

STATE OF ALABAMA
Articulation and General Studies Committee
Department of Postsecondary Education
Alabama Center for Commerce Building
President's Conference Room
April 16, 1999
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. Linda Glaze, Alternate	Auburn University
Dr. Alfred Smith, Alternate	Alabama State University
Dr. Joe Morris	Jefferson State Community College
Dr. Charles Nash, Alternate	University of Alabama
Dr. Larry Allen	University of South Alabama
Dr. Ed Roach	University of West Alabama
Dr. Elizabeth C. French	Commission on Higher Education
Mr. Keith Sessions	STARS
Dr. James Kimbrough	STARS

Others present: Maryanne Ivey-UAB; Michael Neilson-UAB; Joey Holley-STARS; and Anita Walker-STARS.

CALL TO ORDER	Meeting was called to order by Dr. Roy Johnson, Chair. Verification of quorum was made by voice roll call of members present.
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	Allen moved for the adoption of the agenda with the addition of discussion on Speech and STARS question on English. Britt seconded. AGSC unanimously adopted.
ANNOUNCEMENTS	The July 1999 meeting of the AGSC will be held on July 23, 1999 at 10:00 A.M. at the Faulkner Community College Gulf Shores Campus. UAB Transfer Articulation Workshop is scheduled for May 10, 1999. The Third Annual Conference on Developing Effective Partnerships Between Two-Year and Four-Year Colleges

	sponsored by the Office of Community College Relations and the College Board is scheduled for May 20-21 in Denver, Colorado.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Smith moved for the approval of the Minutes. Morris seconded. Minutes were approved with corrections.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

STARS Update & Usage Report. Sessions distributed copies of the STARS Update and Usage Report (copy attached #2). The report included user access to the STARS home page. He stated that STARS has added a new link to the State of Alabama Y2K Web page to remind AGSC/STARS web page users to check with their CIS (Information Departments) to verify Y2K compliance. Sessions stated that user names and passwords for the STARS system will be added soon to reduce redundancy of data input by users.

AREA V.

- **Enhanced Discipline Committee Templates.** Johnson stated that he will request that Ritvo compile a list of institutions that offer unique programs to make sure that all templates have been approved by the CAOs and the AGSC.
- **Teacher Education Templates.** Morris stated that the Deans of Education are still working on the templates. He will report to the AGSC at the May meeting.
- **Course Equivalency.** Johnson stated that there has been some concern regarding two-year and four-year course equivalents in Area V. Britt stated that it would be more efficient to have the four-year institutions make the decision on course equivalents and that information can be posted on STARS.

Sessions stated that some institutions will be building their web pages to include a course equivalency chart advising students on courses to take. He stated that it is important to make sure that the student knows when he receives a guide, that there is additional information to review. The student can go directly to the major and from there, the system will give him Area V in two-year terminology. The process would be: 1) the student will access the basic transfer guide with approval courses listed through STARS (transfer guide will include a note that additional information can be accessed through institutional home pages.); and 2) Students will link to an institutional transfer package where a list of majors is available. Sessions stated that this way the student has the whole package of Areas I-V. Institutions would be responsible for upkeep of their Area V web page and how students will be linked to it.

Question Box/STARS Website. Session distributed an email question regarding the English degree designation (copy attached). Glaze stated that it is the practice of some institutions that the BS designation in English implies that a foreign language is not required. The BA designation in English requires a foreign language. After further discussion, Glaze agreed to provide a list of institutions that offer a BA degree in English requiring a foreign language.

DECISION ITEMS

Discipline Committee Course Recommendations. Sessions distributed a list of courses recommended for approval from the following Discipline Committees (copy attached #1): 1) Anthropology, Sociology, and Human Geography; and 2) Geology, Physical Geography, and Earth Science.

Morris moved for the approval of the Discipline Committee recommendations with a correction on Cultural Geography course from 5 semester hours to 5 quarter hours. Nash seconded. AGSC unanimously approved.

Interdisciplinary/Honors/Innovation (IHI) Course Recommendations. Sessions reported that three courses had been recommended for approval: Honors Sociology Global Perspective with a Lab-Area IV; Society, Culture and the Environment with a Lab-Area IV; Honors Sociology: Global Perspective-Area IV.

Britt moved for approval of Interdisciplinary course recommendations. Allen seconded. AGSC unanimously approved.

Appeals Process for Student Transfer. Neilson-UAB raised the question of how an institution should handle the transfer of course credit acquired before Areas I-IV were approved by the AGSC. Some of these courses no longer exist.

After further discussion from the Committee, Roach moved that if courses no longer exist, the receiving institution will evaluate those courses and determine what credit should be granted, if any. Morris seconded. AGSC unanimously agreed.

Nash reminded the Committee that one of the goals of the AGSC is to encourage consistency among institutions with respect to transfer of credit. He stated that if there is an inconsistent interpretation of credit transferred from one institution to another institution, the student will have the right to appeal that decision.

Johnson stated that the AGSC must develop an Appeals Process by the Fall 1999. However, students who disagree with an institution will be required to exhaust all institutional remedies before going through the AGSC Appeals Process. He stated that the Appeals Process should be an administrative procedure handled by the STARS office.

Johnson requested Dr. Kimbrough-STARS to contact the Georgia System to get information on guidelines used, right of appeal, issues to be appealed, and process for adjudication. Kimbrough agreed to report back to the AGSC at the May meeting.

SACS Humanities Requirements. Johnson received communication from Dr. Fred Gainous indicating that some two-year colleges have been cited by SACS for using Speech in the Humanities area. He stated that this will impact the work of the Committee because a number of templates in Speech have been approved by the AGSC in the Humanities area.

After discussion, Roach moved that Johnson write to Dr. James Rogers, Executive Director of SACS, to get clarification on courses that should be included in the Humanities area. Morris seconded. AGSC unanimously agreed.

Other Issues. Britt commended the University of South Alabama for developing a pocket size articulation advising manual for students.

SCHEDULE OF FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

June 17, 1999	Department of Postsecondary Education President's Conference Room – 2 nd Floor
July 23, 1999	Faulkner State Community College Bay Minette Campus – Culinary Arts Center

INFORMATION ITEMS DISTRIBUTED

1. Discipline Committee Course Recommendations (Sessions)
2. STARS Update and Usage Report (Sessions)
3. Question from STARS User

The April meeting of the AGSC was adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

Roy Johnson, Chair

Deborah Nettles, Recording Secretary