

**STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**Articulation and General Studies Committee**  
**University of Alabama**  
**Bryant Conference Center**  
**Birmingham Room**  
**March 6, 1997 - 10: 00 A.M.**

**Minutes of Meeting**

Committee members were present:

Dr. Joe Morris, Chair	Jefferson State Community College
Dr. Carol Daron, Alternate	Auburn University
Dr. James Yarbrough	University of Alabama
Dr. Charles Nash, Alternate	University of Alabama System
Dr. Tom Osborne	University of North Alabama
Dr. Evelyn Ellis	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Rod Britt, Alternate	Southern Union Community College
Dr. John Morrow	University of South Alabama
Dr. Larry Allen, Alternate	University of South Alabama
Dr. Alfred Smith, Alternate	Alabama State University
Dr. Harold McGee	Jacksonville State University
Dr. Elizabeth French	Commission on Higher Education
Dr. James Kimbrough	STARS
Mr. Keith Sessions, Alternate	STARS

Others present: Bert Slafter-ADPE; Shannon Nichols-STARS; Maryanne Ivey-UAB; Michael Neilson-UAB; Betty Canan-UAB; Nick Sylvester-USA; Ada Long-UAB; Ted Bendett-UAB; Ann Webb-UA; and Sam McManus-UAH.

<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	Meeting was called to order by Joe Morris, Chair.
<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>	McGee moved for the approval of the January 10, 1997 and February 7, 1997 Minutes. Britt seconded. Minutes were-approved as mailed.

**DECISION ITEMS**

Commendation for Don Crump. The Chair announced the resignation of Don Crump and introduced Dr. James Yarbrough, newly appointed representative for the University of Alabama. The Committee agreed unanimously to present Dr. Crump with an official commendation for his tireless efforts on

behalf of the AGSC. Daron and Britt were to prepare the document which would be framed and presented to Crump.

**Schedule for Submission and Recommendations on Institutional Course Proposals For the General Studies Designation.** The Committee agreed on the following deadlines for the submission of institutional proposals and Discipline Committee recommendations to the AGSC. Nash recommended that the Discipline Committee Chairs be notified of the timeline.

Course proposals due to STARS Office	March 14
Discipline Committee Chairs receive proposals from STARS	April 1
Discipline Committee Chairs circulate proposals to their committee members	April 10
Discipline Committees forward recommendations to AGSC Chair	May 2

**Meeting with Chief Academic Officers (CAO).** Morris was instructed by the AGSC to contact the CAOs requesting that high priority be assigned to the work of faculty associated with the discipline committees and that the schedule of deadlines for Submission and Recommendations on Institutional Course Proposals for the General Studies Designation be included. It was agreed also that Morris would schedule a meeting of the CAOs with the Committee prior to the April meeting.

**Meeting with Arts and Sciences Deans.** Morris was instructed by the AGSC to invite the Arts and Sciences Deans to the April 16 meeting.

**Approval of Selected Discipline Areas in Area V.** The approval of Area V was tabled until the April meeting. A lengthy discussion followed which included the following issues:

**Report from Morris on the Georgia System:**

1. Has moved from 4 areas to 6;
2. Has separated out the basic skills of English and Math as areas open to the institutions as electives;
3. Has a 60 hour requirement because of the baccalaureate requirement of a maximum of 120 hours;
4. Has Discipline committees handle Area V;
5. Requires institutions to accept D grades if they are accepted from their own students; and
6. the issue of advanced placement is yet to be resolved.

**Transfer.** Morrow emphasized that if a student completes 64 semester hours at an Institution for approved course work, that all coursework transfers as part of the degree program at the receiving institutions. McGee reinforced this view as being consonant with the Georgia model.

**Area V.** Nash raised the issue as to whether or not Area V was part of the general studies curriculum. Morrow responded that the AGSC had made a decision to deal with all five (5) areas and that initially the Committee would deal with the first four (4) and later address Area V. Morris added that the Georgia model includes Area V. Morris reminded the Committee that at the February meeting a motion was passed that requested the discipline committees in arts and sciences to examine the issues related to the specific fields of study for Area V.

Slafter indicated that the Committee had already defined its expectation for Area V in its Invitation to Submit Courses. "A fifth area (Area V) may be used for pre-professional, pre-major, and elective courses and to complete requirements for an associate degree on the two-year college campus. General education requirements (sometimes called core requirements) within the freshman and sophomore years at all public higher education institutions should encompass the minimum credit hour distribution requirements in Areas I through IV. Institutions may vary in their ability to offer the full range of pre-professional and pre-major curricula for Area V, and appropriate information and advisement will be available to students through articulation strategies. Students completing courses that have been reviewed and approved for the general studies curriculum and are appropriate to their major and/or degree program may transfer these courses with credit applicable to their degree programs among two-year and four-year colleges and universities."

**Statewide Articulation Agreement.** Nash raised the issue of the statewide articulation agreement. McGee responded that it was the intent of the AGSC to construct a narrative explaining the general studies curriculum as well as its rules and guidelines governing implementation. Daron pointed out that there were two distinct parts of the charge to the Committee. The first was to adopt a general studies curriculum for all students and the other was to develop an agreement.

**STARS.** Nash opened a discussion on the role of STARS. Sessions indicated in his oral report to the Committee that STARS would establish an internet site that would provide information to the general public on the articulation policies and actions of the AGSC. He envisioned that this information would be put on some type of web page.

**History Discipline Committee Recommendation.** Morris circulated a letter from the Alabama Association of Historians with copies of a resolution for members of the AGSC. The resolution recommended that a two sequence course be required in history. After a lengthy discussion a motion was presented by Osborne to remove the linkage between Area II and Area IV and go back to the requirement that all students take the two-course sequence in literature in Area II and the two-course sequence in history in Area IV. Britt moved to table the motion until the April meeting. Members agreed.

**Human Growth and Development/Life Span Development.** After a lengthy discussion on the psychology component of the General Studies Curriculum, Britt moved that Human Growth and Development/Life Span Development Studies be included in Area IV as an option requiring the pre requisite in psychology. Motion was seconded by Morris and passed unanimously.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Report of the Mathematics Discipline Committee. Morris distributed the Academic Discipline Committee for Mathematics Report of February 7 as well as additional recommendations. The report included a recommendation for common course numbering which the Committee decided to table for discussion until the next meeting. Morris stressed that the recommendations were not policies and that the only issues the AGSC had addressed to date was to approve the type of math courses that would count in the category for general science--pre-calculus algebra and finite mathematics. On the question of finite mathematics, Morrow reminded the Committee that the Mathematics Committee had approved finite math as being appropriate for the general studies. Nash indicated that in the general studies document under Area III, that pre-calculus algebra did not imply the title of the course but rather the level, and that it just happened that the course title was also pre-calculus algebra. In response to Nash's suggestion

that the Committee visit the issue of uniform course numbering and titles, Morris suggested that the Committee needed to delay consideration.

**Report of the Interdisciplinary Committee.** Britt reported that the Interdisciplinary ad hoc committee (Morrow, Slafter, Ada Long, Britt) decided to request through the CAOs the submission of any and all interdisciplinary courses (100 and 200) level that are currently being offered. The deadline for submission is April 14.

**Report on STARS.** Keith Sessions introduced Shannon Nichols, computer programmer for the STARS office. He stated that Nichols will be working with STARS on setting up the WEB site. Sessions presented a Revised Funding Request to set up INTERNET for STARS and the AGSC (copy attached). In addition to providing the Committee with Survey Results for Two-Year Institutions, he also gave a report on the on-line and usage of STARS for the month of February.

### **SCHEDULE OF FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS.**

Agenda approved as follows:

April 16	ADPE
May 9	UNA
June 12	TSU/Troy
July 11	FSCC/Gulf Shores
September 12	UAB

### **INFORMATION ITEMS DISTRIBUTED**

1. Record of Discussion and Draft of General Studies Curriculum of September 14 meeting with Deans of Business (copy attached)
2. Report and Recommendations from the Mathematics Discipline Committee (copy attached)
3. Letter from Warren Jones, UAB - Recommendations for Pre-Professional Area V Requirements for Computer Science Programs within Arts and Sciences Schools (copy attached)
4. Letter from Allen Cronenberg, AU - Resolution passed by Alabama Association of Historians regarding articulation (copy attached)
5. Sample of General Studies Curriculum for Programs in Arts and Sciences - provided by Dr. John Morrow (copy attached)
6. Articulation model of Michigan and Rhode Island - provided by Dr. Sam McManus (copy attached).
7. STARS Reports: On-Line & February Usage Report; Survey Results from Two- Year Institutions; and Internet Proposal (copies attached).
8. Membership List of Articulation and General Studies Committee Revised 2/21/97 (copy attached).

Meeting was adjourned at 2:20 P.M.

Joe Morris, Chair

Deborah Nettles, Recording Secretary