MINUTES
UNIVERSITY SENATE
March 16, 2006


ORDER: The vice chair, Provost Ron Henry called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the December 8, 2005, Senate meeting were approved with no changes.

NEW BUSINESS: The Executive Committee recommends a "do pass" on the following agenda items:

1. Motion on RCB Dual Degrees presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This proposal will allow a student who has earned a BBA degree to return to GSU in the future and pursue another BBA degree. The question was called. The motion passed.

2. Motion to Admission of High Ability CPC Deficient Students presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This proposal will allow high achieving students who have not completed all CPC requirements to be eligible for admission. There will be a cap on the number of students admitted under this policy. The question was called. The motion passed.

3. Motion on Regarding Distribution of Syllabi presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This proposal would require teaching faculty to distribute a copy of the course syllabus to each student in their classes by the end of the first meeting of the class. Cherian Thachenkary suggested a friendly amendment: to state that the syllabus can be in print or electronic form. Dr. Rainbolt accepted the friendly amendment. The question was called. The motion passed.

4. Motion to Limit the Number of "W" grades presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This proposal will limit the number of times that a student can withdraw from a class with a grade of "W" to only 6 times in a career at Georgia State. It would also end the current practice of allowing a "WF" grade when a student withdraws before the midpoint. The motion was seconded. The floor was opened for discussion. Provost Henry pointed out that per the Senate Bylaws, only Senators have the privilege of voting and non-members will have the privilege of the floor only when provided for by the University Senate. It was moved and seconded that non-members be allowed to speak about this proposal. The question was called and the motion passed.

   There was a lengthy discussion and both Senators and non-Senators stated their reasons for supporting or opposing this proposal. In the course of the discussion, several issues were brought up: the current overload policy, the GSU-62 program, the Hope Scholarship, course shopping, the plateau fee structure, retention rates and programs initiated to improve retention, non-traditional students, current advisement services, and disabled students and ADA compliance issues. Tim Crimmins proposed amending the proposal to accept a recommendation from Cherian Thachenkary to allow all 6 "W" grades to be floaters. The amendment was seconded and the discussion was then focused on the amendment. After a brief discussion, the question was called on the amendment. The amendment passed. Dr. Rainbolt will need to revise the policy statement to reflect this amendment if the policy to limit "W" grades is passed. An affirmative vote was taken on closure and the floor was closed to any further discussion. The question was called on the amended proposal. The amended proposal passed.

5. Report from the Joint Committee on Compensation presented by the Budget and Faculty Affairs Committees; Hugh Hudson, chair. This resolution urges GSU to work actively with the USG, the BOR, and the State Legislature to secure reasonable pay raises, to hold increases in the employee share of fringe benefits commensurate with pay raises, and to return
to the practice of making pay raises effective on July 1 of the new fiscal year. The question was called. The motion passed.

7. **Approve Policy Statement on Visiting Faculty** presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee; Cecelia Grindel, chair. This proposal states that visiting faculty shall have no voting rights on either promotion/tenure or hiring of faculty. The question was called. The motion passed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

**Academic Programs** (Dean Dabney for Sara Weigle, chair): The committee has met several times and continues to process APR documents. It has also been reviewing various degree and certificate programs.

**Admissions and Standards** (George Rainbolt, chair): In addition to the items presented today, the committee is reviewing the completion rates of area A of the core curriculum. Feedback on the retention report is welcomed. The BOR has approved a temporary three-year policy on plus/minus grading at GSU and UGA.

**Athletics** (Laurie Tis, chair): The Athletics Department received a positive academic progress rate report. The football feasibility study RFP went out. The redevelopment of the Panthersville complex is active with the focus on improved facilities for tennis, golf, soccer, and track.

**Budget** (Hugh Hudson, chair): The committee has met twice and passed the recommendation for budget priorities. The committee passed the following resolution on 1/26/06 and forwarded it to FACP: “In accessing budget cuts and other considerations FACP should take into serious account the formula means whereby the University is funded by the BOR and the corresponding increases or decreases in funding produced by budgetary units. Simple across the board actions are not advisable.”

**Commencement** (Carl Patton, chair): No report.

**Cultural Diversity** (Cora Presley, chair): The committee has met several times. It completed its recommendations on the LGBT survey and forwarded them to the Executive Committee. In January the recommendations were revised and subsequently approved by the CDC. These revised recommendations were then forwarded to the Provost. It has completed its analysis of the quantitative and qualitative data from the Campus Cultural Climate Survey and is now writing the final report. The committee received its annual report from the Affirmative Action Office.

**Executive** (Paul Alberto, chair): The committee will be reviewing the reports on the administrator evaluations and will have the public reports at the April Senate meeting.

**Faculty Affairs** (Cecelia Grindel, chair): The committee is meeting regularly and is working on three items: NTT governance, release from tenure track time, and the PTI handbook review.

**FACP** (Ron Henry, chair): The committee has met several times and will be holding budget hearings soon. The committee is looking at strategies for dealing with continued budget shortfalls.

**IS&T** (Raj Sunderraman for Yi Pan, chair): The committee has met twice. Several issues have been discussed: student printing credits and costs, security and email systems, and forming the tech fee subcommittee. The tech fee subcommittee met and discussed several budgetary issues.

**Library** (Dave Pavesic, chair): No report.

**Nominations** (Dean Dabney, chair): The committee met once and approved changes to its structure for the Senate self-study.

**Planning and Development** (Tim Crimmins for P.C. Tai, chair): The committee has met several times. It passed the annual action plan of the strategic plan and has recommended approval of three different physical development plans.

**Research** (Tim Crimmins for Don Reitzes, chair): The committee has met several times. It has been updated on pandemic influenza planning, reviewed and passed reports on six research centers, and is working with the Research Office to increase efficiency.

**Student Discipline** (Val Miller, chair): The committee meets as needed to hold hearings.

**Student Life and Development** (Rebecca Stout, chair): The committee has met twice. It approved 16 new student organizations and has been working on changing its committee composition.

**University Statutes and Senate Bylaws** (Carol Winkler for Marti Singer, chair): The committee is reviewing the various proposals to
amend committee memberships. It is hoped to have a motion before the Senate at the April meeting.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Since there was no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Nell Stone
Secretary to the Senate