MINUTES
UNIVERSITY SENATE
April 19, 2000


ORDER: The chair, President Carl Patton, called the meeting to order at 2:08 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the March 23, 2000, meeting were approved with no amendments.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR: President Patton stated that the Board of Regents had been on campus yesterday and today. He thanked those present who helped with tours and other arrangements for the Regents. They had a very good visit and were impressed with the quality of our students.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Election of the 00-01 Executive Committee. Dr. Patton announced that he was opening the floor for nominations and that Gayla Domke would record the names on the board. The following Senators were nominated from the floor.

- Hugh Hudson, College of Arts and Sciences
- John Newman, J. Mack Robinson College of Business
- Paul Alberto, College of Education
- Fred Jacobs, J. Mack Robinson College of Business
- Anne Emanuel, College of Law
- Julie Hotchkiss, Andrew Young School of Policy Studies
- John de Castro, College of Arts and Sciences

Since there were no more nominations, the nominations were closed. Dr. Patton asked the Senators to complete their ballots. The ballots were collected to be tallied. While waiting for the results, the chair continued with new business.

B. Consideration of the Strategic Plan 2000-2005. The chair called on Lauren Adamson, chair of the Senate Planning and Development Committee, to introduce this item. She gave a brief history of the formulation of this current plan and of the amendments to the plan. The first amendment, submitted by Bob Sattelmeyer, was considered as a friendly amendment and approved by both the Planning and Development Committee and the Executive Committee. It will be incorporated into the document. The two amendments proposed by Nancy Floyd have been withdrawn. Dr. Adamson moved for the adoption of the Strategic Plan as amended. The motion was seconded. Since there was no discussion, the question was called and the motion passed.

Dr. Patton thanked the Senate for its hard work in the crafting of this document. He stated that it is very helpful to include the Strategic Plan with our budget documents when meeting with the Board of Regents.

C. Nominations Report presented by the Nominations Committee; Dave Vanko, chair. Dr. Vanko introduced the Nominations Report that was included in the packets distributed to the Senators before the meeting. There were a few amendments to that report which were submitted to the committee in the week before this meeting. A handout with these changes was given to each Senator attending today’s meeting. Dr. Vanko moved that the report and these amendments be approved by the Senate. The motion was seconded. Dr. Patton opened the floor for discussion. There were several nominations from the floor: Tim Crimmins nominated Don Reitzes to Research and APACE, Al Baumstark nominated P.C. Tai to Research; Hugh Hudson
nominated James Heitzman to Planning and Development; Diane Willen nominated Dave Pavesic to Faculty Affairs. Dr. Vanko stated that the committee had requested that when someone is nominated from the floor that person's status (Senator or non-Senator; elected or not elected) be stated. The committee wants to maintain the balance between elected and non-elected as much as possible. The question was called. The Nominations Report was approved as amended.

Dr. Patton called on Hugh Hudson to introduce the motions on today's agenda. Dr. Hudson called on President Patton to report on the Provost/Vice President for Academic Affairs' triennial evaluation. Dr. Patton stated that the Provost received a very positive response on his evaluation. Dr. Patton and the Senate Executive Committee met with the Provost to discuss the evaluation. Dr. Patton had distributed a summary of that statement to all designated evaluators in early April. A copy will be made available to anyone else who requests one. Dr. Patton wanted to personally compliment the Provost on the good work that he has done and the positive review he has received.

Dr. Hudson next called on Provost Henry to report on the evaluations of the Dean of the Robinson College of Business and the University Librarian. Dr. Henry thanked all who participated in these evaluations. Dr. Henry and the Senate Executive Committee discussed the evaluation reports along with the various comments that were made. They agreed on the statements for both administrators and those statements were sent to the faculty of the RCB and to the faculty and staff in the library.

Dr. Hudson reported that Dr. Patton, in consultation with the Executive Committee, has appointed Don Reitzes as an appointed Senator for 2000-2001. This was not reflected in the handout in the Senators' packets.

D. Dr. Hudson stated that the Executive Committee recommends a "do pass" on all motions.

1. **Motion to approve Senate calendar dates** presented by the Executive Committee; Hugh Hudson, chair. These dates correspond roughly to the dates of last year's Senate meetings. The question was called. The motion passed.

2. **Motion to increase TOEFL scores** presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This proposal raises the TOEFL score required for undergraduate admission. It is in line with BOR standards and consistent with efforts undertaken by GSU to increase admissions standards. The question was called. The motion passed.

3. **Motion to approve a conditional admission program of non-native speakers of English** presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This proposal will create a conditional admission program for non-native English speakers who do not meet the TOEFL admission requirement. This would be effective Summer 2001. The question was called. The motion passed.

4. **Motion to revise the In Progress (IP) grade notation** presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. The text in the undergraduate catalog implies that the IP grade may only be used in graduate courses. This is not current practice and this motion would revise the text to reflect current practice. The question was called. The motion passed.

5. **Motion to approve the academic calendar for 2001-2002** presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. On this calendar fall semester commencement is on a Monday. It was thought that having commencement while the university is open would allow graduates to show family and friends the campus during regular hours. Guests could see how attractive GSU is and could gather information regarding admission and programs offered while the various offices are open for business. A question was raised regarding parking. Dr. Rainbolt responded that there would be no parking problems, as classes would not be in session. The question was called. The motion passed.

6. **Motion to approve an expansion of employee benefits policy** presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee; Diane Willen, chair. This came out of the benefits subcommittee and has been endorsed by the full committee. This proposal would provide any benefits that do not require BOR approval to domestic partners of faculty on the same basis that they are provided to faculty spouses. The motion was seconded. The floor was opened for discussion. Tom Whalen asked for the rationale for the exclusion of blood relatives as eligible for domestic partner benefits. Dr. Willen stated that they are not considered "spousal" by definition. Greg Lewis stated that the text was drafted by College of Law professor Victor Flatt and the intention was to recognize relationships that were parallel to marriages. Dr. Whalen moved to amend the document by removing the reference that blood relatives are not eligible. This motion failed due to lack of a second. The question was called. The motion passed.

7. **Motion to approve changes to the benefits section of the faculty handbook** presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee; Diane Willen, chair. This proposal will make the text up-to-date and reflect current practices. It also adjusts all references in the text from quarters to semesters. It is not producing or generating any new policy. The
question was called. The motion passed.

8. **Motion to approve a policy on part-time instructors** presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee; Diane Willen, chair. A subcommittee has been examining PTI issues for the past two years and the intent of this document is to create, promote, and reinforce a professional and collegial atmosphere for those working as PTIs. The committee initially wanted this policy statement to include a recommendation that minimum compensation would be $3000 for a three-hour course for budget year 2001. At the request of the Executive Committee, the monetary sum was not included in this document, but this amount is being sent forward to the Budget Committee for review. The floor was opened for discussion. Dean Abdelal had some concerns with lines 84 - 89. By stating that one of the university's priorities is to give PTIs "access to a computer, a telephone, . . . and a space where they can confer with students", it may produce a mandate that will be difficult for the university to provide. Space is always an issue. He is concerned as to how this section will be interpreted. Dr. Willen responded that the committee was sensitive to this issue and that the word "space" can refer to shared, common space rather than exclusive office space. Dr. Abdelal called for the Provost to comment on this prior to the Senate voting on this proposal.

Dr. Henry stated that this issue is similar to the issue the Executive Committee had when a dollar amount for compensation was included in the document. This is not a good budget year and there is no money to increase PTI compensation or space. The university has many priorities but it doesn't mean that we will absolutely provide what is indicated in the document. It is more like a goal that the university is trying to reach. It is not an absolute. To reiterate, there will be no more space available this year but the university will continue to work towards the goal of providing space for PTIs to have access to phones and PCs and to be able to confer easily with students. The question was called. The motion passed.

9. **Motion to approve statements on oral communication and computer competency** presented by the APACE Committee; John Newman, chair. This proposal defines oral communication and computer competency. It will allow the university to demonstrate to SACS that we are in compliance with the criteria addressing oral and computing competency. A Senator asked how these competencies would be assessed. Tim Crimmins responded that Web CT would be introduced into a number of required core courses. Both oral communication and computer competency will be assessed in the major through academic program review. All departments have specified courses in which there are oral and computing requirements that are appropriate for their majors. The assessment of the major will assess the effectiveness of their oral and computing instruction. The question was called. The motion passed.

10. **Motion to allow the APACE Committee to serve as the petitions committee for student petitions involving areas A-E of the core curriculum** presented by the APACE Committee; John Newman, chair. This proposal would allow the Undergraduate Council of APACE to serve as an appeals committee that functions in a similar manner and as a companion committee to the appeals committee of Admissions and Standards. The Undergraduate Council would hear petitions involving the core whereas Admissions and Standards will continue to handle petitions involving other academic regulations. The question was called. The motion passed.

11. **Motion to adopt a policy on the core curriculum** presented by the APACE Committee; John Newman, chair. GSU does not currently have a policy or procedure for making changes to the core curriculum and this proposal would become the approved policy. The question was called. The motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS: The chair asked if there were any old business. Dr. Henry stated that one of the constructive criticisms that he received on his evaluation was that he needed to communicate more with the faculty. He stated that he would be doing that by giving periodic email broadcasts and publishing news in the Insider. He announced that Katherine Johnson, from the University of Minnesota, will be assuming the Vice President for Finance and Administration position beginning July 10. The other two searches, for the Vice Presidents of Student Services and Research and Sponsored Programs, are in their final stages. Dr. Keppler announced that the Student Government elections are being held this week and the student representatives to the Senate and Senate committees should be known soon. Dr. Henry announced that the Board of Regents has passed the FY01 budget; however, the details are not known at this time. We should know the details in the next few days. On Tuesday, April 25, FACP will be meeting with respect to the allocation for FY01. There is still a lot of work to do. The BOR did approve a technology fee for all campuses and for Georgia State that fee will be $75.00 a semester. No other student fees were approved with two exceptions, one at Georgia Tech and one at Georgia State. In our case, they approved a $2.00 increase for Student Center fees. The BOR also approved a tuition increase. Tim Crimmins announced that Senate information and committee minutes are available on the Senate website (www.gsu.edu/senate). This is a good way to find out about financial and planning decisions that are being made. It is a good source for information. Lauren Adamson announced the organizational meeting for the Planning and Development Committee will be on April 27 at 1:00 p.m. in 315 AH. Bob McGinnis announced that the Faculty/Staff Campaign is about to close and it is currently at 60% participation. The goal this year was 78%. Dr. Patton teased Dr. McGinnis by asking if Dr. McGinnis would dye his hair purple if we reached the goal this year. Dr. McGinnis replied that if the campaign reached 85% he would dye his hair purple.
RECESS: Because the tallying of the ballots had not been completed, the chair recessed the meeting at 2:55 p.m.

RECONVENED: The chair reconvened the meeting at 3:04 p.m. and announced the following Senators' names who will serve on the Executive Committee for 2000-2001:

  John Newman, J. Mack Robinson College of Business  
  Hugh Hudson, College of Arts and Sciences  
  Paul Alberto, College of Education  
  John de Castro, College of Arts and Sciences  
  Anne Emanuel, College of Law  
  Fred Jacobs, J. Mack Robinson College of Business.

ADJOURNMENT: Since there was no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

 Gayla Domke, Secretary  
 University Senate  

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