PRESENT: Senate members: Glenn Abney, Lauren Adamson, Lisa Armistead, Benjamin Baez, Pam Barr, Al Baumstark, Jeff Benson, James Boles, Cathy Brack, Greg Brack, Shelia Bradley, Michelle Brattain, Kyle Bruner, Laura Burtle, Joan Carson, David Cheshier, Barry Chung, Ron Colarusso, Dean Dabney, Rashida Davis, Hector Fernandez, Martin Fraser, Bill Fritz, Christine Gallant, Sandra Garber, Cecelia Grindel, Steve Harmon, Ron Henry, Hugh Hudson, Fenwick Huss, Fred Jacobs, Ralph LaRossa, Amy Lederberg, Peter Lyons, Steve Manson, John Marshall, Charles Marvin, Ramona Matthews, Al McWilliams, Jean Miller, Richard Miller, Sandra Miller, Mary Morris, Tom Netzel, John Newman, Yi Pan, Carl Patton, John Peterson, Nancy Peterman, Cherise Peters, Marcia Pearl, Charlotte Petrek, Cora Presley, George Rainbolt, Bala Ramesh, Donald Reitzes, Tim Renick, Mary Ann Romski, Debbie Rupp, Hazel Scott, Mary Shoffner, Debra Snell, Tammy Sugarman, Andrew Sumner, P. C. Tai, Susan Talburt, Cherian Thachenkary, Corey Thompson, Vijay Vaishnavi, Sally Wallace, Bill Waugh, Marta White, Leslie Williams, Jim Wolk, Mary Zeigler. Others attending: Matthew Momtahan, Rebecca Stout.

ORDER: The chair, President Carl Patton, called the meeting to order at 1:38 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the December 11, 2003, Senate meeting were approved with no amendments.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR: Dr. Patton has no new information about the state budget; however, he is spending time working on various issues. We want the state to continue to fully fund the formula that drives the budget that we receive from the state. Another priority issue is salaries. Dr. Patton supports a merit increase for employees. Georgia State has a $5 million dollar minor capital project to make infrastructure improvements to the campus. It’s important to secure state funds for these kinds of improvements. Georgia State does not have any major capital projects this year. Even with the difficult budget issues facing us, good things are happening here at Georgia State.

NEW BUSINESS: The Executive Committee recommends a “do pass” on the following agenda items.

1. **Motion to amend the membership list of the Cultural Diversity Committee** presented by the Statutes and Bylaws Committee; Amy Lederberg, chair. This proposal would add the words "at least" to the membership list. This would allow the committee some flexibility in appointing more than 12 faculty members to the committee. The question was called. The motion passed.

2. **E-Mail Voting Policy** presented by the Statutes and Bylaws Committee; Amy Lederberg, chair. This proposal would amend the Bylaws (Article IV.) to allow e-mail voting. The motion was seconded. Dr. Lederberg explained the rationale for this proposal. The floor was opened for discussion. A change to the second line was suggested: “At least a majority of the entire committee must vote before an electronic vote can be considered valid.” Dr. Lederberg accepted this friendly amendment. There was much discussion about the notion of objecting to the email vote and the voting timeline. John Marshall, Senate parliamentarian, was asked by the chair to address the issue. Dr. Marshall explained that the proposal allows for a committee member who didn’t get to participate in the electronic vote the opportunity to ask for the item to be reconsidered. Dr. Marshall recommended that the basic issue of email voting be addressed at this Senate meeting in order to settle the matter one way or the other. Tom Netzel suggested the third line be amended to read: "If a committee member objects to using electronic voting for a particular motion at the time of the vote, the motion will be acted upon at delayed to an official meeting.” Dr. Lederberg accepted that as a friendly amendment. The question was called. The amended motion passed.

3. **Motion to rename and revise the administrative withdrawal policy** presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. Dr. Rainbolt directed the Senators to review the revised version of this motion that was distributed as they came in. This motion amends the policy to be in line with the ADA. Rather than imply a judgment on the student’s mental state, the revised policy addresses the student’s behavior. The question was called. The motion passed.

4. **Motion to revise the add/drop policy** presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This proposal will encourage students to drop themselves from classes rather than forcing faculty to go through the paperwork to drop students who are not attending. There was discussion about prerequisite checking. The question was called. The motion passed.

5. **Motion to revise the general education outcomes** presented by the APACE Committee; John Newman, chair. This proposal revises the general education outcomes that the Senate previously passed. Amy Lederberg proposed changing #2 under goal 1 to read: “Students communicate effectively using appropriate
oral or sign conventions and formats.” Dr. Newman accepted this friendly amendment. Tom Netzel proposed changing #2 under goal 5 to read: “Students effectively translate problem situations into their symbolic representations . . .” This was accepted as a friendly amendment. Another change requested was to #1 under goal 6: “Students effectively use computers and other technology appropriate to their discipline.” This was accepted as a friendly amendment. The question was called. The motion passed.

The chair then recognized Hugh Hudson. Dr. Hudson requested that the rules be suspended in order to discuss a proposal distributed as the Senators came in regarding Senate Resolution 661. The chair granted this request. Dr. Hudson gave background information and explained his reservations about Senate Resolution 661. He proposed that the Senate Executive Committee express the will of the body by forwarding a memo to the Senate Committee on Higher Education stating that Georgia State University Senate does not want SR 661 passed. The question was called. The motion passed. There was one abstention.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

APACE (John Newman, chair): The committee met recently. The committee passed the proposal for the creation of the Doctor in Physical Therapy degree and passed the APR self-study on the Department of Communication.

Admissions and Standards (George Rainbolt, chair): In addition to today’s motions, the committee has been working with the Registrar’s Office to reduce the paperwork involved in course adjustments and grade changes. The committee is also looking at grade distributions in core courses.

Athletics (Andy Sumner; chair): The committee met this week. The committee was pleased to learn that the NCAA decided to eliminate its requirement on interim reports.

Budget (Fenwick Huss; chair): The committee met in January and the agenda items included ’04 update, approval of the budget priorities subcommittee report, discussion and input on potential areas of focus, quality, and centrality, and an update on MRRs.

Commencement (Carl Patton; chair): The next meeting is February 23.

Committee of Chairs (Sally Wallace; chair): The committee has met once and discussed email voting, the Senate calendar, and budget priorities issues.

Cultural Diversity (Cora Presley, chair): The committee has met twice and is working on several items. It is working on the campus climate survey for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered members of the GSU community. Several committee members are on the university ad hoc committee on African-American male students. This committee is identifying barriers, gathering data, and making recommendations on how to increase the representation of African-American males on campus. The committee is also working with Carolyn Gard on access to WebCT for visually impaired students.

Executive (Sally Wallace; chair): The committee has met twice. In addition to the items presented today, the committee has been developing and finalizing the charge for the ad hoc committee on non-regular faculty.

Faculty Affairs (Cherian Thachenkary; chair): The committee has been working on a number of issues. The two primary ones are: the policy on senior lecturers and the online student evaluation process.

FACP (Ron Henry; chair): The committee has met several times. A calendar has been set for new money requests from VPs and Deans. There will be hearings in February on these requests. Evaluation teams have been set up in five administrative areas. These teams will report back to FACP by the end of February.

IS&T (Marty Fraser; chair): The committee met in January. An IS&T subcommittee, along with a Research subcommittee, has produced and submitted a proposal to NSF for a high performance server to replace Cheetah. A guide to university information system use policies was requested by the Deans and the committee has reviewed the document IS&T developed and suggested some changes. The migration to VISTA was discussed.

Library Advisory (Mona Matthews, chair): The committee has met once. It discussed the upcoming review of the Library’s administrative support unit. The library has created a web site to provide information on the current crises and cost of scholarly publications. It can be accessed on www.library.gsu.edu.

Nominations (Basil Mattingly, chair): No report.
Planning and Development (P. C. Tai; chair): The committee has met twice and passed the action plan for the coming year. It has received several reports from its subcommittees.

Research (Don Reitzes, chair): The committee has met twice. It is working on two policies: an openness in research policy and a scholarly integrity policy.

Statutes and Bylaws (Amy Lederberg; chair): In addition to today’s items, the committee is discussing the Senate calendar and an addition to the Statutes on ORP eligibility.

Student Discipline (Sam Cox; chair): No report.

Student Life and Development (Rebecca Stout; chair): The committee has met once. It has approved 14 charters for new student organizations and made three changes to the Code of Conduct.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Since there was no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Nell Stone
Secretary to the Senate