plan for research including goals and objectives in conjunction with the Center's advisory board.
      5. The Gerontology Center's Gerontology Certificate Program should be reviewed by the appropriate APACE committee for academic program review.
      6. The Gerontology Center should be reviewed again in three years to assess
progress in the implementation of these five recommendations and the research activities of the Center. After this review the Gerontology Center should be placed on a regular five year review cycle.

The report was unanimously approved.

2. Center for Sports Medicine, Science, and Technology
The Subcommittee made 3 recommendations:
   1. The Center should develop a clear differentiation between its research and service mission.
   2. The Center should develop guidelines for enhancing broad faculty recruitment.
   3. The Center should continue to generate external research grant support.

The report was unanimously approved.

3. Mary Ann Romski further reported that: (1) hearings were conducted today (4/6) on the proposed Center for Research on Atypical Development and Learning (CRADL); (2) the subcommittee intends to revise the process for reviewing (re-reviewing) Centers that have previously undergone subcommittee review; and (3) the subcommittee will revise, edit, and update a list of University Research Centers.

B. Strategic Planning Subcommittee (Chair and reporting, Chuck Derby)
Provost Ron Henry invited select Senate Chairs and interested administrators to lunch to meet Charles Glassick of the Carnegie Foundation who informed the group that the Foundation probably will conduct a new classification of institutions of higher education. However, planning has just begun and questions such as the threshold for determining Research I status, the date to be used to measure external research funding, or the possible revisions in the classification categories have not been addressed. Mr. Glassick strongly encouraged Provost Henry to write the Foundation concerning revisions in the classification scheme which would enable urban universities, such as Georgia State, that do not have medical, engineering, agricultural or public health professional schools to identify peer institutions.

C. Provost's Ad Hoc Committee for Research Administration (Chair, Dave Boykin; Chuck Derby reporting)
The committee requested proposals from management consultant/accounting firm to provide the committee with alternative models for integrating the activities of Grants and Contracts with the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs. Two proposals were submitted and a contract awarded to the firm of Coopers & Lybrand. It is anticipated that the work will be completed and a final report issued within the next month.

IV. New Business
The committee requested the Chair to take to the Senate Executive Committee for Senate-wide action a resolution previously passed by the Committee affirming support for a University policy that would set "the course buy-out rate," the rate that is charged an external sponsor to release a faculty member from teaching one (semester) course, at 1/9th of the faculty member's 9-month annual salary.
The action was unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 4:56 PM.

The next meeting of the Senate Research Committee will be on Monday, May 11 at 3:00 PM in 718 GCB.