

STATE OF ALABAMA
Articulation and General Studies Committee
Department of Postsecondary Education
Alabama Center for Commerce Building
President's Conference Room
May 18, 2000
10:00 A.M.

MINUTES OF MEETING

Committee members present:

Dr. Ed Roach, Chair	University of West Alabama
Dr. Rod Britt, Vice-Chair	Southern Union Community College
Dr. Barbara Jones, Alternate	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Linda Glaze, Alternate	Auburn University
Dr. Michael Malone	Troy State University/Dothan
Dr. Michael Neilson	University of Alabama at Birmingham
Dr. Charles Nash, Alternate	University of Alabama System
Dr. Judy Stout, Alternate	University of South Alabama
Dr. Joe Morris	Jefferson State Community College
Ms. Susan Salatto, Alternate	Southern Union Community College
Dr. Yvonne Kennedy	Bishop State Community College
Dr. Elizabeth C. French	Commission on Higher Education
Mr. Keith Sessions	STARS

Others present: Roger Ritvo-CAO; Bert Slafter-ADPE; James Kimbrough-STARS; Maryanne Ivey-UAB; and Joey Holley-STARS.

CALL TO ORDER	Meeting was called to order by Dr. Ed Roach, Chair. Verification of quorum was made by voice roll call of members present.
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	Neilson moved for the adoption of the agenda with additions. Stout seconded. The agenda was adopted with additions.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Neilson moved for the approval of the March minutes with one correction. Morris seconded. Minutes were approved with correction.

<p>ANNOUNCEMENTS</p>	<p>Dr. Gainous has designated Dr. Rod Britt as two-year representative of the AGSC. Dr. Roy Johnson will serve as alternate.</p> <p>Chancellor Thomas Meredith has designated Dr. Sue Kirkpatrick-UAH as representative for the Alabama System effective July 31. Dr. Charles Nash will continue to serve as alternate.</p>
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DISCUSSION ITEMS

STARS Update & Usage Report. Holley distributed copies of the STARS Update and Usage report for March and April (copy attached - #3). He stated that the STARS office discovered 15,000 more hits than were previously reported.

Sessions stated that in an effort to make the web site user friendly, the STARS web page has been revised to three major links: 1) STARS-Computer Advising System (Students-Advisors-Counselors); 2) Administrative Links (Administrators-Deans-Faculty-Department Head); and 3) Alabama Higher Education Links (Institution Homepages-Transfer pages-Area V information).

Revision of STARS Users Guide. Sessions distributed a copy of the Users Guide previously developed by the STARS office. Stout reported that the subcommittee will be making recommendations for changes to the guide.

Area V Web Pages. Sessions stated that institutions have not followed the UAB model in developing their Area V web pages. He stated that it will be confusing to students if pages are different. Sessions will have an on-line presentation comparing the different web pages at the July meeting.

Task Force on Assessment. Nash reported that the Task Force had met and developed a list of potential strategies for AGSC consideration (copy attached - #4). He indicated that the Task Force will not be doing the assessment but making recommendations to the AGSC. The Task Force responsibilities will be done in two parts: 1) assessing whether the AGSC has met the responsibilities of the law; and 2) evaluating the effectiveness of the general studies curriculum.

The Committee discussed the following issues:

1. A report prepared and disseminated to the Legislature, Commission on Higher Education, and the Council of Presidents.
2. On-line survey from students
 - a. survey of receiving guides and transfer
 - b. survey of getting appropriate credit at transfer
3. Survey of Council of Presidents
4. Subcommittee to develop budget recommendations for assessment

The Task Force will report on its progress at the July meeting.

Interdisciplinary/Honors/Innovative Committee: Roach reported that he had received a note from Dr. McGill stating that several course proposals have been forwarded but the committee has not completed their review.

IHI Membership: Sessions stated that the STARS office sent letters to the Chief Academic Officers regarding membership on the IHI Committee. Sessions distributed a list of nominations made for the Interdisciplinary/Innovative/Honors Committee (copy attached-#2).

DECISION ITEMS

AGSC Academic Committee Membership. Sessions reported that the subcommittee (Sessions, Holley, French) met and compared the current Academic Committee Member list to the ACHE Program Inventory in an effort to determine which institutions have the right to have committee representation on each of the Academic Committees based on the ACHE approved program offerings (copy of report attached - #5). The report reflects institutions that do not have bachelors programs in the discipline but have nominated representatives for the Academic Committee.

The AGSC agreed that members appointed to Academic Committees from institutions that do not have baccalaureate programs in the subject field will be deleted from Committee membership. According to the Academic Committee Guidelines, "Each GSAC consists of a representative from each baccalaureate institution with a major program in the discipline appointed by the chief academic officer and an equal number of representatives from the non-baccalaureate institutions appointed by the Alabama Department of Postsecondary Education." (See AGSC Academic Committee Guidelines - Composition) A letter will be sent from Roach to the Chief Academic Officers clarifying this issue.

Academic Committee Course Recommendations. Sessions distributed a list of courses recommended for approval from the following Academic Committees (copy attached - #1): 1) Chemistry; 2) Geography; and 3) Philosophy & Religious Studies.

Neilson moved for the approval of the Academic Committee recommendations. Glaze seconded. AGSC unanimously approved.

Sessions also provided the AGSC with a list of courses submitted for approval that have not been reviewed by the Academic Committees. After discussion, the AGSC decided that Roach will write a letter to the Academic Committee Chairs regarding timely approval of course recommendations and clarification of their duties and responsibilities as members of the Academic Committee.

Jones suggested that the AGSC consider requesting the Academic Committees to submit a report to the AGSC of their activities for the year. This would give each Academic Committee a record of their activities and give new members a reference to how the committee has functioned.

Ratification of Templates. Sessions distributed copies of institution specific templates submitted by Troy State University in Rehabilitation, Sports and Fitness Management, Human Services, Latin Education, and Social Science. After discussion, the AGSC decided that institution specific templates should be reviewed by the Chief Academic Officers.

Malone moved that the institution specific templates submitted by TSU be submitted to the CAOs for review. Jones seconded. AGSC unanimously agreed.

Review of Courses by Academic Committees. Glaze requested clarification from the AGSC regarding the Academic Committees charge in reviewing courses for the general studies curriculum.

After discussion, the AGSC confirmed that "In evaluating a course, a Committee is not to mandate a specific model, but to determine that the course is within the general parameters that the Committee has established and that it is broad enough in scope to meet the general studies designation." (See AGSC General Studies Academic Committee Guidelines - Role)

SCHEDULE OF FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

July 13, 2000	Faulkner State Community College Gulf Shores Campus
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INFORMATION ITEMS DISTRIBUTED

1. Academic Committee Course Recommendations (Sessions)
2. Interdisciplinary/Honors/Innovative Committee Membership (Sessions)
3. AGSC Update and Usage Report (Holley/Sessions)
4. AGSC Task Force on Assessment Strategies (Nash)
5. AGSC Academic Committee Membership (Sessions)

The May 18, 2000 meeting of the AGSC adjourned at 11:30 A.M.

Ed Roach, Chair

Deborah Nettles, Recording Secretary