In Attendance: JL Albert, Lauren Adamson, Robert Moore (for Jim Alm) Mary Finn, Bill Fritz, Charlene Hurt, Fenwick Huss, Steve Kaminshine, Randy Kamphaus, Susan Kelley, Bob Sattelmeyer, Ron Henry, Chair

Approval of Minutes
The minutes of August 15, 2007 were approved.

Enrollment Update
Ron Henry turned the floor over to Bill Fritz. There is good news for this years’ fall enrollment; 27,107 are enrolled for the semester and those numbers are expected to increase by 5-10 each day. Final numbers for enrollment will not be available until October census date; however we expect to reach a total of 27,150 enrolled. We’re at 2,551 freshmen enrolled and our transfer numbers are over 2,000. Our freshman targets for next year are 2,800.

SAT scores dropped two points, yet it’s important to realize that the national average has dropped fourteen points and the state of Georgia’s has dropped eleven points. Our freshman to sophomore retention has increased to 82.3%, which is the highest in three years. Second-year to third-year retention rates have also increased and the six-year graduation rate has gone up to 47.1%. Diversity appears to be stable with a slight increase in Caucasian students and a slight decrease in African American students. However our ‘not reported’ percentages have increased to 14%, up from last year’s 11%.

We’ve generated the largest number of credit hours this semester. Our fiscal year targets were 725,000 credit hours, but we expect to hit 738,000 by the end of spring semester. Students are continuing to take higher loads of courses. Our average this semester per student is at 11.9 credit hours, which is a sign that Georgia State is becoming more traditional. We must be careful to handle the changes in classes and enrollment, and provide strategies to manage retention rates effectively.

P&T calendar
The University System has made changes in the course of action for promotions and tenures. Authority to award promotion and tenure has moved from the Regents to the President. Along with the awards, the president will report the percentage of tenure in each department to the BOR and defend the hiring plans if necessary.

Considering that the colleges will have to work incredibly hard to meet the earlier deadline, deans will have the chance to design the timeline themselves. Each dean will have the opportunity to discuss timeline ideas with their faculty. Recommendations and a final decision will be made in the coming weeks.

Strategies that relate to thematic goals
Overall retention efforts are working. Second year retention rates are heading in a positive trend. Our RPG reports exhibit good improvements, for example, in the section on advisement the Political Science department has performed particularly well.

Supplemental instruction has worked well in some areas.

Distance learning is becoming a major part of our agenda and we’ll have more discussion on this in the coming weeks.

USG Core Curriculum
Bill Fritz attended the kick-off steering team meeting. Discussion has surrounded the idea that the premises for the new core curriculum will be based on the students’ competency, not the courses they’ve have taken. In
the case of transfer students, it’s suggested that their skills would transfer, not courses. There is still a lot that is unknown, but questions will be answered in January when the system is having a three-day retreat for the assessment, steering, and competency committees. They anticipate bringing in consultants.

The request has come to all institutions to recommend a person on one of the two committees, of the most decisive being the design and assessment committee. The USG has estimated the complete process to take five years, with three years to develop the core and two years to implement.

**Any other business**
Ron Henry will be sending the deans emails for recommendations for the upcoming USG administrative workshop.

Next Meeting: September 26, 2007 from 9:30-11:30 a.m. in the Golden Key Board Room, 2nd Floor Student Center.