MINUTES
UNIVERSITY SENATE
December 11, 2008


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

MINUTES: The minutes of the October 23, 2008, Senate meeting were approved with no changes.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR: President Patton remarked that he was "back again, but for the last time". President Becker will be presiding over future University Senate meetings.

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

1. Revise the policy on university-level petitions presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. A revised version of the motion was distributed as the Senators came in. The revisions will allow for a more streamlined student petitions process. The question was called. The motion passed unanimously.

2. Revise the Admissions discipline policy presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. The revisions pertain to an applicant that has been currently charged with a crime. There was a discussion regarding the issues that trigger a review of a student's admissions application. The question was called. The motion passed.

3. Amend the membership of the Student Life and Development Committee presented by the University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee; Marti Singer, chair. This will adjust the title of the Academic Director of Student Retention in the Bylaws. The question was called. The motion passed.

4. Revise Senate Bylaws Article IV on meetings presented by the University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee; Marti Singer, chair. This will amend the Bylaws to allow for special meetings of the Senate with an "at least" 48 hour notice. The question was called. The motion passed.

5. Amend the duties and responsibilities of the Senate Executive Committee presented by the University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee; Marti Singer, chair. Carol Winkler proposed a friendly amendment to strike the word "or ad hoc" from the first sentence of the proposed text. Dr. Singer accepted the friendly amendment. The question was called. The motion passed.

6. Clarify text in Senate Bylaws Article VII Section 1.C.8. presented by the University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee; Marti Singer, chair. This will allow the text to comply with current practice. The question was called. The motion passed.

7. Timing of student evaluation of instructors presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee; Peggy Albers, chair. This will move the deadline for students to fill out the online SEI forms. The question was called. The motion passed.

8. Board of Regents Optional Retirement Plan presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee; Peggy Albers, chair. This resolution asks the University to petition the BOR and TRS to provide a one-time window for ORP enrollees to change over to TRS. The question was called. The motion passed.

9. Interim motion on tenure clock stoppage presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee; Peggy Albers, chair. This will be in effect for the 2008-2009 academic year. The FAC will continue to work on a permanent policy. The
question was called. The motion passed.

10. **Amend Section 401.01 of the Faculty Handbook** presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee; Peggy Albers, chair. This will add a statement to course syllabi encouraging students to complete the online course evaluation. The question was called. The motion passed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Academic Programs (Sara Weigle, chair): The committee has met 1 time. It deactivated a BIS degree concentration, added a program in Italian Studies, and changed the name of Philosophy 2010 from “Great Questions of Philosophy” to “Introduction to Philosophy”.

Admissions and Standards (George Rainbolt, chair): The committee has met 1 time. In addition to today’s agenda items, subcommittees are working on S/U grading, a new attendance policy, and the repeat-to-replace policy.

Athletics (Teryl Frey, chair): The committee hasn’t met since the last Senate meeting. The next meeting is February 20, 2009.

Budget (Hugh Hudson, chair): The committee has met once. The subcommittee on possible budget reductions has been active. Open hearings will be scheduled to allow the university community some input in these decisions.

Commencement (Carl Patton, chair): The committee has been active planning for the Fall commencement on Monday, December 15, at 6:00 p.m. at the Georgia Dome.

Cultural Diversity (Christine Gallant, chair): The committee has met once. It approved a statement for all syllabi that gives necessary information for students with disabilities regarding class accommodations through the Office of Disability Services.

Executive (Paul Alberto, chair): Dr. Alberto has met with President Becker who is looking forward to working with this body at the next Senate meeting. Dr. Becker will also be meeting with the ad hoc Committee of Chairs in February.

Faculty Affairs (Peggy Albers, chair): The committee has met 2 times. Issues it is working on are: childcare at GSU, off campus housing, tenure clock delay, customized textbooks, and goals for the new president.

FACP (Ron Henry, chair): The committee has met several times. It has recommended an increase in the student activity fee of $14. This should be approved by the BOR in April. It has been working very hard on the budget in a cautionary manner. The committee will be working on the FY10 budget.

IS&T (George Pullman, chair): The committee has met once. J.L. Albert made a presentation to the committee on short-term and long-term electronic storage and backup. Bill Paraska gave a presentation on the new student email system.

Library (Deron Boyles, chair): The committee is working on several initiatives: campus-wide information literacy program, outreach to students, and arguing that GSU should become a member of the Association of Research Libraries.

Planning and Development (P.C. Tai, chair): The committee has met 2 times. It has approved various ASUR reports and a subcommittee is working on the MRRF list. The ASUR report process will be streamlined. The 2009 Action Plan should be approved at the next meeting.

Research (Rose Sevcik, chair): The committee has met 1 time. It visited Collabtech as a group and learned about its current activities and goals. The committee also reviewed the results of the URSA user satisfaction survey.

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

Student Life and Development (Elisabeth Burgess, chair): No report.

University Statutes and Senate Bylaws (Marti Singer, chair): The committee met and approved the items on today’s agenda.

**OLD BUSINESS:** President Patton announced that SACS approved our 10-year reaccreditation and he gave thanks for all the
hard work everyone put in to make that happen. He thanked everyone for their support and kindness over the years. He stated that Dr. Becker is coming to GSU at an exciting time with a great university and great people to work with. His comments were met with much applause.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Since there was no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Nell Stone
Secretary to the Senate