**President’s Report**

**Faculty Senate**

**March 28, 2016**

* **Georgia Legislative actions** attached is a summary found in yesterday’s **Atlanta Journal Constitution** in the event you had not seen the material. Of particular relevance to us are the following: state budget, which passed and included approved tuition carry forward authority, a 3% salary increase for state employees, MMR dollars for the university system, dollars for enrollment based formula funding, a 3% average salary increase for state employees, and $1.3 m in bond dollars for CSU roof renovations. Dollars for the remainder of the Academic Core were not authorized, and will be part of next year’s request. In addition, the legislature also sent to Governor Deal 2 other bills of particular interest to our university—the campus carry legislation and the religious freedom legislation. The governor has expressed concern with both bills, but has not indicated whether he would or would not veto the bills. We have requested that he do so for the first, on behalf of the university, and the second personally with associations with area chambers of commerce. We will continue to provide more information as we receive it. We encourage each of our colleagues, where they choose to do so, to exercise their first amendments rights to speak, and to petition the government (without using government resources) On the last day of the session, a house committee approved a constitutional amendment that would limit increases in tuition to the cost of living in any given year. While it did not pass, the issue of tuition and fee increases will continue to be a part of state wide discussion and concern. <http://www.myajc.com/news/news/state-regional-govt-politics/how-major-bills-fared-in-the-2016-legislative-sess/nqsQx/>
* **Strategic Planning** We have been circulating drafts at various stages of the process, wonderfully led by Dr. Gary May. Please take advantage of the opportunity to comment on a document that when finished will help guide many of our actions for the next 5 years. We are quickly coming to a place where we will be developing measureable outcomes and dashboard indicators to allow us to assess institutional success and progress for our strategic goals. Thanks in advance for your participation. Open meetings on this and on budget activities (likely sometime in April we will be given a budget allocation for work next fiscal year) will be announced within the next week or so (consistent with past practices).
* **Top 150 Workplaces** For the 5th consecutive year, faculty and staff of this institution have created the conditions in which CSU was ranked in the top 150 workplaces in Metro Atlanta—no more than a handful of organizations have been so recognized. Thanks to this group and so many others who make for your colleagues this a great place to work, and to foster learning.
* **DOE Grant** we are still waiting to hear specifics. We hope to share sometime this week details on the receipt of a federal department of Education grant, which in the first year will provide a little over a million dollars to support student academic success initiatives already underway, and part of campus strategic directions
* **Thanks** for your service to the university. Pleased to answer any questions you may have