Deans' Group Minutes 9/13/06

In Attendance: Lauren Adamson, JL Albert, Joan Carson, Bill Fritz, Charlene Hurt, Steve Kaminshine, Fenwick Huss, Susan Kelley, Mike Metzler, Robert Moore, Robin Morris. Ron Henry, Chair
Visitors: Irene Duhaime, Robert Elmore, Donna Hader, Doug Podoll,

Approval of Minutes
The minutes of August 23 were approved.

Estimated Living Expenses
Doug Podoll discussed the handout on the proposed new figures for the Estimated Cost of Living per month at Georgia State University. Doug Podoll mentioned that the figures have not been fully adjusted for five years. The review of the new figures was prompted by large increases in the Monthly Maintenance Allowance used in support of the Fulbright program by the Institute of International Education. There have been adjustments to tuition and fee figures each year, but only minor adjustments in the living expenses.

Doug Podoll highlighted the handout section on Fulbright Host Departments. The handout mentions that graduate departments admitting new Fulbright Ph.D. students should be prepared to fund a 2 + 3 or more formula. A department needs to be prepared to match the Fulbright level of funding for each year of funding beyond the first two years.

Ron Henry inquired about how many Fulbright students are on campus this year. Doug Podoll answered that there are 30 Fulbright students which include continuing and new Fulbright students.

The discussion concluded with the agreement to move ahead on using the new figures outlined in the handout.

Enrollment update
Bill Fritz provided a handout on enrollment. The handout discussion focused on the data showing the Overview of Fall 2006 Enrollment. Bill Fritz mentioned that the Registrar's Office have made registration adjustments from department requests to add students back into their classes.

Bill Fritz highlighted various sections of the handout and the numbers for fall 2006. The Freshmen-Sophomore Retention is down 2-3% from a few years ago. The student body diversity is stable and unchanged from previous years. There are 159 countries represented in the enrollment of international students, which is an increase.

Managed Faculty Events (MFE) & Faculty Information Management System (FIMS)
Joan Carson mentioned that the MFE and FIMS will be the two systems the university will rely on for pulling data to complete the SACS Compliance Report. Joan Carson commented that various modules were tested by faculty for completing their information to be used in the college annual reports. Joan Carson reported that some of the data that was inputted did not upload which has caused concern.

Ron Henry took a moment to introduce Robert Elmore who recently joined the Human Resources staff as director of payroll services from the Board of Regents. Ron Henry asked the deans to introduce themselves.

The discussion continued on the concerns the deans have with the FIMS system. Fenwick Huss commented that the decision to implement the system should be pushed back due to the number of errors the College of Business faculty reported in reviewing their data. Fenwick Huss added that data in the modules needs to be reviewed for errors before taking the system live to the faculty. The suggestion was made to have Human Resources provide spreadsheets for the colleges to compare the data against their records. Bob Moore commented that the HR coordinator in the School of Policy Studies spent a considerable amount of time checking the data in the fields and found 25-30 errors. Irene Duhaime commented that the work of editing the data in the fields would be time-consuming for the college HR coordinators. Robert Elmore added that a one page report can be produced by Human Resources for each college to review and update. The report can then be returned to Human Resources so that their records can be updated with the correct information.

Donna Hader, from the Provost's Office, commented that the Banner and PeopleSoft systems do not talk to each other and any updates performed in one system do not get corrected automatically in the other. Donna Hader mentioned that she visited other universities this summer to get an idea of their practices with the faculty information systems. Donna Hader reported that the smaller system schools did not report any major problems with data input.
Lauren Adamson inquired if there is a way to hide the first two pages of the FIMS modules until the information is corrected and updated. Joan Carson commented that those pages are needed to begin completing the SACS Compliance Report due next September. The comment was made on finding a way to fix the data without the faculty having to see it with the errors that currently exist.

The deans commented that one data source is needed so that all information can be updated at once. Joan Carson agreed that a single system that can crosswalk into other systems such as PeopleSoft HR and Banner should be the goal for data warehousing. JL Albert commented that the various data modules and their structure will need to be reviewed before creating a single data source system. Bill Fritz mentioned that a member from the Banner Team should be involved with any efforts put forward to implement a single system.

Voluntary System of Accountability
Ron Henry addressed the handout on Voluntary System of Accountability (VSA) prepared by the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC). The discussion paper focuses on an effort to enhance university accountability. The VSA contains key measures that provide basic data to help students and parents find the university that best first their needs and gauges the degree to which students on various campuses engage with the learning process.

The deans discussed sections of the handout. Ron Henry commented that universities have to show core learning outcomes and students must take some responsibility for their education.

Any other business
There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

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