Georgia State University
Senate Research Committee Meeting
August 21st, 2006
Minutes

Present: Donald Reitzes (Chair), Stephen Dobranski, Randy Malamud, P. C. Tai, Robin Morris, Vijay Vaishnavi, Robert Curry, Dabney Dixon, Bala Ramesh, Paul Alberto, Laura Fredrick, David E. Houchins, Albertha Barrett, Tim Bartness, Rodney Lyn, Amy Lederberg, Audrey Shilnikov, Rose Sevcik, Charles Derby, Anne Emanuel, Julian Diaz, Laurie Tu, Mary Ann Romski, Crawford Elliott and Shyamalie Wijeratne.

Dr. Reitzes called the meeting to order at 3:04 pm.

Approval of June 16th 2006 Meeting Minutes

The first order of business was approval of the minutes from the June 16th, 2006 meeting. A motion was passed for approval of the minutes. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved by those Committee members present.

Dr. Reitzes stated there were two primary issues for the committee meeting. One would be to discuss the recommendations by the IRB subcommittees that met in summer. The other is for Dr. Morris to give an update to what is new in the VP for Research area.

The Ad hoc IRB Subcommittee met during the summer. There were seven recommendations discussed:

- Increase the number of IRB Members from nine to fifteen to prevent them from being overworked.
- The representation on this committee should be proportional, based on the number of proposals submitted by each College.
- It should be served primarily by faculty who are at least at the Associate Professor level.
- The nominations to the IRB should come from College via the Provost. As Dr. Morris was appointed as the Institutional Official he will appoint them.
- Each College should make sure that the IRB members carry some substantial workload recognition.
- The provost provides $3000 per Committee member. This is due to the faculty members having considerable administrative work to perform when involved on this committee.
- There will be 3 year term limitations for members with possibility of one renewal.

A motion was passed in favor of all the above.

Dr. Morris introduced Ms. Shyamalie Wijeratne as the new Associate to the VP.

He also discussed that there had been some concerns expressed about public relations work done for the research area which was further discussed.

He also briefed the committee and answered questions about the following:

1. New Science Park
   They are working on getting the architect and construction managers contracts signed. There
are three bids by companies that want to do the underwriting for the bond issue.
We are working with real estate venture capitalist for the third building in the Science Park, which will be a Center for Advanced Collaboration.

2. GSURF Property
   There will be a new student housing for Graduate and International Students. The student groups are reviewing the design, layout and costs related to this. This will be on corner of Piedmont and Edgewood. This housing will come after leveling the current buildings.

3. New Science Resources Building
   This building is 95% completed and is expected to open in the next couple of weeks. This will be the new animal space.
   The position of Director of Animal Resources has been filled by Dr. Michael Hart, D.V.M. He will be coming from Texas Tech and will be commencing his duties on September 8th.

4. Moving Collabtech to facilities on Decatur Street which will provide additional lab space for science department before building. At present the contracts are being worked on. This will provide additional lab space for science department before buildings come up.

5. Working on Pounce Technologies proposal to attract venture capital to GSU intellectual properties and licensing. This will be a joint company with GSURF.

6. We have bought a high performance computer. We will hook it on to a High Performance Computing network called SURA (Southern University Research Association) with the help of IBM. It should be up and running by September. Talk to Art Vandenberg for more details.

7. Development of three new software systems to improve efficiency. They are eSirus for Animal Care, Chematix for Chemical Hazardous material inventory and Personal Effort Reporting. It is intended to integrate all three systems into a research portal that will improve usability by PI’s and Research Staff.

8. Completed Research Risk Review Process (COGR), will be developing plans for addressing high risk areas. Dr. Bob Curry will be providing information to committee relating to Export Controls.

9. The annual external funding report will be available at the next committee meeting.

10. Internal Grants funded. Amy will be providing a report to the committee.

11. Completed a Staff HR Review including reclassification and reorganization. This was done to pay staff competitive salaries to prevent the loss of employees to other universities. The staff will be provided with career tracks to enhance their career options.

12. There was a change in the name of the Research area to University Research Services and Administration. (University Research for short.) This will include all the units of Research that will come under its umbrella.
   First point of contact for the URSA will move to the 2nd floor of the Alumni Hall. Those people who used the office on the ground floor will now use this new reception area for any of their needs. This change will be with effect from September 5th.
   There will be one phone number for all contact which will be 1-4350 which will operate as the main phone number for University Research.
   The new reception area will track proposals and other urgent and time sensitive materials in the system from the receipt until return where applicable. Also there will be additional e-mail notifications of proposals.
   Improved information in Info-Ed which will be accessible to all users.
   Increased business or administrative efficiencies. There were new teams for OSP and RFS that were developed to reduce redundancy in system.
   Improve customer service with a new customer service survey – Those who will use the services of URSA will be selected randomly on a monthly basis.

13. New Educational Program for new faculty. There will be training for PI’s who are new to research or those who have new grants. There will be training of the administrative staff and faculty PI’s on DS2 policies and procedures, training on Grants.Gov. Dr. Lederberg is overseeing training in these areas.
14. Audits – Phase 1 DS2 audits have started. Internal Audit of Research Administration is being done.
15. NRC will be sending a survey to faculty and PhD students to obtain input on our academic programs. They will be rankings universities.
16. Export Control – There are certain requirements that have to be complied when doing business with certain international countries. The areas that are at risk have to be reviewed. This will also protect intellectual proprietary rights in the United States and also will take care of the security issues administered by Home Land Security. Dr. Curry will give an overview to the committee to keep them informed about these requirements at a future meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 4 05 p.m.