

# Governance History

Georgia College & State University

*Prepared by Craig Turner for the August 10, 2011 Governance Retreat*

- ~1977, 1978 Faculty partitioned into schools (Arts & Sciences, Business, Education; Correction Nursing off A&S in early 80s).  
~1984, 1985 Faculty Senate was established as an advisory (not governance) body to the University President. The charge of this body was to engage in open candid dialogue about any matter of interest or concern to faculty. This established a formal and direct line of communication between the University President and the University Faculty.
- 1993 University Statutes Revised (have not yet found details to indicate the specific revisions)  
1996, 1997, 1998 Board of Regents charges GCSU with “Public Liberal Arts Mission” (1996), Dr. Rosemary DePaolo named [the ninth] University President following her appointment by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia (1997), USG Semester Conversion (1998)
- Jan 1998 President Rosemary DePaolo meets with the Faculty Senate Chair and proposes the concept of a University Senate (governance body vs. advisory body) for consideration by the Faculty Senate.
- 1999-2000 President Rosemary DePaolo brings in external consultants to perform a Governance Review for the University. One consultant met with focus groups on November 10-11, 1999 and January 13-14, 2000. *The consultants were Dr. Edward M. Penson of the Penson-Strawbridge consulting firm and Dr. Hugh D. Hudson, Jr, Professor of History at Georgia State University and Executive Secretary of the Georgia Conference of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP).*
- Feb 18, 2000 President Rosemary DePaolo announces the new electronic archive of minutes of working groups (committees, councils, Faculty Senate, University Faculty, Schools, etc).
- Sep 22, 2000 One of the work products produced by the Governance Task Force (consisting of 7 students, 7 staff, 7 faculty, and 7 administrators) entitled “Standards of Governance” is approved by the University Council. The Standards of Governance were articulated as six statements that were (1) the result of a review process in which each constituency (students, staff, administrators, faculty) was consulted by its representatives to offer suggested revisions to inform the final draft and (2) designed to describe desirable working relationships among students, staff, administrators and faculty.
- April 2001 Faculty Bylaws Revisions were adopted by the University Faculty. These bylaws focused on rules for holding meetings of the University Faculty. There were three votes taken [Dec 2000, January 2001 and March 2001] and in each case nearly all votes cast were in the affirmative. The first two votes did not reach the two-thirds majority necessary for approval as fewer than two-thirds of the University Faculty completed a ballot in each of these elections.
- Feb 11, 2002 Dr. Hugh D. Hudson, Jr, Professor of History at Georgia State University and Executive Secretary of the Georgia Conference of the American Association of University Professors (AAUP), met with a campus committee to discuss two proposed versions of revisions to the University Statutes, one drafted by University Council and the other drafted by Faculty Senate.
- Feb 25, 2002 The University Faculty endorsed, in concept, a new governance assembly called the University Senate adopting eleven statements to guide the development of the University Senate.
- Sep 12, 2002 The University Council endorsed revisions to the University Statutes. (University Senate language)  
Sep 23, 2002 The University Faculty endorsed revisions to the University Statutes. Among the revisions was language to describe the composition and responsibilities of both the proposed University Senate and its steering committee (Executive Committee). These revisions were approved by the Board of Regents on Feb 5, 2003 making them effective as of that date.
- Oct 3, 2002 The Faculty Senate called for schools and departments to hold elections to select individuals to represent them on the Interim University Senate.
- Nov 18, 2002 The Faculty Senate met to elect faculty to the Executive Committee of the Interim University Senate and elected Ken Farr, Jerry Fly, Lee Gillis, and Bob Wilson. Other members that served on the Executive Committee of the Interim University Senate were University President Rosemary DePaolo and Vice President of Academic Affairs Anne Gormly.
- Jan 8, 2003 The organizational meeting of the Executive Committee (ECUS) was held. ECUS elected Ken Farr (Chair), Lee Gillis (Vice-Chair), and Jerry Fly (Secretary). In addition, ECUS formed two subcommittees to facilitate the transition to the University Senate for the 2003-2004 academic year. Members chosen to serve on the subcommittee to write the initial bylaws were: Bob Wilson-Chair, Mike Digby, Dave DeVries, Anne Gormly, Betty Block, Chris Lowery, Karynne Kleine, and Quintus Sibley as an ex-officio. Members chosen to serve on the subcommittee to educate the university community on the University Senate were: Jerry Fly-Chair, Mike Rose, Dee Russell, and Cindy Diaz.
- Feb 17, 2003 The first meeting of the Interim University Senate was held. The agenda included reports from the Executive Committee, the Bylaws Subcommittee and the Educating University Community on the University Senate Subcommittee.
- Mar 24, 2003 The second (and final) meeting of the Interim University Senate was held. The agenda included an informational update on the Quality Enhancement Plan from VPAA Anne Gormly and a report from the Bylaws Subcommittee. The Bylaws report culminated in a motion to adopt the draft as amended by discussion at this meeting. This motion carried.

*In these bylaws, there were forty-nine members of the University Senate [as specified in Statutes]: the University President (as Presiding Officer), four Vice Presidents, one Staff member (Chair of Staff Council), one Student (President of Student Government Association), six Presidential Appointees and thirty-six faculty. The policy-recommending committees were the Academic Governance Committee (AGC), the Budget and Planning Committee (BPC), the Student Affairs Committee (SAC), and the University Services Committee (USC). Each of these committees consisted of fifteen people and included students, staff, administrators and faculty. The Executive Committee [comprising an elected faculty senator from each of the four schools and the VPAA and University President] served as a steering committee of the University Senate and the elected faculty members of ECUS served as an advisory committee to the University President.*

- July 1, 2003 President Rosemary DePaolo resigned as University President effective June 30, 2003. Dr. David G. Brown was appointed by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia to serve as Interim University President effective July 1, 2003.
- Oct 20, 2003 The first meeting of the University Senate was called to order at 12:30 p.m. by its Presiding Officer, Interim President David G. Brown.
- Jan 1, 2004 Dr. Dorothy Leland was named [the tenth] University President following her appointment by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.
- May 11, 2004 First Governance Retreat was held allowing outgoing and incoming University Senators to consider “Where have we been?” and “How might we improve governance?”. This retreat has become an annual event funded by the President’s Office.
- June 21, 2004 Institutional Statutes Revisions (minor editorial changes endorsed by University Senate Feb 2004, endorsed by University Faculty March 2004, endorsed by University President March 2004) approved by Board of Regents.
- Dec 3, 2004 University Senate adopts Mission and Vision statements as well as an official statement of Beliefs, a rewrite of the aforementioned Standards of Governance [see Sep 22, 2000]
- June 17, 2005 Institutional Statutes Revisions (significant streamlining of the document from 25 pages to 4 pages; endorsed by University Senate 02/28/05, endorsed by University Faculty 03/23/05, endorsed by University President 03/29/05) approved by Board of Regents.
- Sep 25, 2006 University Senate adopts an official articulation of Governing Concepts, against which its activity might periodically be assessed.
- March 6, 2007 Revisions to the University Senate Bylaws recommended by the University Senate are approved by the University President. Revisions effective for the 2007-2008 academic year include:  
 (1) **Committee Structure significantly modified:** the Academic Governance Committee is divided into the Academic Policy, Curriculum and Assessment Policy, and Faculty Affairs Policy Committees (affectionately APC, CAPC, FAPC), Student Affairs Committee becomes Student Affairs Policy Committee (SAPC) and University Services and Budget and Planning Committees are combined to form the Resources, Planning, and Institutional Policy Committee (RPIPC)  
 (2) University President becomes ex officio non-voting member of University Senate  
 (3) **Presiding Officer responsibility shifts** from University President to an Elected Faculty Senator  
 (4) Four VPs, one Staff, one Student become four Selected Staff Senators and two Selected Student Senators  
 (5) Each committee (APC, CAPC, FAPC, RPIPC, SAPC) is designated a member by an appropriate Vice President  
 (6) Elected Faculty Senators term of service changes from two years to three years  
 (7) The elected faculty senators on the Executive Committee modified from one from each of four schools to the University Senate Officers (Presiding Officer, Secretary) as well as one elected faculty senator from each academic unit (the Library in addition to each of the Schools). The Past Chair of ECUS continues to serve as a non-voting member.
- August 16, 2007 The first Graduate Assistant to the University Senate was introduced to the Executive Committee.
- August 27, 2007 The first University Senate meeting with an elected faculty senator serving as Presiding Officer was called to order at 12:30 p.m.
- February 6, 2008 University Senate adopts an official Meeting Etiquette statement for University Senate meetings.
- April 2, 2008 Revisions to the University Senate Bylaws recommended by the University Senate are approved by the University President. Revisions effective for the 2008-2009 academic year include  
 (1) Six Presidential Appointees changed to Five Presidential Appointees and 37<sup>th</sup> Elected Faculty Senator  
 (2) **Introduce the office of Presiding Officer Elect** (must be an elected faculty senator) who is also ECUS Vice-Chair  
 (3) Reduce Committee Organizational Meetings from two to one [as all officers can be elected at the same time in Spring]  
 (4) Align election calendars for Students and Staff with preferences of SGA and Staff Council respectively  
 (5) Remove section on Administrative Committees (getting ECUS out of the business of maintaining a list)  
 (6) Reduce from FIVE to THREE the number of University Senator signatures for support of a bylaws revision
- March 31, 2009 Revisions to the University Senate Bylaws recommended by the University Senate are approved by the University President. Revisions effective for the 2009-2010 academic year include  
 (1) Chief Academic Officer [Provost] is added as an ex officio non-voting member of the University Senate  
 (2) A **mechanism for special meetings [called meetings between regular meetings]** is added  
 (3) Each academic unit [Library, College] is apportioned **at least two** of the thirty-seven elected faculty senators  
 (4) Election Procedure for Elected Faculty no longer required to be by secret ballot and now at discretion of unit  
 (5) Nomenclature: *Vice President* becomes *Chief Operational Officer* [e.g. VPAA becomes Chief Academic Officer]  
 (6) Nomenclature: *Schools* become *Colleges*
- May 26, 2010 Revisions to the University Senate Bylaws recommended by the University Senate are approved by the University President. Revisions effective for the 2010-2011 academic year include  
 (1) Editorial revisions correct grammatical errors and update nomenclature (2) A two-tier bylaws revision process (Editorial, Non-editorial)
- June 20, 2011 Revisions to the University Senate Bylaws recommended by the University Senate are approved by the University President. Revisions effective for the 2011-2012 academic year include  
 (1) Calling standing committee (APC, CAPC, FAPC, RPIPC, SAPC) meetings including a specification of quorum and notification.
- July 1, 2011 President Dorothy Leland resigned as University President effective June 30, 2011. Dr. Stas Preczewski was appointed by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia to serve as Interim University President effective July 1, 2011.