Dr. Tricoli stated that the Presidential Think Tank on the Writers Institute would forward recommendations to the Task Team. The Task Team will make the final recommendations to the president.

Dr. Tricoli asked the Think Tank to present what each member saw as relevant information pertaining to the Writers Institute.

At the end of the discussion, he wants to understand the following:

- History of the Writers Institute
- Organization and Structure
- Participation of Faculty
- Impact on Students
- Impact on Community
- Future
- Recommendations

The president stressed that the final recommendations should emphasize two things:

1. How to achieve the greatest impact on students
2. How to achieve the greatest faculty involvement.

In their discussions, the Think Tank members reviewed in detail the history of both the Writers Institute and *The Chattahoochee Review*. They also discussed the organizational structure of both.

The members determined that we could impact more students and more faculty by expanding the foundation of the current Writers Institute. Members discussed models that focused on faculty and student involvement. They recommended adding committees such as “GPC Writes,” a group led by faculty to honor every GPC faculty member who publishes a book with a reception and a reading. The group also recommended increasing the number of fellowships available to faculty. Some suggested we eliminate grants in order to offer more fellowships.

The group also examined the concept of a “Writer-in-Residence.” Committee members who researched various “Writers-in-Residence” (WIR) shared their findings. Most WIR are external writers with an extensive publication history who teach and write at an institution for a limited period of time, usually six months to one year. The group discussed the Miami Dade College Model where the “Writer-in-Residence” is an external writer who visits the college for three to five days. The WIR actively engages students in the classroom and in workshops. With this structure, Miami Dade has impacted a significant number of its students. The group agreed that GPC students would benefit from a similar model. Accordingly, the group recommended redefining “WIR” at GPC. GPC would have two to three visiting external Writers-in-Residence each semester rather than an internal WIR.
The new model would continue to invite writers to read and to discuss their works. The group recommended that all visiting writers, both literary and scholarly, coordinate co-curricular events with academic programs to benefit students.

The group also discussed the numerous contacts and friendships GPC faculty have with fellow writers. Many faculty could recruit writers to participate in a Visiting Writers Program. Additionally, organizations such as The Fellowship of Southern Writers serve as clearinghouses for professionals who speak for pay. Editors of The Chattahoochee Review, the coordinator of the Honors Program, and members of the Humanities Division have recruited writers for years. The group also discussed how to “piggyback” writers on tour in the metro-Atlanta area.

The group recommended a committee for Literary Civic Engagement. Committee members along with faculty, students, and staff would organize, publicize, and participate in various community events surrounding each of the campuses and the metro area. The new model would also have a committee for External Funding.

The Task Team recommended a “Faculty Coordinator” to oversee the progress of the various groups in an expanded model. The Faculty Coordinator would retain faculty status and salary with a reduced teaching load and would report as a faculty member to his or her department chair. The Faculty Coordinator would receive release from summer commitment duties and from advisement and registration. The Faculty Coordinator would also report the progress of the new model to the Dean of Humanities. In addition to overseeing GPC Reads and GPC Writes, the faculty coordinator would work with the committees on outreach and external funding. The position of Faculty Coordinator would rotate every two to three years, allowing more faculty to apply for the position.

The group also recommended reviving the Literary Publications Board (as described under the “Literary Publications” Policy), which would oversee the following independent publications, each led by a Faculty Editor: Chattahoochee Review, Sinescope, Copia, Polishing Cloth, and Creative License. The group also recommended that the Faculty Coordinator serve on the Publications Board.

The Think Tank forwarded its recommendations to expand the current Writers Institute. The group agreed that the goal was to benefit students and to involve faculty.