ORDER: The chair, President Mark Becker, called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the October 15, 2009 Senate meeting were approved with no changes.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR: The chair remarked on the Second Century Initiative that was announced as a faculty recruitment initiative. State revenues continue to lag but further lay-offs or furlough days are not anticipated at this time. The situation will continue to be monitored. At this point, GSU is comfortable because of the prior planning and the efforts we made this past summer. He closed his remarks by wishing everyone a happy holiday season.

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

1. **Revise membership of the Senate Budget Committee** presented by the University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee; John Duffield, chair. The position of VP for External Affairs was replaced with the VP for University Relations and the Director of the Office of Government and Community Affairs. This proposal will update the Budget Committee membership accordingly. Greg Abt proposed a friendly amendment regarding the two student senators selected for the Budget Committee. This amendment was seconded and the floor was opened for discussion. After much discussion, Mr. Abt agreed to withdraw his friendly amendment and the Statutes and Bylaws Committee will take up this issue and bring a proposal to the next Senate meeting. The question was called. The motion passed.

2. **University policy on minors** presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This proposal will formalize the policy on undergraduate minors. The question was called. The motion passed.

3. **Procedure for evaluation of administrators** presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee; Cherian Thachenkary for Peggy Albers, chair. New evaluation instruments are presented for approval. George Rainbolt stated that this proposal does not include the rationale for the changes nor does it show a comparison between the former instruments and these proposed ones. Christine Gallant proposed amending the paragraph entitled "outside evaluators" by adding the following two sentences: "The letters give a perspective that is an important supplement to the internal appraisals, but the Senate appraisals provide the specific context and conditions under which the administrator performed. Therefore, the evaluation committee shall attempt to interpret and contextualize the letters from the external reviewers". This was accepted as a friendly amendment. The motion to add this friendly amendment passed.

Hugh Hudson proposed a friendly amendment changing the language in the VP for Research's instrument under "distribution of evaluation forms". The second category of evaluators will be changed to read: "all faculty members of the current Senate and of the preceding two Senates". This was accepted as a friendly amendment and was consequently approved by the Senate.

George Rainbolt reiterated his concerns as stated above. Paul Alberto reviewed the five major changes to the instruments: 1) outside evaluators; 2) email three reminders to the designated evaluators to complete the instrument; 3) clustered responses; 4) add a meeting of the ad hoc committee members with the Provost and/or the Executive Committee chair; and 5) change the number of years between evaluations. Discussion continued.

The motion to table this proposal was made and seconded. A vote was taken. The majority of the body voted to table the motion. A motion was made and seconded to move to next year the evaluations of the four administrators that were scheduled to be evaluated during this cycle but were advised otherwise. This was seconded and passed.
4. **Tenure clock stoppage and leave proposal** presented by the Faculty Affairs Committee; Cherian Thachenkary for Peggy Albers, chair. The interim policy will be extended until the new permanent policy is approved. The question was called. The motion passed.

The chair reviewed the two information items included in the senators’ packets.

**SPEAKER:** Provost Risa Palm gave a brief talk and updated the strategic planning process. She named the members of the planning committee: Co-chairs Paul Alberto and Pam Barr, Greg Abt, Sandra Garber, Michelle Brattain, Michael Eriksen, P.C. Tai, Ralph Gilbert, Allison Calhoun-Brown, Rose Sevcik, Tamer Cavusgil, Steve Kaminshine, and Jorge Martinez. The committee will visit Arizona State University soon to see how that institution put its strategic plan into action. The university community will have opportunities to supply the committee members with suggestions, concerns, and other feedback during this process.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Executive (Paul Alberto, chair): Today’s agenda items were approved at the last committee meeting.

Academic Programs (Sara Weigle, chair): The committee has met once. It has approved new minors and dealt with other programmatic items. Allison Calhoun-Brown gave an update on the assessment of perspectives courses.

Admissions and Standards (George Rainbolt, chair): The committee has met twice. It has reviewed the following items: core policies, transfer credit and academic residency, joint enrollment, and double majors.

Athletics (Teryl Frey, chair): No report.

Budget (Hugh Hudson, chair): Dr. Hudson thanked Bill Downs for his work with the subcommittee on ADP. This group gathered information on the source and scope of problems encountered with its implementation. It will produce a final report by the March Senate meeting.

Commencement (Mark Becker, chair): The committee met today. Provost Palm will speak at the December Ph.D. ceremony. Two honorary degrees will be awarded to Neville Isdell and Dr. Louis Sullivan.

Cultural Diversity (Christine Gallant, chair): The committee has met once. It is involved in the system-wide initiative for all USG institutions to develop strategic diversity plans. This diversity plan will be included in the general strategic plan. Committee members have been updated on the 2010-15 strategic plan for the university.

Faculty Affairs (Cherian Thachenkary for Peggy Albers, chair): The committee has met twice. It has been working on the two items presented at today’s meeting.

FACP (Risa Palm, chair): The committee continues to monitor the budget situation. Manditory student fees were discussed.

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

Library (Deron Boyles, chair): The process for another round of journal reductions has begun. Library access hours have been modified. Ideas for Library funding were discussed.

Planning and Development (Al Baumstark for P.C. Tai, chair): The committee has met three times. Provost Palm attended a recent meeting and explained how the strategic planning process would be implemented in the development of the 2010-2015 Strategic Plan. She distributed a document that outlined the planning process and a timeline.

Research (Rose Sevcik, chair): The committee has met once. There was discussion on a number of items: the status of material transfer agreements, a policy for hiring individuals within postdoctoral research appointments, submissions for external awards, and the changing demands of award applications.

Student Discipline (Greg Lisby for Marta White, chair): The committee has met once to discuss the inconsistencies across GSU, among faculty, about the academic dishonesty policy and procedures.

Student Life and Development (Elisabeth Burgess, chair): The committee has met once. It has approved eight student organization charters. An ad hoc subcommittee has been charged with reviewing the policy of free speech on campus property.
University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee (John Duffield, chair): The committee met once to discuss and approve the item that is on today’s agenda.

OLD BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT: Since there was no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Nell Stone
Secretary to the Senate