University – Wide Senate Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 2nd, 2017

Atlanta Campus, 25 Park Place, Room 2608; 7:23 PM

I. Call to Order: President Corey Gray

II. Opening Call of the Roll / Determination of Quorum: Senate Clerk – Olivia Abie
   (Absentees: Senator Pachon, Cruz-Hernandez, Galvis, Vining, Perdue, Samuelson, Burell, Patel, Daniels)
   Quorum achieved: 29 present senators out of 38

III. Reading and Approval of the minutes from the previous meeting
   Senator Aleman moved to approve the minutes of September 07, seconded by senator Lakhani. The approval of the minutes from the previous meeting passed with 19 in favor, 0 against, 0 abstentions.

IV. Special Reports
   a. Dr. Douglass Covey, Vice President for Student Affairs
      - Time of the year when they annually go through their mandatory student fee process. Mandatory fees are fees that students must pay, they’re outside of tuition. The current mandatory student fee at Georgia State University on the Atlanta campus is a total of $564 for the semester, and $404 a semester is the special institution fee or SIF, it is a fee that they have no control over, it is set by the boards of reagents. The SIF is set by the type of institution, what the school represents within the university system of Georgia. Each year, there’s a mandatory fee process where they review the mandatory fees and they have the opportunity to have an input on it. The mandatory fees include athletics, campus programing, student center, transportation, technology, activity recreation, student health, enhanced-library fee, international programs, and sustainability.
      - It is a process that goes through a series of several recommendations, the Atlanta mandatory fee committee concluded their deliberations a week ago, and now their recommendation is going to the next level of consideration. There’s a campus committee called the Fiscal Advisory Committee to the President (FACP), SGA President Gray serves on that committee, there’s also faculty and staff representation, they will make their recommendation to them and they will make their recommendation to Dr. Becker who in turn will make a recommendation regarding mandatory student fees to the Board of Regents in January. Then there will be nothing more about mandatory fees until late spring when the Regents finalize the schedule for all the university system institutions.
      - 9th year in a row that mandatory student fees have not been increased, again no control if the board of regents decide to raise the SIF, separate from the issue of tuition.
- Going into this year, fees are being reallocated in a significant way, the fees which had supported the construction of the university recreation center, it was a revenue bond fee, and they were paying mortgage. This coming calendar year, they will be paying off that mortgage. Georgia State will no longer have to contribute those funds. That gives us the opportunity without increasing fees to reallocate those dollars to places they were very much needed.

- The mandatory fee committee recommended several things, the administration responsible for the fees that didn't request any increases are technology, transportation, civic center facility, campus programs, and athletics. The areas that became top priorities are those who had an operation deficit that needed to be addressed such as the recreation center, the marching band, and student health, beyond that with the funds that remained they were able to look enhancements things they could do without increasing cost.

- Quick overview, the mandatory committee recommended to raise sustainability fee by $2 making into $5, this is the special projects related to reducing carbon, environmental, recycling issues. They recommended to increase international program fee by $2 making it $21, this fee will cover some administrative cost for the federal regulation for international students, and provide funds to support students that would like academic experience abroad. Student health increase by $7 dollars, making it $18, an activity fee increase of $11 intending to serve 3 purposes, $7 went to the marching band to supplement the money they would have gotten from the SIFF, $2 dollars went to the activity fee to support the growth of student organizations, $2 available to support a new venture the university is going into, which is competitive intercollegiate electronic gaming at Georgia State.

b. Dr. Jill Lee-Barber, Senior Director for Psychological and Health Services

- Student health clinic services include primary and urgent health care, after hours physical and mental health consultations 24/7, counselling walk-in appointments daily, follow up appointments, psychiatric medication consults, crisis intervention and debriefing, student victim assistance, HIV and STI testing, substance use risk reduction, tobacco cessation, mind/body clinic, performance enhancement center, workshops for student organizations, and healthy state events monthly to promote wellness.

- The student can access the services for health clinic by scheduling an appointment via secure patient portal, Georgia state university has a 24-hour nurse, and the line is-1-855-750-5056. For after-hours crisis counseling, students can call main number and follow prompts to reach on-call provider. Welltrack “fit bit for the brain”. For monthly healthy state events victim assistance, students can call 404-413-1965 to schedule an appointment, and after-hours crisis consultation through the same number.

- Health Clinic & Counseling Perimeter have a centralized scheduling, call 678-891-4105. After hours crisis line is 678-891-4105
- Health Clinic & Counseling Atlanta Walk-in services daily for initial consultation and plan. After hours crisis counseling line is 404-413-1640 and follow prompts. Evening hours are on Tuesday & Wednesday until 7 pm.

- The needs of students are stress, alcohol & other drug, STI testing & treatment, HIV testing & prevention, urgent care, suicide prevention, victim assistance, emergency preparedness (suicide, epidemic, crime or terrorism), and updated medical equipment.

- 70% of students do not have health insurance, 90% are on financial aid and 67% of undergraduates are Pell eligible – Students whose total family income is $50,000 a year or less qualify, but most Pell grant money goes to students with a total family income below $20,000.

- Georgia State has one of the lowest student health fees, student health is the preferred provider for student health insurance (most grad students). There are two graduate student support groups run each week and stay full.

- Evening hours are popular and stay full.

- With continued support, the student health center will be able to meet the increased demand for physical and mental health care from their growing student population on all campuses, update medical equipment and technology, and continue to provide urgent care for physical and mental health and provide the needed follow up appointments after the urgent care.

c. **Dr. Sarah Cook, Associate Dean of the Honors College**

- Dean Gillespie along with a group of dedicated deans and staff from the division of student affairs are responsible for putting the panther speak survey, the survey has closed and they are in the process of checking, analyzing and waving data. It will take some time before the results. They collected 3917 surveys, they were about 25-26 that were started but not completed. The total number of collected surveys is a good enough number to use statistically to understand the experiences of Georgia State students. It is not the highest participating rate that a college or university has accomplished with a survey like this survey, however the panther speak survey was a lengthy survey of about 30 minutes. There was a range of incentives/prizes to win like amazon gift cards or Atlanta Falcons tickets, all of those were donated by Georgia State or friends of Georgia State, which helped keep the budget for the survey very low.

- One of the most important outcomes of the Panther Speak survey is that they will be able to estimate the rate campus sexual assault against anyone, men and women. Also known what services students have accessed, also whether they reported their experience to anyone, a formal report to the police, or an informal report to a friend or RA. They will know some outcomes or associate consequences they believe are associated with sexual assault, will know about student well beings, (depression or posttraumatic stress, impact their engagement in school or with the university, quite a bit of data on
student experiences and outcomes or correlates. Not all questions are criminal in nature, some are, some are not, but the core of the survey goes all the way from nonconsensual touching to penetration of a body.

- Title IX updates:
- Title IX: under title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, schools must provide protection against sex based discrimination. In addition, it requires that institutions provide remedies once an incident has been reported.
- The department of Education intends to engage in rule making on the topic of school’s responsibilities concerning complaints of sexual misconduct, including peer-on-peer sexual harassment and sexual violence. Interim Q&A is available online
- Rescinded substantial guidance on title IX issued the Obama administration
- the key changes in the interim guidance are standard of proof: the preponderance of evidence” standard established by Dear Colleague has long been a point of contention. This standard is generally defined as a 50.1% chance that the accused individual was responsible. The new guidance allows colleges to continue using that standard or move to the clear and convincing evidence standard, which sets a slightly higher burden of proof.
- Timeline for investigations: the 2011 dear colleague letter advised that a typical investigation should take about 60 days. The interim guidance states that there is no fixed time frame for investigations.
- Appeals: under the interim guidance, colleges may choose between two kinds of appeals policies-one in which either party can appeal, or one in which only accused students can appeal.
- Informal resolutions: the interim guidelines give colleges the discretion to move a case toward an informal resolution with the consent of both parties. Informal resolution covers a wide range of options, including facilitated dialogue, conflicted resolution, mediation, and restorative justice.
- The GSU/USG Policy sexual assault/rape definition update: Non-consensual sexual contact is any physical contact with another person of a sexual nature without the person’s consent. It includes, but it is not limited to touching (or penetrating) of a person’s intimate parts, touching (or penetrating) a person with one’s own intimate parts, forcing a person to touch his/her own or another person’s intimate parts.
- 63% of sexual assaults are not reported to police, 1 in 5 men have experienced some kind of sexual assault in college, more than 50% of college sexual assaults occur in either August, September, October or November. 21% of TGQN (transgender, genderqueer, nonconforming) college students have been sexually assaulted.
V. Reading and Discussion of the Executive Cabinet Reports

a. Communication Director – Sara Moreno
   - Working with her committee on a story board “What is SGA?” video, will be meeting with Advisors Sutton and Beckwith once she finishes the story board.
   - Wants to talk about SGA as a whole, and include all of the other campuses.
   - By the end of November will be talking to all the communications director to discuss about events or initiatives they have on their campuses.
   - Every campus has a different environment but at the end we’re all one SGA and that’s what the video should reflect. Pride for Georgia State, advocacy for student through SGA
   - Some ideas for the video are to follow a SGA representative for a day on each campus to see what their day is like, include important figures like Dr. Covey, Dr. Becker, Mr. Boyd in the video that can talk about SGA as a whole. The goal is to make it an interesting and relatable video to students.

b. Report of the Alpharetta campus – EVP Fredrick Severtson
   - The Alpharetta campus has been heavily focused on filling their campus senate and implementing useful surveys to receive the voice of the students adequately.
   - The Alpharetta campus senate is officially full, and we no longer have any vacancies.
   - Their current initiatives are to create a sidewalk that connects their two buildings and to install signage on these structures to distinguish the difference between the two. They will be using the survey responses and data to show that this is an issue for our students and must be resolved.
   - The last goal for the semester is to promote and fill their SGA committees to give our students an opportunity to sit at the table. They are taking steps to accomplish these initiatives and more before the end of this semester.

   - The Atlanta campus senate has been hard at work, advocating for the students through meaningful programming and dialogue and passing legislation that will enhance the campus experience the constituents receive.
   - They’ve had two campus senate meetings for September and two for October.
   - They have discussed implementing a meal plan for students who do not live on campus and increasing parking for our students.
   - Some things that SGA accomplished were creating a safety ad-hoc committee to address the concerns our students have about campus safety and an Athletics ad-hoc committee to better bridge the gap amongst students and athletics. Also, passed out Panther Kits to help students prepare for their midterm exams, participated in a panel discussion on leadership with a number of GSU 1010 classes,
attended an informative webinar in regard to DACA, actively worked with SAA to improve the Traditions Keeper app, and planned a program centered around mental health awareness for students.

- Currently, they are wrapping up the University-Wide Hurricane Drive this Thursday with a volunteer event to package all of the items.

d. Report of the Clarkston campus - EVP Christin Smith

- The Clarkston campus held two campus senate meetings in September and two for October. Though they did not have any legislation to bring to the floor yet, they had many discussions about how they will advocate on behalf of the students and accomplish all of their goals.

- The initiatives that they discussed were hosting a campus carry event to give students more information about HB 280, extending our library hours and incorporating questions about this into our surveys, a collaborative effort with the Earth Club on a recycling event, a scholarship fair to increase the number of scholarship application submissions from students, and a transportation initiative in collaboration with Phi Theta Kappa, a similar effort the Decatur and Dunwoody campus senates are also working on.

- The Campus Carry Event is in place to present and educate the students on the guidelines listed in HB 280. Chik-fil-A, surveys, as well as a quiz based on knowledge gained from the event, will be given out with the chance to receive giveaways.

- The Clarkston Team has decided to prolong their meeting on November 6th to discuss plans for events next semester.

e. Report of the Decatur campus - EVP Briana Stanley

- The Decatur campus held three campus senate meetings for September and one for October. They had meaningful dialogue about the work their Senate is aiming to accomplish and held multiple programs to interact with their student body in an impactful way.

- Within their Senate, they discussed their participation in this year’s homecoming festivities and “Passion In Action,” an initiative to assist our constituents to connect with the passions of their lives.

- They held a National Voter Registration Drive, registering 30 students to vote in this year’s upcoming election, and held a Survey Day, gaining the responses of over 150 students to advocate on their behalf.

- In October, they celebrated United Nation Day by giving food from different countries and encouraging 80 students to participate in our SGA survey. We also partnered with PAC, by participating in their "Wear Blue Get Fed!" event.

- They are looking forward to closing this semester out with a few more events in November and hopefully filling all their vacancies.

- The Dunwoody campus held four campus senate meetings for September and two for October, and though there was no legislation brought to the floor, we discussed critical issues and solutions to move our student body forward and held insightful events to engage in dialogue with our constituents.
- During their senate meetings, they examined the international student insurance rate, a sexual assault and harassment plan that EVP Calixte is drafting, and the list of speakers they would like to invite to present at their “Coffee Corners,” or town halls.
- The topics discussed at their past town halls were the campus carry law with guest speaker Lt. Timothy Harvey, building self-esteem and fighting depression with guest speaker Dr. Larkin, how to be safe during homecoming with guest speaker Keith Sumas, and sexual assault and title IX with guest speaker Dr. Butler.
- The final town hall topic will be on study tips and how to succeed during finals.
- The senate also worked diligently on the “Vending Machine bill”.
- The transportation issue has been discussed. The bus shelter of the Dunwoody campus is too small and does not provide enough seats for the student who usually take the bus. The Senate is currently working on adding more seats.
- We are currently working on our spring programs; we are almost done.
- Their campus senate goals for the rest of the semester are to continue to develop solutions to move the Dunwoody student body forward, increase the resources available to students, and increase the dialogue between the senate in the student body.

d. **Report of the Newton Campus – EVP Oundo**

- Newton campus has been working hard to fill their senate positions to advocate for the students.
- Leah Oundo will now serve as the Executive Vice President and Alexander Studebaker will serve as the Speaker of the Senate.
- In their campus senate, they discussed being more innovative and brought more awareness to the students about the different programs and advocacy they will be having and participate in.
- Their goal for their campus senate this semester is to find a new way to accomplish more and to have more impact than they’ve had in previous months.
- They are looking forward to bring their campus together and assuring transparent leadership to their constituents.

e. **Discussion of the University Senate Committee Reports**

- **Academic Programs** - This committee has not met yet.
- **Admissions and Standards** - This committee has not met yet.
- **Athletics**: They attended the meeting at 11:30AM to which the meeting was called to order and the approval of the last meetings minutes was voted upon. Dr. Varjas, chair of the Athletics Committee, introduces herself to the Committee and went over changes in the bylaws.
Charlie Cobb, the Athletic Director, gave his report which mostly detailed the successful transition of Turner Field into Georgia State Stadium. Brad Horton had a report on academics giving the committee an understanding of APR, GSR, attendance %, and GPA awards as well as giving a document for the entire athletics breakdown divided by each individual. The actual details of each student are strictly confidential. Erik Paz gave a report on compliance with conference and NCAA rules. We saw a PowerPoint consisting of these regulations. Dr. Varjas told the committee of the rest of our meetings for the academic year. Our next meeting will be Nov. 8th. They have held two dates for events for the committee. On October 1st the Committee was invited to tour the soccer and softball fields prior to each team’s game. On December 2nd the Committee is invited to the football tailgate prior to their game versus Idaho. The meeting was adjourned late due to running over.

-Budget - This committee has not met yet.

-Commencement: Fall Semester (Winter Graduation) will be at McCamish Pavilion, at 10 a.m. all colleges minus Arts & Science will graduate, at 3:30 p.m. Arts and Sciences will graduate. Keeping it as close to the May ceremony as possible. Balloon drop vs. Streamer cannons. Which one had a greater effect? Why we are graduating at Tech in a sentence: due to the demolition of the dome, McCamish Pavilion was the only available location that could house the size of our graduating class. SAA, School of Hospitality, and RHA were contacted about helping volunteer for commencement. Will be sending out mass media blast. Future Ceremonies moving forward: Graduation use to be in Sports Arena and was very personal. However, people felt like they were graduating at a gym and wanted the ceremony to be more special. Also Size of Class will not be accommodated by Sports Arena (Possible demolition and rebuilding of sports arena.). 2008-2009 was when graduation moved to GA Dome and Everyone graduated at same time. Stayed there until this past year when The Dome became scheduled for imploding. Warning: Marta Line underneath the Dome so be careful during imploding day! Georgia State University put in a request to the Board of regents for GSU to have its own space like McCamish Pavilion. Looking at 2021 for that new facility. Marching Orders: Name verification and how they want it to appear.

-Cultural Diversity: The Cultural Diversity Committee presented a resolution to Develop Strategies to Address Limited Faculty Diversity to both the Student Government Association University-Wide Senate and the University Senate's Executive Committee. This resolution was passed by the Student Government Association at the previous University-Wide Senate meeting, however, the University Senate Executive Committee rejected the resolution and returned it to the Cultural Diversity Committee. The Cultural Diversity Committee will need to rework the resolution so that it is workable, effective and legal. There are also subcommittees, which are formed within the Cultural Diversity Committee itself, each committee has specific tasks and issues they are willing to accomplish for this
year. Also a report of the Gayle’s Report was presented to the committee on Faculty Diversity. The next Cultural Diversity Committee meeting will be on November 6, 2017.”

- **II&T** - Report not submitted.
- **Library** - This committee has not met yet.
- **Planning and Development**: This committee has met twice and received updates on the demolition of Kell Hall, the Library plans, and then the updated plans regarding the University. Please refer specific questions about the discussion that took place at these meetings to Senator Patterson from the Atlanta campus (Robinson College of Business).
- **Research** - This committee has not met yet.
- **Student Discipline** - This committee has not met yet.
- **Student Life** - Report not submitted.
- **Sustainability** - Report not submitted.
- **University Statutes & Senate Bylaws**: “The University Senate Bylaws and Statutes Committee cancelled two of it’s scheduled meetings, the first was September 26 and secondly, October 31. However, a motion was presented to the University Senate Bylaws and Statutes Committee to be voted on from the Senate Faculty Affairs Committee, regarding the evaluation of Chairs and Associate Deans. This motion was voted on via email on October 20, 2017. However, it did not pass through the University Senate Bylaws and Statutes Committee, it has been returned to the Faculty Affairs Committee. Their next Senate meeting is scheduled for November 28, 2017.”

f. **Old Business**

   a. **2017-2018 Calendar Review and Approval**

      Senator Contreras Murillo moved to table the approval of the 2017-2018 to the next University Wide Senate meeting, seconded by Senator Aleman. All in favor, motion passed.

g. **New Business**

   a. **Swearing in of new Senators and Appointees- None**

   b. **88-UWPR-01: Policy Resolution to Recommend that the Registrar’s Office Implement Inclusive Policies for Transgender Students**

      - Senator Brashear move to table the bill until the registrar’s office is informed about this bill, seconded by Senator Leen-Alhomsi

   c. **88-UWSR-02: A University-Wide Support Resolution to Take Action Against Sex & Labor Trafficking in Atlanta & Metro-Atlanta**

      - Senator Arif, Riviera, Patel, Aleman, Patton, Delitz, Patterson

      - Senator Lakhani called the question. The bill passed with 24 in favor, 0 against, 5 abstentions.

   d. **88-USO-CL-02: Special Order for the Formation of an Ad-Hoc Safety Advisory Committee**
- Senator Roberts moved to discuss the bill for 5 min, seconded by Senator Osilaja
- Senator Patterson report: shining the light on the darkness of Atlanta, burning bright it shines.
- Senators Dhakal, Viveros, and Speaker Fye have expressed interested in serving on the committee.
- Senator Barry called the question. The bill passed with 22 in favor, 0 against, 7 abstentions.

e. 88-USO-FC-02: Special Order to Form an Ad Hoc Committee for the Prevention of Sexual Assault
- Senator Wright moved to discuss the bill for five minutes, seconded by senator Brashear
- EVP Stanley report: This committee is focused on the prevention of campus sexual assaults for all campuses.
- Senators Patterson, Siemer, Wright, Watson, Arif, Patel, Libam, Speaker Fye, and Directors Moreno-Duque and Pereira have expressed interested in joining the committee
- Senator Aleman called the question. All in favor.
- The bill passed with 24 in favor, 0 against, 5 abstentions.

f. 88-USO-FC-03: Special Order to Establish an Ad Hoc Post-Consolidation Concerns Committee
- Senator Patterson move to discuss the special order for 5 minutes, seconded by senator Dhakal
- Senator Roberts Report: This committee is necessary because wit the post-consolidation there was a lot of issues that were unresolved in regard to the processes that perimeter campuses SGA officers have to go through, for example issues regarding vendor lists for perimeter campuses. The objective of this committee is to internally identify problems within SGA that can be solved immediately. It applies to perimeter campuses and Atlanta campus as well.
- Senators Grand Jean, Viveros, Dhakal, Holsey, Patterson, Dlitz, Arif, Burell, EVP Stanley, EVP Smith and Speaker Kellog have expressed interest in serving on the committee.
- Advisor Sutton volunteered to advise this committee
- The bill passed with 28 in favor, 0 against, 1 abstention.

h. President’s Report, Corey Gray
- Moment of silence for mental health awareness, last year a member of Georgia State committed suicide, jumped of this building, let’s take the time to reflect on the life that was lost and for all the people that are going through stress issues.
- Extremely thankful for the university wide Senate. What are you thankful for?
- Administrative Council meeting was today. The Bill Gates Foundation came to Georgia State a little while ago. Bill Gates said that other universities should be following Georgia State University. He recognized Georgia State for the initiatives and programs it has going on. The show “60 Minutes“ will be doing a special and Georgia State University will be featured in it.
- On the Atlanta campus will have two residence halls to be constructed soon. The Shell station will be shut down temporarily to build a residence hall and probably a convenience store. The second residence will be constructed by the stadium, will have around 500-600 beds.

- Georgia Assembly goes into session on January 8th, will work with Government Relations and our university attorney to keep everyone updated on big pieces of legislation and initiatives so everyone on the same page, a lot of things on the floor for the next semester coming up.

- The Winter SGA retreat will be set up for January, details are to be determined and will be sent out once they are finalized.

- The mandatory fee committee for the Perimeter campuses will commence tomorrow at the Clarkston campus.

- Corey Chats will begin in November, collaboration with the Signal and GSTV, it will have representatives from The Signal, and President Corey will be featured every month for a section to talk about SGA and Corey Chats.

- President Gray recognized and congratulated Brandon Cain for becoming the 2017-2018 Mr. Blue and White on the Royal Court.

- As an incentive to increase survey submissions and data, President Gray implemented a program called Survey Wars. The idea is to create a general survey, and when students select what campus they’re on, they will get different questions depending on their campus.

- Decatur campus is winning the survey war by a large margin, the second campus in the lead is the Alpharetta campus.

- President Gray recognized Senator Wright as senator of the month, he has been working on the transportation initiative on all perimeter campuses, has been featured on the signal and has been doing an amazing job.

- Senator Patterson was also recognized as senator of the month, he has two pieces on the floor for legislation. He’s a big advocate for campus safety on the Atlanta campus and university wide.

- Applications are now available for Spring 2018 Atlanta SGA Election Commission - due Nov. 16, 2017. Would like for next semester for SGA to look more powerful with more advocacy, legislations, surveys, events, programs, and services.

i. Closing Remarks-NONE

   a. Closing Call of the Roll, Senate Clerk

      (Absentees: Senator Pachon, Cruz-Hernandez, Galvis, Vining, Perdue, Samuelson, Burell, Patel, Daniels) Quorum achieved: 29 present senators out of 38

j. Adjournment and Fellowship
The meeting was adjourned by Senator Aleman, seconded by senator Arif at 9:45p.m.