Deans' Group Minutes 12/14/05

In Attendance: Lauren Adamson, JL Albert, Roy Bahl, Joan Carson, Ron Colarusso, Anne Emanuel, Bill Fritz, Charlene Hurt, Fenwick Huss, Susan Kelley, Robin Morris. Ron Henry, Chair

The minutes of November 16, 2005 were approved.

Enrollment Update
Bill Fritz provided a handout on enrollment. There are 22,267 students registered for spring semester. The enrollment looks robust and freshmen are taking full loads. The deans mentioned problems this fall semester of students being dropped from their classes with small balances to pay. Bill Fritz mentioned that the GSU Foundation can provide monies to pay for small gaps in student's balances. The deans inquired about ways to notify students that they need to pay for their classes before being dropped. Bill Fritz commented that more alerts notifying students they need to pay will be in the GoSolar system. Ron Henry added that a guarantee should be provided to students when registration cancellations are found to be in error.

Bill Fritz referenced page two of the handout which shows the graduate application processing in the colleges. He asked the deans to encourage their graduate students to register for classes.

Graduate Tuition Waivers
Ron Henry commented on giving partial waivers. The Regent's policy waives in and out of state fees, but does mention providing partial waivers. The comment was made that the colleges could receive the waivers from the Provost and then let the deans decide if a student will receive a full or partial waiver.

Ron Henry provided a draft handout on the allocation of waivers and explained the breakdown for the colleges. He commented that providing health insurance for graduate students will impact the number of waivers the university will be able to provide.

The deans discussed the possible allocations in their colleges. It was noted that PhD students should be protected since they teach courses. Ron Henry concluded by commenting that further review will be needed before any final decisions are made on waivers.

Periodicals Costs
Charlene Hurt provided a handout showing the serials and monographs allocations for FY02-06. Charlene mentioned that scholarly publishing is down and there is more demand for journals online. Charlene commented that Georgia State is part of a consortium with other Georgia institutions to buy periodicals. The vendors provide a service to the consortium called bundling which makes purchasing in bulk less expensive. Charlene mentioned that some professors request specific journals to be available in the library, but only access them occasionally. The deans inquired about receiving data showing the usage of various journals on paper and online. The deans would like to review the data to see which journals to keep given the budget restraints. The deans mentioned that the importance and reputation of journals should be a deciding factor on keeping them available in the library.

Retention/Progression/Graduation Issue
Ron Henry mentioned that the University Senate did not pass the W policy. The policy has been tabled. There will be additional meetings with the Student Government Association leaders and more student forums in an attempt to garner support of the policy by George Rainbolt. Ron Henry commented that graduation rates should be higher with the new policy. He added that the students who have a large number of W's on their record tend to not graduate. The deans commented that some students use the first few days of the semester as a shopping period to determine if they plan to stay in a course. This trend could account for the W's students have on their record.
However, this indicates a need to clarify the difference between dropping a course and withdrawing from a course.

Any other business
Ron Henry mentioned that the Admissions and Standards Committee will consider a move to change the policy for Area A in the curriculum. The change will require that students need to complete Area A within the first two semesters of study. Students will be required to enroll in the courses in Area A until completed. This issue will need to be sent to the University Senate.

Fenwick Huss mentioned that some university issues may not need to be sent to the University Senate for approval and suggested that some decisions and changes could be settled by the Senate Committee itself. The deans commented that the charge of each Senate Committee needs to be reviewed by the Deans' Group.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 11, 2006, 9:30-11:30 a.m., Golden Key Board Room, 2nd Floor Student Center.