**President’s Report**

**Faculty Senate**

**February 12, 2018**

* **Free Speech legislation** <http://www.legis.ga.gov/Legislation/20172018/171302.pdf> this is the version of proposed legislation to be discussed today by a senate committee. The USG will be testifying that institutional and board policies are sufficient safeguards for campus speech. This involves both affiliated speeches (invited by campus groups) and requests for uses of facilities by unaffiliated groups. Board Policy manual, among other policies, speak to this issue <http://www.usg.edu/policymanual/section6/C2653>
* **Budgetary issues** the general assembly has just begun the review of the FY 2019 budget, as discussed at our last session. We are working with delegations from south metro counties in an effort to include the completion of the Academic Core funding ($5.3m) as the budget is reviewed by the House and then the state senate. Increases for dual enrollment and retirement funds remain in the proposed budget. We are rescheduling a meeting of the Planning and Budget Advisory committee in the effort to increase the number of participants—likely to occur later in February
* **General matters—**homecoming occurs this week, a significant set of events for many of our traditional students, and others on campus, ranging from a 5K to men’s and women’s basketball to a Spivey Hall concert with Gil Shaham <http://gilshaham.com/about/> noted as one of the great violinists of our times. The campus was once again named by the Arbor Day Foundation as part of Tree Campus USA <https://www.arborday.org/programs/treecampususa/learn.cfm>
* **Strategic Planning** after completing update sessions with leaders of implementation groups for the CSU strategic plan, we will be holding update open meetings as well as web posting of implementation updates
* **Thanks and Questions**