

## Meeting of the Faculty Senate, Franklin College of Arts and Sciences

January 17, 2002

Approved, with corrections, on February 21, 2002

**1. Call to Order:** Presiding Officer Irwin Bernstein called the meeting to order at 3:35 pm.

**2. Change of the Date for the March Meeting:** The March meeting of the Senate has been moved from Thursday, 28 March, to Tuesday, 26 March.

### **3. Identification of Proxies and Visitors:**

**Proxies:** Senator Robert Rumely for late-arriving Edward Azoff (Mathematics); Bradley Bassler for Randolph Clarke (Philosophy); Senator Ben Blount\* (Anthropology) for Ervan Garrison (Geology); Senator Steven Grossvogel for Nina Hellerstein (Romance Languages); Senator David Leigh for Ikubolajeh Logan (Geography); Senator Stephen Valdez for Jean Martin (Music); Charles Doyle for Barbara McCaskill (English); Senator Gary Love for Hennig Meyer (Physics/Astro); Senator Claudio Saunt for Reinaldo Roman (History); Glenn Wallis for David Williams (Religion); and Senator Alisa Luxenberg for Gene Wright (Art).  
**Absent:** James Anderson (Chemistry). 39 present and 1 absent. **Visitors:** None.

\*The Bylaws state that proxies must be from the same department as the senator being represented.

### **4. Approval of the Minutes for the meeting of 15 November, 2001 with one correction.**

Claudio Saunt was not absent but rather was represented by Proxy Senator Renaldo Roman (History).

### **5. Remarks by Associate Dean Hugh Ruppensburg:**

**Budget Cut for 2001-2002** was initially 2.5% as planned. It was met by unspent funds for travel, equipment, networking and a reduction in summer school support. Subsequently, about one-fourth of the cut was restored by the University and it will be used for some supplemental Department Supplies and Expenses and for some equipment purchases.

**Budget Cut for 2002-2003** and subsequent years was 5% as planned. The College met this by cutting all existing 50 vacant faculty positions and cutting part of the permanent instructional funds. Subsequently, Provost Karen Holbrook restored 24 of the vacant faculty positions, as listed in Appendix A. They included

the Hamilton Holmes Professorship and three GRA Eminent Scholar Professorships. Criteria for selecting other positions to be restored included examination of program needs based on reports of Department Heads.

**Admission Proposals by the Terry College of Business.** The Senate's research and discussion of the impact on Arts and Sciences of the proposed changes in the admissions policy of the College of Business was very important. The Senate's vote to request denial of these proposals until resources were made to the College was thus appreciated at higher levels of the administration. Part of their response was to create a bank to fund temporary instructors to meet the extra needs of the College beginning next Spring. This will free current faculty to teach at upper levels, which will also be under higher enrollment pressure. As a result, Dean Anderson has now withdrawn his objections to the change in the admissions policy.

**Gwinnett University Center-Perimeter College:** The Dean's office has been instructed to offer a significant number of lower-level courses for the increasing number of students, mostly in Premed, business, and education, who are taking their first two years of college at Perimeter College. In the short term, courses will be controlled by our departments, and temporary instructors will be through our departments. Any degree program will require normal curriculum review and approval.

**Opera:** The school of Music, along with other organizations, is presenting the "Marriage of Figaro" on 15 and 17 February at the Classic Center.

**15-Hour Rule:** In response to Associate Vice President for Instruction James Fletcher's earlier question about the justification of the college's 15-Hour Rule (no more than 15 hr of electives may be taken in courses outside the college), a substantial investigation discovered that it arose in 1972, but no history or reason could be found. The Curriculum Committee determined that there was no objection by Department heads to eliminating the rule.

It then was learned that James Fletcher had abolished it without waiting for an answer to his question, or without the Senate's approval. It is likely that his action does not follow standard policy.

**Freshman Seminar:** The program will enter its sixth year next Fall, and is generally considered a success.

## **6. Comments by the Presiding Officer, Irwin Bernstein:**

**Gwinnett University Center-Perimeter College:** The Executive Committee of the University Council met this afternoon and approved a revised proposal for the Council's consideration of the expanded role of the University Center. There are still lots of ambiguity. There will be pressure for UGA faculty to teach at Perimeter, but UGA faculty will not be assigned to teach there. The Perimeter College is now a 2 yr institution and its students and other Gwinnett students will be able to apply to UGA to continue their education. It is unclear the extent to which this will increase enrollments at UGA.

**Adult College:** The Adult College, which has been discussed in earlier Senate meetings, is now teaching its first semester. Only 20 students are enrolled, much lower than predicted. The Admissions and Curriculum committees should continue to follow its development. Details are still lacking, but we should make sure that mechanisms are in place for transfer to UGA and that the Adult College should not be autonomous.

Senator comments indicated that the name 'Adult' could be offensive to both UGA faculty and students because it implies that students at UGA are not adults. Officer Bernstein invited the submission of alternative names, but none were offered.

**Parking during Football Weekends:** Both the report of the Professional Concerns committee and the

Senate resolutions on the problem have been forwarded by the Parking Services Committee to the Athletic Association. The Professional Concerns committee should try to prevent our concerns from being ignored.

**15-Hour Rule:** I think we all agree that the rule is not needed, but that only our College has the right to abolish or change it. The letter from James Fletcher implied that any UGA-approved course must be satisfactory for a general elective for a Franklin College student. We believe that each College has the authority to set its own curriculum and that Fletcher does not have the right to abolish a rule concerning the Academic Standards of our college.

I invite a motion. The first paragraph should abolish the 15-Hour Rule and the second paragraph should reassert our sole right to do so.

**Business School:** Dean Wyatt Anderson thanks the Senate for its action on the Business School matter. The Senate's motion was very useful to the Dean's Office. It is likely that the return of so many vacant positions to the College (the 24 identified in Appendix A) was in large part to meet needs in Arts and Sciences that would be created by the proposed changes in the Business College. We should continue to develop well-working relationships with the Administration.

**Institute for Bioinformatics:** Dean Anderson has sent to the Senate a proposal to create an Institute for Bioinformatics, which he supports, and asks that it be evaluated on fast track. Normally this would go through Steering to the Curriculum Committee. We will do this and hope that the matter can be part of the agenda for our next meeting.

## 7. Questions to Dean Ruppensburg regarding Quality of Instruction:

Comment: The funding of new Instructors and graduate students to handle increased enrollments in introductory classes, resulting from changes in admission to the Business School, appears to violate the current policy that senior faculty teach introductory courses.

Answer: That policy, which was Dean Kozak's policy, is still a good idea but it is no longer our policy. It is just impossible to accomplish with increased enrollments along with budget cuts.

Comment: It appears that instruction in our college will be degraded because of improvements in instruction in the Business School.

Answer: Perhaps. But the promised support changes an otherwise disaster into a crisis.

Several Comments: Faculty now teaching at lower levels will be replaced by adjuncts, instructors and graduate students, resulting in instruction by nonfaculty during the first two years, especially in Arts and Sciences.

Answer: Arts and Sciences currently relies on nonfaculty to a lower extent than is usual elsewhere. We will work to keep it that way.

Comment by Officer Bernstein: Would anyone like to propose an appropriate committee to monitor and evaluate any significant changes in the kind of instructors and possible resulting changes in the quality of instruction?

## 8. Committee Reports:

**Academic Standards:** Chair David Leigh (Geography) reported that the committee met on 28 November and 20 December, 2001. Over both meetings, it reviewed 16 petitions; seven were approved, seven were denied, one was tabled, and one was returned to the department for review.

**1) Guidelines for Granting Posthumous Degrees:** The Committee presented a final list of criteria by which requests for Posthumous Degrees would be considered by the Academic Standards Committee, and moved its adoption by the Senate. A short discussion resulted in rewording of the fifth criterion. The final Guidelines, reproduced below, were approved by the Senate without objection:

1. Student must have declared a major and taken a minimum of 30 credits in residence at The University of Georgia, and they must have earned a minimum of 12 credits towards the major. A total of 90 or more hours toward the degree (senior status) is also required.
2. Student must have had a final cumulative GPA of 2.0 or above.
3. The committee would view favorably any additional evidence of distinction outside of the classroom, such as membership/nomination to campus-based or national honorary/scholastic organizations, leadership in campus organizations, community service, exhibitions or performances, or volunteer work.
4. Application must include a letter of support from the department head that is based on a vote of the faculty.
5. Application must be submitted no later than 5 years after student's last enrollment at UGA.

**2) Excessive Drops and Withdrawals:** The Academic Standards Committee had continued to discuss the perceived problem of excessive drops during drop/add and of latter withdrawals from courses because both reduce the number of students below the maximum enrollment for a section, resulting in more sections being offered that are actually needed. Solutions considered were: a) limiting the total hours (now 17, but can be increased with advisor's approval) to inhibit registering for more courses than the student intends to eventually take; b) imposing a penalty (such as lowering registration priority) after a certain number of withdrawals; and c) having an earlier withdrawal date.

Discussion centered on technical aspects of possible controls, causes of the problem being honest attempts to get into closed sections, an unintended consequence of the HOPE scholarship program, and/or a mentality that it is normal to do drops and withdrawals as part of shopping around for easy courses.

John Brewer (Biochemistry and Molecular Biology) noted that it had taken several years for the Senate to get the withdrawal date moved to *later* in the semester. He was also of the opinion that nothing suggested here was workable.

An unidentified Senator expressed surprise that the University allowed a student-initiated withdrawal and suggested we abolish it entirely.

**Admissions:** Chair Mark Cooney (Sociology) reported that the committee met on 4 December and 3 and 9 January to consider a total of 22 petitions. Eighteen were approved and four denied. The committee was also investigating the likely impact of the Adult College on the Franklin College.

**Committee on Committees:** For the committee, Chair Glenn Galau (Botany) nominated three senators to fill three vacant committee positions:

Hyangsoon Yi (Comparative Lit.) to replace Dezsco Benedek (Comparative Lit.) on Admissions

Bonnie Dow (Speech Communications) to replace Paul Gurian (Political Sci.) on Planning

Robert Rumely (Math) to replace John Maltese (Political Sci.) on Professional Concerns.

The Senate made the appointments as nominated, without objection.

**Curriculum:** Chair Gene Wright (Art) reported that the committee had met several times and approved 15 new courses, changes in 10 existing courses, and approved 2 courses as Biology electives and CMLT 2500 as a College literature course.

**Professional Concerns:** Chair Ben Blount (Anthropology) reported that the Professional Concerns Committee met on 10 December 2001. Dean Anderson had asked that the Committee to consider a case involving non-renewal of appointment. The Committee met to establish procedures for consideration of the case, given that this appears to be a new undertaking by the Professional Concerns Committee.

**Planning; Steering:** No Reports.

**9. Old Business:** None.

**10. New Business:** None.

**11. Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.**

Submitted by Glenn Galau