In Attendance: Lauren Adamson, J L Albert, Robert Moore (in for Jim Alm), Mary Finn, Nancy Seamans, Fenwick Huss, Steve Kaminshine, Robin Morris, Christine Rosenbloom (in for Susan Kelley), Tim Renick, Robert Sattlemeyer, Ron Henry, Chair

Visitors: Amy Lederberg, Tineke Battle

Approval of Minutes:

- The minutes of August 13, 2008 were approved.

Sponsored Funding Position hiring

- The senate budget and research committee put out a survey on the processes of hiring and raised a concern regarding the limited term professional position. The title has been used in many ways but its purpose is to hire people that you know are going to work for six (6) months to three (3) years. For sponsor-funded positions, we hire people for a specified role until the grant runs out. Colleges usually hire the employee on a limited term position, but the concern is that the grant can sometimes last longer than three years. Human resources (HR) has come up with a new category called the sponsored funded position. The final details are still being worked out. Essentially the new position entails that an employee has the job until the grant runs out. The wording on the offer letter will note that the position could either change or end at certain time. Amy Lederberg is proposing that the offer letter come from human resources as opposed to the P.I. The new system will give more control to the employers but will only have implications for staff members who are currently limited term (and on sponsored funds). HR will look into re-classifying employees on sponsored funds but are currently in the system as permanent.

The HR and research office has also looked into the length of time it takes to hire staff on sponsored funds. It has been proposed that a pre-approved list of titles (with salary ranges) be generated for employers. If employers opt to utilize one of the pre-approved titles, they can bypass the Class & Comp process and instead can directly post the position. While there is currently over four hundred (400) generic pre-approved titles, employers will have the option of going through the process of adding a title. Tineke Battle, HR representative, will be the single point of contact for P.I.’s with employment posting for the new sponsored funding position. The proposed timeline for the new position is currently at six (6) weeks, which may seem extended, but includes the period of advertising, paperwork, interviewing, etc. However, the HR and research office will revisit the proposed time period for ways to reduce it.

Enrollment/Budget update

Enrollment – Freshman enrollment numbers are a little over 2,750 and transfer numbers are at 2,050. The average G.P.A. for incoming freshman tied the all time high of 3.30. However, the freshman index is down, mainly because S.A.T scores declined from previous years. For instance, last year the S.A.T scores averaged 1090; this year’s SAT scores averaged 1081. There are two hundred (200) students signed up for the honors program this year. The associate provost office will step up their efforts on retention, at the same time they’ll try and gather data on the students we don’t retain.

Budget – Georgia State is receiving less money for each FTE student. While funding has increased by 18% for four-year institutions, the FTE cost has increased by 20%; decreasing total funding by 2%. No updates on the budget cuts. The Office of Planning and Budget expects a recommendation on the budget cuts by September 29, 2008. We should expect to hear a decision by early October. We can anticipate the budget cuts to be at least 6%.
**FIMS decentralization plan**

Although we are in the process of moving towards Digital Measures, a follow-up analysis shows that there are additional concerns. The system does work well for a faculty member, but there are limitations (you can only use internet explorer and the data extracted from FIMS into digital measures is overly simplified). Mary Finn is trying to get ad hoc information from department chairs and administrators to get their issues addressed by Digital Measures. Nevertheless, the recommendation for faculty members is to continue working on FIMS, the information from FIMS will be able to upload to Digital Measures as soon as the process is completed.

**University tuition, consumer choice, and affordability - discussion**

This will be a topic discussed at the upcoming Deans’ retreat.

**Any other business**

- The October 8 Deans Group meeting is canceled; Dr. Henry called for a special dean’s group meeting to be held on October 1, 2008.

Next Meeting: October 1, 2008 from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. in the Haverty Room, 8th floor, Urban Life Building.