In Attendance: Lauren Adamson, Jim Alm, Irene Duhaime, Mary Finn, Bill Fritz, Charlene Hurt, Ron Colarusso, Steve Kaminshine, Susan Kelley, Robin Morris, Ron Henry, Chair

Visitors: Beth Jones, Amy Lederberg, Albertha Barrett

Approval of Minutes of May 30
The minutes of May 30, 2007 were approved

PERS – (Robin and Beth Jones)
Ron turned the floor over to Robin Morris to elaborate further on the guidelines the federal government has put out for PERS. Georgia State is in the process of rolling out their proposal to satisfy the new regulations. Universities across the country have suffered fines from the federal government due to their dysfunctional PERS systems. Some fines were even as large as $5,000,000. With our current PERS system, we have been very lucky. Many universities were misusing federal funds because they couldn’t document that they were certified on the amount of time actually used on grants. For those who borrow time off for a grant, you have to certify that the percentage of your time has been used on that grant. The main issue is effort reporting and effort commitment. In the past, there weren’t many reviews, but recently institutions have been hit. Georgia State has put together a minimalist policy and procedures to hopefully avoid any audits/fines. Unfortunately, the federal regulations don’t define what a basic certification for effort is. They leave it up to the institutions to define it. It has been hard to design a system to capture all the variations, but we have to standardize the language if we ever get audited.

Some of the issues we’ve come across include NSF not allowing you to buyout faculty time for research during the academic year. PIs and Directors of grants now have to have some percent of time, basically anything over 0%. Some of the things we’re struggling with include the certification process. Currently, we’re using a semester-by-semester method. Our other option is completing a monthly certification system. Several universities, including Emory and other medical schools use the monthly system. We are also thinking about applying an online certification system to implement into our Spectrum system.

Presently, the business managers in the departments have been certifying the staff and faculty members. We’ll gradually move to the PIs certifying themselves and their staff, while the faculty members do their own certification. Faculty and staff will need to be careful about over-committing themselves. The time will need to be over 0%, but cannot exceed 100%.

Several pilots will be rolled out to specific departments in the coming months. We expect issues to arise within the departments because the data will need to be set up. We would like to try at least 3-5 departments in each college. We’re also moving to have an interface with the HR payroll system, to allow you the opportunity to match what you have in HR with your effort system. Our goal also includes reducing the number of cost-transfers.

The Deans group members went through the proposal and made necessary suggestions. After the revised proposal is completed, chairs will meet with the Research members to get other suggestions, and possibly examples for every issue that may occur. University-wide certification for summer semester is expected in the fall, possibly October 8th.

Building Community (Mary and Doug Covey)
This discussion will be held off until the first dean’s group in August.

Background Checks
Ron Henry passed out a cover memo. He has received additional information that suggests that the cover memo is inaccurate. The Chancellor did not intend for the background checks to apply to internal promotions. Ron will get more information at the upcoming academic affairs summer retreat.

We do know that the background checks will be required of all new full time hires. It’s costly and time consuming. Jerry Rackliffe has estimated that it will potentially cost $200,000-$250,000. Though it states in the memo that this will become effective July 1st, we will await further information and clarification before proceeding.

**Student Loans update**
Bill Fritz passed out two handouts. Many institutions are getting into trouble with student loans, specifically preferred lenders. Georgia State is not vulnerable to this because we’re a direct lender. As a direct lender we manage the loans on behalf of the financial institution. The bad side of being a direct lender is that the default rate gets attributed to us. But Georgia State has been doing a good job, so fortunately we haven’t had this problem.

**Enrollment update**
Summer enrollment is good. We’ve had two fee cancellations and we’re going up by about 200-300 hundred credit hours a day. We will probably end at 111,000 credit hours. It’s not good for paid credit hours because the numbers that are up are the graduate students and not the undergraduate student. For the fall semester we’ve over 600 students signed up for the FLC program, with students signing up for all 55. Freshman applications are up by 900. We expect to reach the 5,000 accepted mark. With a look at Incept, we notice that the early July numbers are the same as last years. But the difference is in the July Incept. Last year the numbers dropped off to low enrollment, this year however, our July Incept is booked to capacity. Over 2,600 students are planned to attend Incept this summer, up from 2,200 last year.

With a look at housing, 1,400-1,500 freshmen have paid their deposits. This is up 400 students from last year. Spring is expected to be full as well with over 300 freshmen on the waiting list.

In August we will issue new Panthercards for everyone, including faculty and staff. The new Panthercards will not have the social security number embedded in coding.

Another issue we’re having is with the international graduate students and students who are here with Visas. The Visas prevent them from working more than 20 hours a week. At GSU, we understand that it takes more than 20 hours to work to get your degree. The problem is when our students go into other institutions such as the CDC, who take a strict interpretation of the regulation.

**Any other Business**
Ron stated that we will be moving ahead with a university-wide Honors Program. Recruitment for the program won’t begin until the fall semester of 2008.

Next Meeting: July 25, 2007 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the Golden Key Board Room, 2nd Floor Student Center