

**STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**Articulation and General Studies Committee**  
**Department of Postsecondary Education**  
**Alabama Center for Commerce Building**  
**President's Conference Room**  
**August 14, 1998**  
**10:00 A.M.**

**Minutes of Meeting**

Committee members present:

Dr. Roy Johnson, Chair	Southern Union Community College
Dr. Rod Britt, Alternate	Southern Union Community College
Dr. Joe Morris	Jefferson State Community College
Dr. Paul Parks	Auburn University
Dr. Linda Glaze, Alternate	Auburn University
Dr. Evelyn A. Ellis	Alabama A&M University
Dr. James Yarbrough	University of Alabama
Dr. Charles Nash, Alternate	University of Alabama System
Dr. Larry Allen	University of South Alabama
Dr. Ed Roach, Alternate	University of West Alabama
Dr. Elizabeth C. French	Commission on Higher Education
Mr. Keith Sessions	STARS

Others present: Maryanne Ivey-UAB; William Walker-AU; Wendy Troxel-UAB; Mike Neilson-UAB; Jay Goldman-UAB; Ada Long-UAB; Mary Pagliero-UWA; and Bert Slatter-ADPE.

<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	Meeting was called to order by Dr. Roy Johnson, Chair. Verification of quorum was made by voice roll call of members present.  Parks introduced William F. Walker as the new Auburn University representative on the Committee upon his retirement.
<b>ADOPTION OF AGENDA</b>	Ellis moved for the adoption of the agenda. Britt seconded. AGSC unanimously adopted.
<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>	Britt moved for the approval of the Minutes of July 16, 1998. Yarbrough seconded. Minutes were approved as mailed with corrections.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

**STARS Report.** Holley reiterated that the current STARS system will be shut down as of August 14th. He stated that he will provide a usage report for the summer months, as well as a total usage report at the next meeting.

**Update on STARS Access Plan.** Sessions distributed copies (copy attached) of the STARS Access Plan. He stated that a brochure (copy attached) has been sent to current users which explains how the system works. The Technology Committee has asked each institution to begin developing "Transfer Assistance Pages". He stated that Priscilla Hancock, Chair of the Technology Committee, is working with the institutions to make sure that the pages are up and running as soon as possible.

Sessions stated that since the current stand alone system contains last year's quarter course information, the system will be shut down as of August 14, 1998. He stated that the goal is to supply institutions with tracking information such as lists of users and program interests. The institution can then use this information as a recruiting tool. Sessions stated that if this goal is reached within the next two years, Alabama will have the best articulation system in the country.

## DECISION ITEMS

**Transfer Guide Agreement.** Sessions distributed a copy of the revised Transfer Guide Agreement (copy attached). After addressing concerns regarding student interpretation of the Agreement, the AGSC agreed that the following changes would be made: 1) State of Alabama will be added in the heading; 2) Articulation and General Studies will be added in the heading; and 3) a statement will be added in the second paragraph: "The same policies must be applied to transfer students as those applied to native students."

Parks moved for the adoption of the Transfer Guide Agreement with modifications. Morris seconded. AGSC unanimously adopted.

**Area V Pre-Professional Courses.** Roach distributed templates (copies attached) for programs submitted by the Pre-Professional Discipline Committees (Set 1), the Enhanced Discipline Committees (Set 2), and Institution Specific (Set 3).

There was discussion regarding the Clarifying Statement for Area V. Johnson stated that some templates fail to adhere to the minimum number of hours in Area V. He stated that templates that do not meet the requirements should be returned. Johnson stated that the two-year system's position is that half of the hours in Area V should be specified.

Roach stated that the Chief Academic Officers (CAOS) recommendation was to specify 6 hours (19 hr program) or 9 hours (23 hr program) in Area V. Johnson stated that neither the two-year proposal or the CAOs recommendation was adopted by the AGSC, but the AGSC did agree that everyone would work in good faith to submit the maximum number of hours possible in Area V. Nash stated that some AGSC members have expressed that the Committee should not deal with Area V at all.

Ellis recommended that since the AGSC has already established a precedent, a policy should be written and adopted by the AGSC that clarifies the requirement. Parks stated that the AGSC should examine each template to decide whether exceptions need to be made. He stated that if the AGSC has legitimate questions, additional information will be requested. He stated that the AGSC should not have a rigid policy that does not allow for flexibility.

After further discussion, Britt moved that templates submitted in Set 1 be ratified with the exception of removing the disclaimer statement included in Areas II and Area IV which refers students to institutional requirements. Morris seconded. AGSC unanimously ratified.

Templates for Human Sciences-University of North Alabama and Education of Young Children-University of Alabama will be returned for revisions.

Johnson requested that a subcommittee of Slafter, Britt, Morris, and Yarbrough conduct a comparison of commonality in Area V for course templates submitted in Set 2. AGSC will vote on templates in Set 2 at the September meeting.

Parks moved that templates submitted in Set 3 be ratified as submitted. Britt seconded. AGSC unanimously ratified.

**Discipline Committee Course Recommendations.** Sessions distributed a list of courses (copy attached) recommended for approval from the following Discipline Committees: 1) Foreign Language; 2) Philosophy and Religious Studies; and 3) Physics, Physical Science, Astronomy.

Ellis moved for the approval of the Discipline Committee recommendations. Morris seconded. AGSC unanimously approved.

**Discipline Committee Chair Elections.** Sessions distributed a copy of the Discipline Committee Chair Elections for 1998-99 received to date (copy attached). Morris moved for the approval of the chair elections of the following Discipline Committees: Anthropology, Sociology, & Human Geography; 2) Biological Sciences; 3) Economics; 4) Foreign Language; 5) Geology, Physical Geography & Earth Science; 6) Mathematics; 7) Physics, Physical Science, & Astronomy; 8) Speech and 9) Written Composition. Ellis seconded. AGSC unanimously approved.

Sessions stated that a workshop will be planned for the newly elected chairs in October.

**Discipline Committee Member Replacements.** Sessions stated that two year nominees have been received from Slafter (copy attached). He stated that nominations were requested from the Deans. No nominations have been submitted for Area and Ethnic Studies. Nominations for the two-year institutions have been closed.

Roach stated that he has received responses from most of the four year institutions. He stated that UAB and AUM have suggested a rotation plan for four-year member replacements. Roach will discuss the rotation plan with the CAOs and report back to the AGSC.

Morris moved for the approval of nominations submitted. Britt seconded. AGSC unanimously approved.

**AGSC Deadlines for Course Approvals 1999-2000 Academic Year.** Session distributed a copy of the AGSC Deadlines for Course Approvals for the 1999-2000 Academic Year (copy attached). He

stated that he received one recommendation to move dates back one month . Sessions stated that he will revise the deadline schedule and forward the revised copy to the CAOS.

Morris moved that the AGSC Deadlines for Course Approvals for the 1999-2000 Academic Year be approved with revisions. Britt seconded. AGSC unanimously approved.

**Interdisciplinary/Honors/Innovative (IHI) Course Recommendations.** Long reported that one (1) course had been submitted by the University of Alabama - FA 1 01 Introduction to Fine Arts (Area II Fine Arts). Morris moved for the approval of the IHI Committee recommendation. Allen seconded. AGSC unanimously approved.

Long stated that the IHI will be holding elections for a new chair.

**OTHER ISSUES.** Ellis stated that the AGSC has discussed a catalog of AGSC approved courses. She stated that there should be a common indicator for all AGSC approved courses.

Sessions stated that once the Course Approval Deadline schedule is in place, STARS will publish a handbook that would list AGSC approved courses. The handbook would be distributed to counselors, advisors, and admissions officers.

Britt stated that there are Athletic programs in the state that are not developing the general studies curriculum. Johnson requested that Roach provide templates for the Athletic programs.

Ivey stated that UAB is experiencing difficulty with students transferring to UAB with less than enough credit hours. Johnson stated that the standard conversion from quarter to semester hours has to apply and then the receiving institution has to impose judgment on the transfer of hours.

Ellis asked if there were any recommendations for the AGSC Annual Report. Committee members had no recommendations.

**Johnson Comments.** *Dr. Parks is finishing up his time with the committee. From the first meeting up to this point there has been strong differences. Throughout it all, Dr. Parks has been a real voice of reason for this Committee. His leadership through this process has been invaluable in getting us to where we are. On the board issues of putting this program together, we would not be where we are today without Paul's leadership. On behalf of the Committee, / want to thank you.*

## **SCHEDULE OF FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

September 17, 1998	Department of Postsecondary Education President's Conference Room - 2nd Floor
October 16, 1998	Department of Postsecondary Education President's Conference Room - 2nd Floor

## **INFORMATION ITEMS DISTRIBUTED**

1. AGSC Transfer Guide Agreement (Sessions)
2. Templates & List of Templates Submitted for Ratification: August 12, 1998 (Roach)
3. Discipline Committee Course Recommendations (Sessions)

4. Update on STARS Access Plan (Sessions)
5. Two-Year Nominations for Discipline Committee Membership (Slaffer)
6. AGSC Deadlines For Course Approvals for 1999-2000 Academic Year (Sessions)
7. Discipline Committee Chair Elections for 1998-99

The August meeting of the Articulation & General Studies Committee was adjourned at 12:40 P.M.

Roy Johnson, Chair

Deborah Nettles, Recording Secretary