

ANDREW YOUNG SCHOOL OF POLICY STUDIES
SPRING MEETING
April 25, 2006
MINUTES

Attendees:

James Alm	Jon Mansfield	Christine Roch
Roy Bahl	Karen Minyard	Michael Rushton
Jim Cox	Bob Moore	Bruce Seaman
Robert Eger	Lloyd Nigro	Dave Sjoquist
Sue Fagan	Klara Peter	Angie Snyder
Paul Farnham	Ragan Petrie	Greg Steib
Shif Gurm	David Pitts	Todd Swarthout
Bruce Kaufman	Inas Rashad	Geoffrey Turnbull
Yuriy Kitsul	Avani Raval	Bill Waugh
Susan Laury	Felix Rioja	Dennis Young

Roy Bahl, Dean, called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

I. Old Business

The minutes of the Fall Meeting (2005) were approved as distributed.

II. Presentations

A. Introduction of New People

Jim Alm started off by introducing the new Economics faculty joining the school.

Jim Alm mentioned that the department has hired Vjollca Sadiraj as an assistant professor beginning Fall 2006. She will also be working with Jim Cox in the Experimental Economics Center. Professor Sadiraj received her Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Amsterdam in 2002. She was a research associate at the Economic Science Laboratory at the University of Arizona. She currently is a visiting research assistant professor in the department.

Jim Alm also mentioned the hiring of two additional new faculty members. Spencer Banzhaf will be joining the department in Fall 06 as an associate professor of economics. Professor Banzhaf received his Ph.D. in economics from Duke University. He has been a fellow at the Resources for the Future, an environmental research organization in Washington, D.C. He has also taught at

Georgetown University's Public Policy Institute.

Jonathan Rork will also be joining the department of economics as an assistant professor in Fall 06. Professor Rork received his doctorate in Economics from Stanford University and has been a faculty member at Vassar College.

Jorge Martinez mentioned that Emilson Silva from Tulane University was visiting with the Andrew Young School during the fall semester.

Greg Streib announced that Public Administration and Urban Studies was conducting a faculty search in the area of nonprofit studies. Dennis Young is chairing the committee. There were three candidates brought to campus so far, and another couple more will soon be scheduled.

Greg Steib announced that Michael Rushton would be leaving at the end of the Spring Semester for Indiana University.

Karen Minyard introduced Angie Snyder from the Health Policy Center. She is finishing her Ph.D. in health policy from Yale University. She is working on research related to children and child policy.

B. Dean's Report

Roy Bahl announced that the University budget discussions were over. Most colleges will receive what they have received in the past. Arts and Sciences was allocated more money. The College of Business took the lion share of the budget cuts. The Andrew Young School got through without any money reallocated to other areas of Georgia State.

Roy Bahl mentioned that this Thursday the W.J. Uesery Distinguished Lecture Series will take place with a lecture by Alan Krueger on "Wither the Social Safety Net?" All are encouraged to attend.

Roy Bahl also mentioned that the Child Policy Conference on "Public Policies and Child Well-Being" would be May 14-15, 2006 at the Marriott Evergreen Conference Center at Stone Mountain Park.

Roy Bahl mentioned that the major source of what is going on in the school is the weekly Dean's E-New. Please make sure you submit information weekly as to what you are working on.

Jim Alm gave an update on the Social Science Research Network (SSRN). This electronic journal will raise the visibility of the Andrew Young School and its faculty and research associates by providing an avenue to make papers available

to peers. The process for submissions will be sent out via e-mail. Jim Alm will be the “editor” of the journal.

Center Reports

Dave Sjoquist – Fiscal Research Center

Dave Sjoquist mentioned that last week (April 20-21st) the center hosted the “Intergovernmental Fiscal Relations/Recent Trends in local Governments” conference in the school’s seminar room. Three academic papers were presented along with four other papers.

Dave Sjoquist also mentioned that he and Laura Wheeler made a presentation to the State Ways and Means Committee.

Dave Sjoquist also mentioned that since January 1, 06, the center has published 12 reports, and many more are in the process of being published. Over 100 fiscal notes were published during the last four months.

Dave Sjoquist also mentioned that the Fiscal Research Center also did some research work for the committee reviewing the incorporation of South Fulton.

Dave Sjoquist also mentioned that the Fiscal Research Center was working on a variety of state committee reports ranging from vehicle taxes to property tax reform. He mentioned that the state is interested in changing the way taxes are levied.

Jim Cox – Experimental Economics Center

Jim Cox announced that the Experimental Economics Center has now been in business for three months at the Andrew Young School.

Jim Cox announced that in June, the Center would host an Experimental Economics Workshop. This is in conjunction with the National Science Foundation grant, where the Experimental Economics Center will be traveling all over the country showing faculty how to use Experimental Economics in teaching, and how the EconPort system works.

Jim Cox also announced the Georgia State University will be the host site for the 2006 International Meeting of the Economic Science Association (June 8-11th).

Jim Cox also showed the EconPort website which was now functional.

Karen Minyard - Georgia Health Policy Center

Karen Minyard mentioned that the Georgia Health Policy Center is working on a Georgia Youth Fitness Assessment. The assessment is to measure nutrition

and fitness of Georgia Students. Some 5000 students in grades 5 and 7 will be evaluated. The assessment relates to the Childhood Obesity issues. The assessment is supported by the Georgia Philanthropic Collaborative. The Georgia Health Policy Center has received a \$540,000 grant from the Woodruff Foundation. This grant is to fund a report that understands the broad view of health in Georgia.

The Georgia Health Policy Center currently has 75 rural networks that they support throughout Georgia and the Nation. However, recently they have been asked to provide support to 141 networks in 40 states.

Jorge Martinez – International Studies Program

Jorge Martinez updated the school on program that the staff of ISP were working on:

- Fiscal Decentralization project for DANDIDA in Tanzania
- A fiscal decentralization project for the Finish Government in Namibia
- A social policy project for the University of Guyana in Guyana
- A project for the World Bank in Guatemala
- A capital transfers project in Latvia
- A World Bank project in Sudan

Jorge Martinez mentioned that the ISP was holding a conference in June on Methods of Taxation. The conference will be held at the Stone Mountain Conference Center.

Jorge Martinez mentioned that the ISP in partnership with the Lincoln Land Institute would be holding a conference on property taxation. This conference would also be held at the Stone Mountain Conference Center.

Jorge Martinez also mentioned that Summer Training was just around the corner. This year there will be four course offerings:

- Development Macroeconomics (June 26th – July 7th)
- Fiscal Decentralization and Local Governance (July 10th – July 28th)
- Tax Policy, Fiscal Analysis and Revenue Forecasting (July 31st – August 11th)
- Public Budgeting and Fiscal Management (August 14th – August 25th)

Jorge Martinez also mentioned that the Andrew Young School will host the 2nd Summer School in Public Economics (July 10th – July 14th). The summer school is sponsored by the Fundacion Rafael del Pino, Spain in collaboration with the Instituto de Estudios Fiscales, Spain and the Andrew Young School.

Dennis Young – Nonprofit Studies Program

Dennis Young announced that the Nonprofit Executive Roundtable was held last week, and it was a great success. The invited speaker was Virginia

Hodgkinson from Georgetown University. Approximately 60 people were in attendance from the nonprofit community.

Dennis Young announced that the Nonprofit Studies Program Brown-Bag Seminar series has been a great success. There have been some great presentations.

Dennis Young mentioned preliminary discussions were under to begin an executive Nonprofit Studies Program. Currently study groups, social service groups, and leaders on nonprofits have been solicited to give their input on such a program.

Dennis Young mentioned that a draft case statement for the Nonprofit Studies Program has been developed. It is currently being circulated in the nonprofit community to get their opinion.

Senate Report

Susan Laury reported on activity from select Georgia State Senate Committees.

- The University will be instituting a +/- grading system. The +/- system will be left up to the individual. However, the Andrew Young School's Faculty Affairs Committee will come up with a procedure to use by AYSPS Faculty.
- There will be change in the policy regarding withdrawals. Now a student can have a maximum of 6 (similar to UGA). Any withdrawals above 6 will automatically be W/Fs. The only exception will be withdrawals during the first week of classes.
- All faculty syllabi must be available by the 2nd day of class.
- There will now be a fixed date for the semester midpoint (currently it is a floating date).
- The IRB (Institutional Review Board) will be reviewing its procedures.
- The proposed tech fee increase of \$25 has been dropped to \$10.

Annual Campaign – Jon Mansfield

Jon Mansfield gave a report on the Annual Giving campaign. At this early stage of the campaign the current contribution rate is at 10%.

Jon Mansfield emphasized that it would be great if the Andrew Young School could have a 90% or higher contribution rate. As in the past the contribution rate is more important than the dollar amount.

III. New Business

A. Approval of Candidates for Graduation – Sue Fagan

Sue Fagan presented the candidates for graduation for the Spring 2006 Semester commencement ceremonies. The list was approved and passed unanimously.

B. Academic Programs Committee – Paul Farnham

The APC Committee recommends approval of the proposals listed. The motion was presented to the School faculty for a vote. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved. For more detailed information, please see handouts.

C. Faculty Affairs Committee – Bruce Seaman

Bruce Seaman announced that the faculty affairs committee was reviewing the school's leave without pay procedure.

D. Elections

AYSPS Committee Elections

Promotion and Tenure Committee

Greg Streib nominated John Thomas to serve a three-year term (Spring 2006 to Spring 2009). The motion was seconded and unanimously elected by the faculty.

Felix Rioja nominated Sally Wallace to serve a three-year term (Spring 2006 to Spring 2009). The motion was seconded and unanimously elected by the faculty.

E. Other

Roy Bahl announced that Associate Professor Sally Wallace was recently promoted to Full Professor effective Fall 2006.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:59 p.m.