Faculty Senate

December 3, 2012

President’s Report

* Diversity and free speech discussions. If you have not seen my message to the campus, please take a look at it at your convenience. For the senate, the key topics include an assurance that I would engage the campus in conversations about issues of diversity, conversations about being reflective of the ways in which campus communications can affect university audiences, and conversations about civil ways in which our diverse campus can interact about issues that emerge from the earlier conversations. In include this body as one of the groups I wished to hear over the next few weeks and months on these issues. Universities are supposed to be locations for difficult conversations. Our task is to create the conversations in which those conversations can occur—and can serve as the foundation for subsequent conversations.
* On Friday, the planning and budget advisory committee met to outline approaches to on-going budget issues. When the minutes of the meeting are available, they will be posted to our web site for campus review. One discussion item included the possibility of an additional 2% reduction for this fiscal year (as the governor and the general assembly continue to wrestle with challenging fiscal issues, including the rising cost of health care to the taxpayers of Georgia.
* Hopefully, you can all join in the holiday spirit at my home on December 13.
* Thanks for all you have done as we come to the close of a challenging but good semester for our campus.
* Thanks for all you do.