Members: Barbara Musolf (Chair), J. Celeste Walley-Jean (Vice-Chair), John Mascaritolo, Ximena Zornosa, Randall S. Goeden, Scott Butterfield, Jim Keebler, Chris Raridan, Chris Pitsikoulis, Catherine Matos, Muhammad Rahman, Ken Nguyen, Jennell Charles (Secretary)

Non Members: Laura Herndon (proxy for Erin Nagel), Tim Hynes, Michael Crafton, Kate Troelstra

1.0 Approval of Minutes from the February 24, 2014 meeting. Minutes were unanimously approved as amended.

2.0 Reports

2.1 President’s Report—Dr. Hynes reported on the SACS reaffirmation visit. The visit began today and will continue through Thursday. The Committee will focus on two items—compliance with the principles, and evaluating the acceptability of our QEP—Partnering Academics and Community Engagement (PACE). Dr. Hynes appreciates all the hard work by faculty and especially the leadership provided by Antoinette Miller and Jill Lane. The Georgia Legislature session has ended; all legislation passed now requires review by the Governor. Monies for equipment for the New Science Building, dollars for the Archives and a .71% raise for faculty have been included in the 2015 budget. Legislation related to carrying guns on campus was not approved. Once the SACS visit is concluded, an interim Provost will be appointed and a search committee formed to begin selection process for the next permanent Provost.

2.2 Academic Affairs—Dr. Crafton distributed bookmarks with the PACE logo and brief information regarding the QEP. He encouraged Senators to share these with faculty and students, so that we are all informed as to the QEP.

3.0 New Business

3.1 Approval of curriculum modifications in Psychology’s Clinical Graduate Program. A motion was made to approve curriculum modifications, seconded, and unanimously approved by the Senate.

3.2 Approval of curriculum changes from UCC. A motion was made to approve proposed curriculum changes from UCC, seconded, and unanimously approved by the Senate.

3.3 Approval of electronic vote on language changes to the Faculty Handbook to support our application for Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement. A motion was made to approve an electronic vote on language changes to the Faculty Handbook to support our application for Carnegie Classification for Community Engagement, seconded, and unanimously approved by the Senate.

3.4 Presentation on Development Priorities and Branding: Kate Troelstra, VP of External Relations. A new branding program has begun with the goal of raising additional monies to support both faculty and student success. There are four initial focus areas: faculty and staff support (Dreamcatcher Honorees, University Professorships, and the President’s Making a Difference Award), scholarships (Dreammakers, monies to support student travel), facilities, and student engagement. The next steps are to utilize the focus areas when External Relations meets with donors, follow-up on leads provided by the departments and lead with the department’s priorities, stay true to Donor-centric development, and continue discussions across campus in regards to what we value supporting. PowerPoint posted on Senate page.

3.5 Report from March 1 Faculty Council Meeting. Barbara Musolf reported that both Chancellor Huckaby and Chief Academic Officer Houston Davis attended the March 1st meeting. They initially discussed the budget requests for 2015. The BOR priorities include: (a) maintenance and renovation of existing buildings rather than new construction; (b) more efficient use of current building facilities; and (c) restoring and updating the GALILEO program. A primary focus of the
BOR is the need to increase the number of Georgians with a college degree; a critical population to tap is the 1.2 million Georgians who have post secondary credit, but have not continued on to graduate with a college degree. The BOR is also examining how universities manage recruitment, orientation, registration, and advising, as well as enrollment by program majors. The low producing programs, excluding graduate programs and courses, will be reviewed annually. Regarding the past legislative session, the Chancellor feels that too much political capital was spent on the issue of opting in from the ORP to TRS programs with too few results; they are reassessing whether to tackle this issue again in the near future. Benefit packages are being examined, along with a 12-month pay option for faculty. A primary focus of the BOR is reducing student costs; they are examining options for reducing costs of class materials, are planning to reduce the cost of eCore courses, and pushing for more flexible paths to credits and new models of delivering content to students (e.g., MOOC). A more detailed document is posted on the Senate page.

4.0 Old Business

4.1 Report on scheduling of online courses. In addressing the fact that the scheduling of online courses is interfering with registration for traditional courses for some students, VP Micheal Crafton met with Jill Lane, Kevin Demmitt, Mark Dadonna, Sharon Long, and Barbara Musolf to discuss solutions. Beginning fall 2014, there will be no more turning over of the Banner schedule, which caused problems with registering for online classes. If online classes need to meet in person scheduling for rooms will be after 8 pm during the week, after 2 pm on Fridays or on Saturdays. Jill Lane is working on contracting for a program to proctor exams online. For distance learning students who need to take seated exams, there is work being done to develop a procedure whereby an Online Coordinator collaborates with the professor to have a student tested at nearby testing centers or at the CSU testing center. There may be a fee, however, for use of the Testing Center. John Mascaritola raised a concern that this proposal seems to contradict the voted-upon document provided to the Senate by the APC. Barbara Musolf offered to discuss this contradiction with him.

4.2 Updates from Subcommittees. Reports from subcommittees were tabled until the next Senate meeting due to time constraints.

4.3 Next Meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2014.

4.4 Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 12:19 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jennell Charles, PhD, RN & J. Celeste Walley-Jean, PhD