MINUTES
UNIVERSITY SENATE
October 5, 2006


ORDER: The vice chair, Provost Ron Henry called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the April 20, 2006, Senate meeting were approved with no changes.

COMMENTS BY THE VICE CHAIR: Dr. Henry stated that everyone is pleased with the enrollment for this semester. Georgia State has over 26,100 students this semester and credit hours are up. On September 28 there was a topping off ceremony for the University Commons. Plans are for this residence hall to open Fall 2007. At the upcoming BOR meeting, the university will be requesting permission to sell the University Village. There will be a groundbreaking ceremony for the new Science Park on October 10. The governor and other dignitaries will be there for the ceremony.

NEW BUSINESS: Dr. Henry announced that the Master Plan Executive Summary that is listed as an information item would actually be presented as a formal proposal. The Executive Committee recommends a “do pass” on the following agenda items:

1. **Procedures for the creation of new degree programs and majors** presented by the Academic Programs Committee; Tim Renick, chair. The Senate is already using these procedures, however, the SACS guidelines state that the procedures should be written down and published. Approval of this proposal will put GSU in compliance with the SACS guidelines. The question was called. The motion passed.

2. **Addendum to the April 20 Nominations Report** presented by the Nominations Committee; Don Reitzes for Dean Dabney, chair. The changes indicated are as a result of the election of student senators and various changes in faculty Senators and in the administration. The question was called. The motion passed.

3. **Motion to amend the non-discrimination policy in the University Statutes** presented by the University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee; Marti Singer, chair. This proposal will formally update the Statutes to be in alignment with the University’s Civil Rights and Equal Employment Opportunity Statement. The motion was seconded. Mindy Stombler proposed a friendly amendment: to add the term “gender”. This was accepted as a friendly amendment. The question was called. The motion passed.

4. **Motion to amend the University Statutes with updated titles** presented by the University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee; Marti Singer, chair. This proposal will make the appropriate corrections of various administrative titles and Senate committee names. The question was called. The motion passed.

5. **Master Plan Executive Summary** presented by the Planning and Development Committee; Al Baumstark for P.C. Tai, chair. The committee endorses and recommends the approval of this executive summary. The question was called. The motion passed.

Information Items distributed to Senators: motion regarding GPA required for graduation and graduating requirement for graduate degrees.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Academic Programs (Tim Renick, chair): The committee has met twice. Issues the committee is working on are: the Quality Enhancement Plan (QEP) for the University, a new core course in area D, a proposal for a BA in Applied Linguistics, and several program reviews.
Admissions and Standards (George Rainbolt, chair): The withdrawal date is October 16. The committee has been working on the summer academic calendar and on issues involving the SACS accreditation process.

Athletics (Laurie Tis, chair): The spring academics report shows that the athletes have the highest GPA ever, with a 2.92 for the men and a 3.01 for the women. Many honors were awarded this past year. The Panthersville complex upgrade is underway. The football feasibility study will be completed at the end of October. The committee will be reviewing the findings. Basketball tickets can now be purchased through payroll deduction. NCAA recertification began last week and will be ongoing for about 18 months.

Budget (Hugh Hudson, chair): The handout distributed as the Senators arrived was from the Budget Committee. This detailed a joint resolution with the Faculty Affairs Committee regarding recent changes to the Optional Retirement Plan (ORP).

Commencement (Carl Patton, chair): No report.

Cultural Diversity (Christine Gallant, chair): The committee has met three times. It has finalized the racial climate report and forwarded it along with an executive summary of the report to the Executive Committee. Subcommittees have been formed to address the lack of racial diversity in the higher administration and to address the difficulties of access to our campus by the disabled.

Executive (Paul Alberto, chair): The committee will hold its annual retreat on October 20. Topics to be covered are the racial climate report, tenure-track faculty and student engagement with the university.

Faculty Affairs (Cecelia Grindel, chair): The committee has met once. It has been working on the joint resolution with the Budget Committee, revising the PTI handbook, and the evaluations of administrators.

FACP (Ron Henry, chair): The committee has met twice but hasn't really looked at the budget yet as figures haven't been made available. The committee has also been examining processes and procedures around the university, particularly in Enrollment Services and Human Resources.

IS&T (George Pullman, chair): The committee has met twice.

Library (Missy Cody, chair): The committee will be focusing on issues surrounding the institutional repository. The committee commends the library faculty and staff for being flexible during the library transformation project.

Nominations (Don Reitzes for Dean Dabney, chair): The committee compiled the addendum that was approved today.

Research (Don Reitzes, chair): The committee has met three times. It has recommended to the Provost that the Institutional Review Board (IRB) increase the number of faculty members and that these faculty members come from colleges that use the IRB.

Planning and Development (Al Baumstark for P.C. Tai, chair): The committee has endorsed the master plan. Several ASUR reports have been reviewed and accepted. Subcommittees have been set up and are working on various issues.

Student Discipline (Val Miller, chair): No report

Student Life and Development (Elisabeth Burgess, chair): The committee has met twice. It continues to approve student charters and is working on several policy issues.

University Statutes and Senate Bylaws (Marti Singer, chair): The committee has met once and discussed and approved the items on today’s agenda. The committee is continuing to work on Senate committee membership changes.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

ADJOURNMENT: Since there was no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:26 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Nell Stone
Secretary to the Senate