

**Academic Services Committee**  
**Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**April 7, 2011**

**Committee Members Present:** Amy D'Unger, Marlit Hayslett, Margaret Loper, Caitlin Manley, Helena Mitchell, David White (Executive Committee Liaison)

**Committee Members Absent:** Doug Britton, Peter Hesketh, Nancey Green Leigh

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 AM by chair Helena Mitchell.

The topic of the meeting was the final report that will be presented to the Faculty Senate in the fall. Before presenting the final report, it was suggested that a draft of the report and its major items be presented at the Executive Board meeting to be held on June 21, 2011 from 3:00 – 5:00 PM in the Board Room in the Wardlaw Building. Committee members set June 1, 2011 as a tentative date for having the draft version for the Executive Board completed. The Executive Board can provide feedback on preparing the final report, which will then be presented to the Faculty Senate on October 4, 2011 from 3:00 – 5:00 PM in the Student Center Theatre.

Discussion then turned to faculty committee elections. The ballot was sent out several weeks ago, but committee members could only recall Helena and Peter's positions being up for reelection. This would not solve the problem of replacing Tyler Walters, who left to become the Dean of the Library at Virginia Tech. Helena had emailed Christopher D'Urbano on March 11, 2011 about replacing Tyler, and he responded later that day that he would begin searching for a replacement. Ron Bohlander, Secretary of the Faculty, was also included on the message. Margaret agreed to follow-up with Ron and Helena agreed to follow up with Chris.

David gave a summary on the Executive Board, which met on Tuesday, April 5, 2011. There was no new information on the budget, no new formula for funding, and no expected changes to the budget put forth by the governor, which included 2.6% in cuts, 1.6% of which are being covered by the Institute and the rest by the academic units. It was announced that Georgia Tech does have a new men's basketball coach. David indicated that the legislature was voting on whether to amend the Georgia constitution so that it (the legislature) can change tuition rates, rather than the Board of Regents (BOR). The Executive Board discussed the potential effect of changes to the HOPE scholarships, as well as that funding for higher education from the state legislature is down to the levels provided in 1995. Tuition will be set at the BOR meeting on April 19, 2011 and David stated that he expected that the legislature would pressure them to not raise tuition as much as the Board wants. Next year was supposed to be the year that Georgia Tech reaches parity in (out-of-state) tuition with its peer institutions, but David stated that is not going to happen in 2012.

Committee members then discussed the implications of financial changes on Georgia Tech students. It was agreed that the students' perspectives need to be included more in ASC discussions and that the presidents of both the undergraduate and graduate SGA should be invited to attend an ASC meeting to present the concerns of their constituent students. Caitlin stated that among the students, HOPE changes/cuts and the stress of the end-of-the-semester were the primary current concerns of undergraduates.

Discussion then turned to the future of GT Savannah. The Institute is committed to it, but must clarify in what way. Plans are in place to phase out the undergraduate program and get the current GT Savannah undergrads to come to Atlanta. Georgia Southern has an engineering program that is providing competition to GT Savannah, so plans are in the works to replace the undergraduate program with a variety of non-credit, non-degree programs, co-ops, internships, credit, non-degree programs, and professional masters programs. A report on GT Savannah will be released on June 1, 2011.

At the Executive Board meeting the Office of Undergraduate Admissions reported that there was an increase across the board in admissions in all categories (e.g., women, racial and ethnic minorities) except Georgia residents. In addition, the Provost's task force working on implementation of the Institute Strategic Plan has added ten more initiatives.

The committee then discussed logistics for the coming 2011 – 2012 academic year. It was agreed that August would be our kick-off meeting where we would meet new members, set meeting dates, and select tentative topics for the semester's meetings. Because we were not able to meet with them in April, it was also suggested that Howard Wertheimer (Space Planning) and Jim O'Conner (OIT) be the invited speakers for September. In October we will invite students from the SGA to come to the meeting and discuss the issues of concern for undergraduates and graduates. Caitlin stated that there might be a new student member of the committee for the upcoming school year. It was also suggested to have the Office of Admissions come and speak to the ASC at one of the post-October meetings, perhaps during a time that is not a heavy recruiting season.

Members then discussed how to proceed with crafting the committee's annual report. We agreed to begin by going through the meeting minutes from the past year and pulling out any "action items" that were proposed or discussed. Amy will compile these and send them to Helena to review. We can use these action items as the basis of a draft report to present to the Executive Board. The Executive Board can assess the feasibility of our action items and give feedback on which to incorporate in our final report. In addition, we can clarify the role of the ASC—is it to mobilize and act on an issue or make suggestions to the Executive Board on which they can act?

The final report will include an executive summary, followed by information on each of the individual meetings (synthesized and condensed) and the action items generated in those meetings. An addendum will include a complete set of minutes from each meeting. David suggested that we could present our findings to the Executive Board and then spend next year putting together concrete proposals, with special attention paid to aligning each of our action items with the goals and initiatives of the Strategic Plan. All concurred that this alignment was especially important.

The meeting was adjourned by chair Helena Mitchell at 10:28 AM.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amy D'Unger', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Amy D'Unger  
Secretary, Academic Services Committee