

Annual Report of the Academic Services Committee for 2011—2012

**Submitted by Helena Mitchell, Ph.D., Committee Chair
Executive Director, Center for Advanced Communications Policy
Georgia Institute of Technology**

The following people served on the committee during the 2011-2012 academic year:

Douglas Britton: Agricultural Technology Research Program (GTRI)

Amy D'Unger (Secretary): School of History, Technology, & Society (IAC)

Marlit Hayslett: Office of Policy Analysis and Research (GTRI)

Peter Hesketh: George W. Woodruff School of Mechanical Engineering (COE)

Denise Johnson-Marshall: Dean of Students Office

Nancey Green Leigh: School of City and Regional Planning (COA)

Susan Liebeskind: Cyber Technology and Information Security Laboratory, (GTRI) began spring semester

Margaret Loper: Information Technology and Telecommunications Lab (GTRI) resigned spring semester

Caitlin Manley: International Affairs & Modern Languages (undergraduate student, IAC) began fall semester

John Miller: ISyE (undergraduate student, COE) replaced Caitlin for spring semester

Helena Mitchell (Chair): Center for Advanced Communications Policy (IAC)

Raj Vuchatu: GTRI (*Liaison to the Executive Board*)

The Academic Services Committee (ASC) met ten times during the academic year to determine how the committee could best support the four areas of interest it had identified in the previous report to the Executive Board of GT¹. It was decided by the committee to only tackle those items that were still relevant and not already addressed by other campus entities. The committee decided to reexamine four items that fall in the purview of the ASC that had not been resolved by other entities on campus including 1) assessing the campus climate, 2) seeking membership in ICPSR, 3) improving the status of IT technology across campus classrooms, and 4) revisiting the idea of a faculty club.

(1) The ASC worked in helping to create a campus climate task force made up of representatives from across campus. The ASC gave verbal commitment to join and assist the efforts of the task force, headed by the VP for Diversity, especially in the creation of a large-scale campus survey on the topic. The survey should be completed for release to GT in the fall. (2) A letter to support funding membership in the ICPSR was drafted by the ASC in hopes of garnering interest in joining the consortium. Further discussions on the matter with some of the colleges/schools and among members of the ASC seemed to indicate that membership in ICPSR, although important, would have to be handled at the associate deans of research level and not something that the ASC could help resolve. (3) Input to OIT was provided regarding concerns with making sure classrooms had some uniformity and perhaps that even a “health audit” of classroom technology might be useful. OIT was receptive of the committee’s input and asked for any other suggestions we might have in the future. (4) A task group of the ASC was formed to reopen the idea of creating a GT faculty club. The group met several times, conducted research on previous GT efforts and looked at benchmarking “clubs” at other universities. No recommendation on forming a faculty club was forthcoming, although it was noted there was good verbal support and that amenities would be important to attracting and retaining members. On other activities, an ad hoc subcommittee of the ASC regarding “Open Access” publications by faculty was created. It met several times during the year and more heightened activity is expected in the next year. The ASC also joined the Committee on the Use of University Facilities, which only had one meeting during the year. Outside presentations/updates were given by the Strategic Plan Implementation Committee and the Student Government Association, in addition to the above activities.

For full details on the ten meetings of the ASC please refer to the minutes of September 29, 2011, October 26, 2011, November 16, 2011, December 14, 2011, January 24, 2012, February 14, 2012, March 13, 2012, May 15, 2012, and July 31, 2012.

¹ See August 30, 2011 ASC Report to the Executive Board.