

ORDER: The chair, President Mark Becker, called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m.

MINUTES: The minutes of the October 7, 2010 Senate meeting were approved with no changes.

COMMENTS BY THE CHAIR: The chair called on Hugh Hudson for a report on the search for a new Chancellor. Dr. Hudson stated that the search committee is still gathering recommendations for candidates. The search committee is looking for someone who can work effectively with the state legislature and with the USG presidents. President Becker reported that Mayor Kasim Reed gave an inspiring speech at the December commencement. Mayor Reed was recently featured in an op-ed piece in the NY Times by Thomas Freidman. The piece focused on the need for leaders in our cities and Mayor Reed was cited as an example.

Dr. Becker talked about the recent ice storm. He thanked everyone for making the necessary adjustments to their schedules and workload as a result of the university closure. He particularly thanked the approximately 150 folks who took care of the university while it was closed. There were about 2000 students on campus that needed university services. He also recognized the grounds crews who worked very hard making the campus safe.

He stated that we have record enrollment for this Spring semester. This reflects the hard work of those individuals working with admissions, financial aid, and registration. Just before the winter break, the university closed on a piece of property at the corner of Park Place, J.W. Dobbs, and Peachtree Center Avenue. This will be the site of the new law school building and two other buildings as well. GSU doesn’t have the money yet to build but the BOR did give us the property.

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

1. **Motion on Early College Policy** presented by the Admissions and Standards Committee; George Rainbolt, chair. This will add a new admissions category. Early college students have a high degree of academic potential and maturity. The question was called. The motion passed.

2. **Amend University Statutes, Article IX: Evaluation of Administrators** presented by the University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee; John Duffield, chair. This amendment will ensure that the **Statutes**, policies, and procedures regarding administrator evaluations are consistent with one another. Katherine Willoughby proposed a friendly amendment to change the wording of sentence three to read: “…one (1) from each college, one (1) and from the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies...”. This amendment was accepted. The question was called. The motion passed.
3. **Amend the Senate Bylaws, Article III, Section 19: Committee on Sustainability** presented by the University Statutes and Senate Bylaws Committee; John Duffield, chair. This will add a new standing committee to the University Senate that will work to engage students, faculty, and staff in sustainability efforts. The question was called. The motion passed. President Becker stated that Patricia Stilson will be the point person on sustainability.

4. **Amend the Student Code of Conduct, Section III: General Conduct** presented by the Student Life and Development Committee; Elisabeth Burgess for Steve Carey, chair. This motion will prohibit a student on suspension from taking classes elsewhere while on suspension and transferring them back to GSU. Also there will be a transcript annotation for at least five years. The question was called. The motion passed.

5. **Approval of the Strategic Plan 2011-2016/21** presented by the Planning and Development Committee; P. C. Tai, chair. This has been a year long process with Paul Alberto and Pam Barr as co-chairs of the strategic planning committee. The question was called. The motion passed. Dr. Becker thanked Drs. Alberto and Barr and the committee. The body applauded the passing of this plan.

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

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Executive (Paul Alberto, chair): Dr. Alberto mentioned this spring’s administrator evaluations. There will be some retreats scheduled soon to prioritize and sequence the implementation of the strategic plan. Disability Services will be moving forward. Dr. Alberto recognized Sandra Garber’s service on the Senate as she will be retiring soon. Ms. Garber received a round of applause.

Academic Programs (Sara Weigle, chair): The committee has met twice times. In addition to approving several new degrees, the committee approved a template for dual degree proposals. A subcommittee will be reviewing and streamlining all of the templates for academic program review. Siva Nathan will be chairing the very important Academic Program Review Committee.

Athletics (Kris Varjis): The committee has been working in subcommittees addressing the bylaws for this committee as a result in changes in Athletics. The committee has also been conducting an internal evaluation of the academic support program. The committee has been on several field trips to athletic venues and other events.

Budget (Katherine Willoughby, chair): The committee has been working on several reports over the last semester. It has forwarded the reports on an out-of-state tuition program and a career transition program to the Executive Committee. The committee will be finishing up a report on off-site centers and fees and will consider other topics submitted to it for review.

Commencement (Mark Becker, chair): The committee hasn’t met recently but will be meeting soon to discuss some policy issues that are starting to arise.

Cultural Diversity (Christine Gallant, chair): The committee has three times. There has been continuing discussion of the Diversity Strategic Plan and the committee has taken up the issue of faculty salary equity based on Mary Finn’s 6/10 report "Analysis of Faculty Salary: Differences by Gender”. The committee is seeking a sound corrective pay plan that will be developed by individuals with expertise in the area of salary equity.

Faculty Affairs (David Cheshier, chair): The committee has met twice. Peter Lyons briefed the committee on the new software for faculty activity reporting. It is working with Admissions and Standards on a resolution regarding undocumented students in public higher education. Subcommittees have been examining policies relating to maternity leave and parental leave, salary compression, and professional development leave policies. It has been discussing the career transition proposal, the strategic plan, and administrator evaluations.

FACP (Risa Palm, chair): The committee has met twice. The two major items were: 1) recommendations to President Becker on FY12 mandatory fees and differential tuition rates for certain graduate programs, and 2) recommendation of a strategic graduate enrollment plan for FY2012-2018. Mandatory fees were also reviewed.

IS&T (Brendan Calandra, chair): The committee has met and is making preparations for the annual distribution of the student tech fees money.
Library (Deron Boyles, chair): The committee has finalized the second journal cancellation project and will review whether a third round of cuts will be needed. Faculty concerned about journals being eliminated should assign students work that requires accessing those journals. The committee is exploring an alumni initiative for the library and it is pleased that the library is mentioned in the strategic plan. The digital archives are moving forward but have had some problems with copyright issues. The committee thanked Dean of Libraries Nan Seamans for her leadership during the strategic planning process.

Planning and Development (P.C. Tai, chair): The committee met twice primarily to work on the strategic plan. The committee thanked the 12 members of the strategic planning committee, especially Paul Alberto and Pam Barr, for all their hard work. Two subcommittees are working on the MRRF list and the diversity strategic plan.

Research (Rose Sevcik, chair): The committee has met three times. Linda Nelson made a presentation on the diversity strategic plan and committee members offered her some feedback. Nan Seamans met with the committee to discuss the status of library holdings. The ad hoc subcommittee on research centers presented the documents they have been working on to the full committee.

Student Discipline (Marta White, chair): The committee has met for five hearings. It appears that faculty are more comfortable with the student discipline process. The committee is pleased that the motion on changes to the Student Code of Conduct was passed today as it requested those policy changes.

Student Life and Development (Elisabeth Burgess for Steve Carey, chair): The committee has met twice. The committee worked on the motion presented today and is working on other revisions to the Student Code of Conduct.

University Statutes and Senate Bylaws (John Duffield, chair): The committee has met once to consider and approve the items on today’s agenda. It anticipates possible revisions to the Bylaws reflecting planned and proposed changes to the college structure.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Since there was no additional business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Nell Stone
Secretary to the Senate