

**Division of Student Affairs**  
**Joint Department Heads Staff Meeting**  
**545 Centennial Hall in the Board Room 10 a.m. – 12 p.m.**  
**March 10, 2016**

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**Legislative/Budget Update**

- **Campus Carry:** HB 859 was heard before the Senate Judiciary Committee. The bill will allow anyone with a weapons carry permit (must be 21 years of age and passed a background check) to carry a firearm anywhere on a public college, university, technical school, vocational school or other institution of postsecondary education, except for dormitories, Greek housing or athletic events.
- **A Shocking Proposal:** House Bill 792 proposes allowing any student 18 years or older currently enrolled in classes at state colleges to carry electroshock weapons, including stun guns and Tasers, as a method of personal protection.

The bill, sponsored by Rep. Buzz Brockway (R- Lawrenceville) passed the Georgia House Feb. 23 by a 117-46 vote, just a day after the House passed the campus carry bill, and passed the Georgia Senate Tuesday by a 43-12 vote. The bill now goes to the governor for a signature to become law.

- **Casino Gambling:** Georgia House Resolution 807, which would allow casino gambling in the state, and House Bill 677, which would lay the groundwork for using legalized gambling to increase HOPE Scholarship Program funding, will not be voted on this legislative session after being postponed in the Georgia House on Crossover Day Feb. 29.

Crossover Day is the 30th legislative day of the Georgia General Assembly's 40-day session. Per a Senate rule, no general House bill can pass to the Senate after Crossover Day.

- **Carry Forward:** Allows us to carry remaining funds from fiscal year end 2016 forward.
- **Salaries:** There is expected to be a 3% merit increase pool. We will likely be asked to increase the pool by 1%.

- **Tuition/Campus Cost:** The Chancellor has stated that there will be no tuition increases in 2017.

**Statewide Sexual Assault Policy:** The Georgia university system's governing board on Tuesday adopted a statewide plan to prevent sexual violence, requiring student and staff training and setting minimum standards for reporting and responding to such crimes at every campus.

The system's Board of Regents backed those and other recommendations developed by a committee that has studied campus safety since September, particularly sexual violence.

Chancellor Hank Huckaby told board members that the system-wide approach, rather than a variety of plans on each campus, is the best way to ensure schools across the state are safe. Colleges and universities can't complete their main mission of educating students without that, he said.

"We're going to hold everybody accountable to the same bar," he said following the meeting.

The committee's plan calls for all of the recommendations to be implemented by the end of the 2015-2016 school year, with a focus on openness and uniformity across the state. Schools will perform regular "campus climate" surveys to measure the effectiveness of training programs and programs responding to sexual violence. The panel asked that all campus safety reports and other information be posted on a single system website easily accessible to students, parents and others.

The group of students, administrators and staff also recommended that the university system hire a Title IX coordinator to ensure all campuses follow that federal law, which prohibits any sex discrimination in education including sexual harassment.

The plan requires employees and all students to complete training on reporting and preventing sexual violence. That includes freshmen before arriving to begin their first semester.

## **Administrative Changes in Provost's Office**

- Kavita Pandit, Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs  
Kavita has worked with the provost in the past. Previously responsible for International Programs at UGA.
- Jonathan Gayle, Associate Provost for Institutional Effectiveness  
Previously, Associate Dean of Issues.
- Volkan Topali, Acting Associate for International Initiatives  
Replacing Jean Lui.
- Edgar Torbert – Retiring  
He will be working through August, 2016.

**Administrative Update:** All contracts over \$25,000 must be routed through Shantavia's office and signed by Dr. Covey. There are no exceptions.

Contracts under \$25,000 are only allowed to be signed by designated directors.

All new hires must complete their I-9 form online and their paperwork through Human Resources. New hires will receive an orange slip from Human Resources once their paperwork is complete. New hires may not begin working until the orange slip has been received by the supervisor and a start date has been submitted to Shantavia and/or the human resource representative.

**Enrollment Update:** The Banner transition occurring due to the consolidation is the biggest to date.

There are no new enrollment numbers to report at this time.

**SGA – Our Fortune has changed!** Sebastian stepped down to pursue other interests. Tiara is now acting President of Student Government. Fortune is one of five applying for the presidency and there are three Perimeter College candidates.

**Courtland Street Bridge:** The rebuilding of the Courtland Street Bridge is now scheduled in 2022 at the earliest.

**Continuing National Recognition:** Georgia State was primarily featured in a *New York Times* article, *University Business Reports*, etc.

Speakers, such as representatives from the Gates Foundation, have begun to approach us to be the Keynote Speaker at upcoming convocations.

**NASPA:** Dr. Covey, Darryl Holloman, Randy Brown and Mikyta Daugherty will be attending NASPA and several will be presenting.

**Turner Field:** Proceeding slowly.