

Coordinating Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, October 12, 2016
12:00 p.m.
Student Center West 460/462

Attendance: Myra Carmon, Missy Cody, Rankin Cooter, Dave Ewert, William Feldhaus, Valerie Fennell, Teryl Frey, Christine Gallant, John Haberlen, L. Lynn Hogue, Alfred McWilliams, Anne Page Mosby, Harvey Newman, Charles Williams

Not present: Harry Dangel, John Hogan, Lorene Pilcher, Don Ratajczak, Pat Sartain

Guests: Larry Berman, Jim Burke, Kim Cretors, Tabatha Michel, Mary Whitehead

Approval of Meeting Agenda and Consent Agenda. Unanimous agreement.

Approval of Minutes. Unanimous agreement.

Since Harry Dangel was absent, Lynn Hogue took his place as Vice-Chair.

Honors College Presentation. Larry Berman has served as the dean of GSU's Honors College (HC) since it was established five years ago. He shared that he is an Emeritus, having served as a faculty member for 35 years at the University of California–Davis.

Berman explained that public universities have established honors colleges to attract more students who are in the top five- to seven-percent of their class. GSU's current strategic plan includes a place for the highest-achieving students. Next week, GSU's HC will be named as one of the top 50 for public universities in the United States. Berman stated that it is challenging for the HC to raise funds because it is unaffiliated with a specific degree program and thus no one majors in honors.

Berman suggested that if the Emeriti Association wishes to consider providing support, that it consider "just-in-time" funding. Typically, GSU HC students are Pell-eligible, and many are unable to afford to take advantage of HC opportunities. Research internships are another area where the Emeriti Association may want to consider providing support.

Currently there are 1,650 HC students, a number that will be increased to 2,000. The HC admits another 250 students with lower SAT scores and GPA averages as "walk-on's." Unlike HC students admitted as freshmen, walk-ons do not receive a \$2,500 research assistantship.

Mosby asked how students would be selected if the Emeriti Association should decide to provide some kind of support for HC students. Berman suggested that one option may be to form a selection committee that would include representation from the Emeriti Association. Emeriti Association participation at the HC's end-of-year banquet was also mentioned as a possibility. Haberlen asked how many students now have scholarships. Berman replied that 9

have Presidential scholarships, and their goal is 20. McWilliams noted that one can specify that one's gift goes to students from a specific college.

Chair's Report. Dangle reported that the Georgia Perimeter College Retiree Association (RA) had sent him the names of three nominees: Bob McDonough, Rosemary Cox, and Catherine Carter. They also asked if they could name an alternate, and suggested Deborah Huntley. Dangel recommended that the bylaws should not be changed to allow for alternate members of the coordinating board. Gallant added that none of the other colleges had alternates. Dangel also reported that several members would rotate off the Board in Spring 2017, so that the Board could nominate Emerita Huntley at that time.

Membership Report. Gallant proposed a motion to offer board membership to PC emeriti Bob McDonough, Rosemary Cox, and Catherine Carter. The motion was unanimously approved.

Activities Report. Frey announced that an invitation will be mailed for the holiday party on December 4 at Canterbury Park, where several members of the Emeriti Association reside. Frey explained that, unlike years past, Rajeev Dhawan is unable to meet exclusively with the Emeriti Association to present his annual economic forecast and instead has invited emeriti to attend his regular forecast, which is open to the public. As an alternative to this activity, Frey suggested a visit in January to the William Breman Jewish Heritage & Holocaust Museum in Atlanta. Also, it has been suggested that the Emeriti Association offer a tour of Kennesaw Mountain National Battlefield Park. Frey asked the members present if they prefer activities to be held in the mornings or the afternoons and no preference was stated.

Communications Report. Hogue noted Cretors' "prodigious work" on getting the Emeriti newsletter out and expressed his appreciation for her efforts. Gallant thanked Cretors for posting the minutes for the past six months of board meetings to the Emeriti website.

Pat Sartain has requested contributions to the newsletter on topics of human interest as well as activities and accomplishments.

GA-HERO and AROHE.

Ewart reported that we now have the support of TIAA. They will have three people at the GA-HERO meeting in Macon on November 11, 2016 (from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., \$21/person to attend). Ewart is trying to build a long-term relationship with TIAA. An effort will be made to form a carpool for people who wish to attend the meeting, which will be held at Middle Georgia State University.

Emory is talking about hosting the next national AROHE meeting. They want the University System of Georgia to co-host through GA-HERO.

Cody stated that most Emeriti Association members appear to be satisfied with the HRA, but about 10% to 15% have serious health challenges. Cody explained that people who are happy with their current health insurance do not have to do anything during this year's open enrollment. Even if you are happy with your current coverage, Cody stressed the importance of

double-checking Part D plans, which cover medications. Cody explained that AON will cover anything that is “loosely medical” but you must submit receipts in order to be reimbursed.

GSU Update.

Cretors presented the update.

- **Piedmont Central, new student and dining hall, opened Aug. 11**
- **GSU Foundation finalizes purchase of Turner Field site Aug. 18**

Georgia State University’s plan for redevelopment of the site will now go to the University System of Georgia Board of Regents for review and approval.

- **Record set for academic quality and size in first post-consolidation freshman class Aug. 22**

Fall semester began Aug. 22 and the university enrolled the largest, most academically qualified freshman class in the institution’s history, following its consolidation with Georgia Perimeter College in January. More than 3,700 freshmen are enrolled in this fall’s class at the university’s downtown Atlanta campus. The average GPA for incoming freshmen is also at an all-time high of 3.5, up from 3.4 the previous fall semester. Records were set again for diversity, with the number of African-American students up by 4 percent, and the number of Hispanic students up by 15 percent.

- **GSU among top 5 most innovative in U.S. News & World Report’s Best Colleges Sept. 13**

Georgia State University has moved from fifth to fourth among the most innovative schools in the nation in the 2017 Best Colleges edition of U.S. News & World Report magazine. The university followed Arizona State University, Stanford University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology atop the list of innovative colleges and universities. Institutions on the list are nominated by college and university leaders across the country. Georgia State also ranked 14th among national universities cited for “an unusually strong commitment to undergraduate teaching.”

- **Newest state-of-the-art research facility, the Research Science Center, opened Oct. 7**
- **Homecoming is Oct. 22, and President Becker’s brunch is open to all**

Campaign Update

- \$230 million raised of \$300 million goal
- \$4.5 million gift from State Farm to expand student success programs from downtown campus to Perimeter College campuses

New Business.

Gallant asked about publicity for the Author Series event in November, featuring emeritus Harvey Newman’s book on Andrew Young and the making of Atlanta. Cretors stated the invitation will be mailed to all emeriti in Georgia and South Carolina and select Library donors for a total of approximately 450 households. Cody recommended letting GSU’s African-American fraternities and sororities know about the event and also to ask them to forward the invitation to their alumni. Gallant recommended informing the African-American Studies Department about the event.

Haberlen asked about the interest earned on the Emeriti Association's endowment and suggested putting money back into the endowment, thus earning interest. Cody explained that the money in the endowment pays for luncheons and other activities.

Regarding the possibility of the Emeriti Association providing just-in-time funding for HC students, Cody stated that the Women's Philanthropy Initiative may provide a helpful model. Cody asked that the subject of Emeriti Association support for the HC be included on the next meeting's agenda.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:14 p.m.