The meeting was called to order by the chair, Murray Brown, at 10:37 a.m. The first item of business was the approval of the April minutes. The minutes were approved with no changes.

The next item of business was a proposal to change various titles in the Senate Bylaws. This proposal would change the titles of the Registrar, Associate VP for Student Life, and the Director of Student Life and Leadership in various sections of the Senate Bylaws. This would bring the Bylaws in line with the current use of these titles. The motion was seconded and passed.

The next item of business was a subcommittee report by Amy Lederberg. Dr. Lederberg’s subcommittee was reviewing the proposal brought forward by Admissions and Standards concerning final action authority. At the last full Senate meeting, the motion was tabled and sent to this committee for review. She gave a brief summary of the initial proposal. The subcommittee met in May and reviewed the University Statutes and the BOR Statutes to see if a standing committee could have final action authority. The committee concluded that the Statutes state that a “Senate” must be the approving body and cannot pass that authority off to a committee. Upon reviewing the motions that the Admissions and Standards Committee have brought forward to the Senate in the past few years, the committee agreed that, although many of the items are quite technical, the faculty must be involved in the decision making process. The subcommittee recommended against this motion.

Dr. Brown opened the floor for discussion. Dan Franklin stated that it is not possible for a body to cede its legislative authority to a smaller subcommittee. There was some discussion of the proper parliamentarian process to follow at this point. It was agreed that the subcommittee’s report should be forwarded to the Executive Committee. Tim Crimmins stated that the raising of the Freshman Index and minimum SAT scores were all approved by the Senate and have contributed a great deal to the better-prepared class of students attending GSU. There was some discussion about the role of the Enrollment Management Group. Dr. Crimmins agreed to draft a few sentences on this topic and send them to Dr. Lederberg for inclusion in the subcommittee’s final report. Carol Winkler thinks there should be more involvement by the faculty when setting the admission requirements. Dr. Crimmins suggested that this committee could propose that the Senate discuss the structure and composition of the Enrollment Management subcommittee and the Strategic Planning subcommittee. A motion was made and seconded to approve the subcommittee’s report. The motion passed.

Dr. Lederberg proposed modifying the Bylaws (Article VII, Section 5C) by inserting the word “undergraduate” in the listing of the duties of the Admissions and Standards Committee. The text would then read “…policies regarding undergraduate enrollment management, requirements for undergraduate graduation...”. This was a suggestion from the chair of that committee, George Rainbolt. John Marshall stated that BOR policy doesn’t make that distinction. After a brief discussion, Dr. Lederberg withdrew her motion. Dr. Brown asked Dr. Lederberg to make the few agreed upon changes to the report and then forward it to him. He in turn will forward it to the Executive Committee and will send a copy to Mary Nell Stone for the committee file.

The next item of business was the proposal from the Cultural Diversity Committee regarding staff members serving on the University Senate. Dr. Brown summarized the proposal and how it got to its present form. Discussion continued on this item concerning staff on the Senate and on the proper parliamentarian procedure to follow regarding this proposal. It was agreed that SAC needs to develop a strong rationale for their position. A subcommittee was formed to work with SAC on this proposal: Dan Franklin, Murray Brown, Tim Crimmins (chair), Carol Winkler, and Donna Ferguson. Dr. Brown will inform Christine Gallant, chair of the Cultural Diversity Committee, that this committee is actively working on this proposal and that a subcommittee has been established for that purpose. Neven Valev moved that the proposal from Cultural Diversity, as presented, be considered for a vote. Dr. Brown seconded. Ellen Podgor moved that this motion be tabled. John Marshall seconded the motion to table. The question was called. The motion to table passed.
Dr. Brown asked the committee to review the report on the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies and provide any feedback directly to John de Castro. Dr. Brown referred to the document “Senate Committee Composition Review” and asked members to answer the questions and send responses to him. He will compile these and forward to John de Castro. It was agreed that the Committee of Chairs is welcome to gather this information but that any changes to Senate committee composition, and by extension the Statutes and Bylaws, must be routed through this committee for consideration. Discussion continued regarding the role of the Committee of Chairs. Since the Statutes and Bylaws Committee is the committee charged with reviewing any changes to the Statutes and Bylaws, the questionnaire that was distributed by the Committee of Chairs should have been coordinated with and routed through this committee. It was agreed that Dr. Brown should talk with the chair of that group.

The chair adjourned the meeting at 12:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary Nell Stone,
Committee Assistant