MINUTES
UNIVERSITY SENATE
December 6, 2007


ORDER: The chair, President Carl Patton, called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the October 4, 2007, Senate meeting were approved with no changes.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR: President Patton began his comments by thanking everyone for their hard work and support during his time here at Georgia State. We are one step closer to the Science Park; there was a successful bonds sale recently. In order to reach our enrollment goals, we need to supply additional housing. The goal is to add approximately 500 new beds a year over the next decade. Next April we will break ground on two new residence halls.

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

1. **Motion on academic recognitions** presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This proposal changes the name of the Faculty Scholar recognition to President’s List. This will be in line with UGA and Tech. The question was called. The motion passed.

2. **Motion to revise the credits awarded for IB exams** presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This motion updates Georgia State’s IB credits. Several additional subject areas have been added. Departments can change the credit awarded at will if necessary. The question was called. The motion passed.

3. **Motion on Computer Science upper-division GPA requirements** presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This motion repeals the GPA requirements for 3000 and 4000 level Computer Sciences courses. The question was called. The motion passed.

4. **Amend the membership on the Admissions and Standards Committee** presented by the Univ. Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee; Marti Singer, chair. This adjusts the membership of the Admissions and Standards Committee so that its proportions roughly match the proportions of the faculty in the various colleges/schools. The question was called. The motion passed.

5. **Policy on criminal background checks** presented by the Executive Committee; Paul Alberto, chair. This procedure was developed in order to be in compliance with a recent BOR policy stating that finalists for USG full-time employment must submit to a background investigation. This final document comes about after approximately 12 months of work by a task force, the Faculty Affairs Committee, and the Budget Committee. The question was called. The motion passed.

Information items:
Annual calendar for promotion and tenure review
Report on Human Resources performance and practices

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Academic Programs (Paul Alberto for Tim Renick, chair): The committee has met two times. It approved two new concentrations to the B.S. in Public Policy, it approved a new course in Introduction of World Religions, it established a policy for review of research centers as a part of APR, and it clarified the policy on the creation of new concentrations within existing degrees and programs.

Admissions and Standards (George Rainbolt, chair): The committee has reviewed a total of over 500 student petitions. Those committee members charged with this task have handled it with professionalism and efficiency. A subcommittee is reviewing changes to the Regents cut scores. Subcommittees are also reviewing the class attendance policy and academic honesty policy.

Athletics (Laurie Tis, chair): No report.

Budget (Hugh Hudson, chair): The committee has met twice. It has been working on the criminal background check policy and it approved the report on Human Resources that was distributed today.
Commencement (Carl Patton, chair): Sunday, December 16 will be the commencement ceremony at the Georgia Dome. It should be a breathtaking ceremony. An honorary degree will be awarded to Charlie Loudermilk. The speaker will be the CEO of Hersheys.

Cultural Diversity (Christine Gallant, chair): The committee has met twice. The African-American male initiative subcommittee had a hearing with about 20 African-American male students to get their feedback on their wishes and needs for a faculty mentoring program. On October 30, the UGA University Council unanimously voted to support a resolution regarding subsidized domestic partner insurance benefits from the Regents which was similar to the one passed by this body at the last meeting.

Faculty Affairs (Cece Grindel, chair): In addition to the background check policy passed today, the committee has been working on several issues. A subcommittee is reviewing promotion criteria for academic professionals. A template will be developed for the administrator evaluation report. The instrument for the evaluation of Deans is being reviewed.

FACP (Ron Henry, chair): The main issues the committee has been working on are student fee increases and increases in fees for some of the professional programs.

IS&T (George Pullman, chair): No report.

Library (Deron Boyles, chair): No report.

Planning and Development (P. C. Tai, chair): The committee met once to discuss and approve the ASUR reports. Several subcommittees are working on different items.

Research (Don Reitzes, chair): The committee has met twice. It is working with Legal Affairs to draft a policy on export controls for research activities. A policy on multiple principle investigators has also been developed.

Student Discipline (Val Miller, chair): No report.

Student Life and Development (Elisabeth Burgess, chair): The committee has met once and continuing its review of the Student Code of Conduct and associated policies with a variety of subcommittees.

Univ. Statutes and Senate Bylaws (Marti Singer, chair): The committee approved the item presented today.

Executive (Paul Alberto, chair): The Senate acknowledges President Patton’s announcement of his upcoming retirement. It is saddened by his leaving but pleased with the 16 years he has served at Georgia State University. Dr. Alberto’s remarks were met with applause.

**OLD BUSINESS:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Since there was no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Nell Stone
Secretary to the Senate