

**STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**Articulation and General Studies Committee**  
**Troy University Montgomery Campus**  
**Whitley Building Civic Room 1<sup>st</sup> Floor**  
**September 8, 2005**  
**10:00 a.m.**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

Committee Members Present:

Dr. Sue Kirkpatrick, Chair	University Alabama in Huntsville
Dr. Evelyn White	Alabama State University
Dr. Linda Glaze	Auburn University
Dr. Shirley Houzer	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Barbara Jones, Alternate	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Charles Nash, Alternate	University of Alabama System
Dr. Ed Roach	Troy University
Dr. Roosevelt Newson, Alternate	University of North Alabama
Dr. William Meehan	Jacksonville State University
Dr. Keith Harrison	University of South Alabama
Dr. Victoria Rivizzigno, Alternate	University of South Alabama
Dr. Joe Morris Jefferson	State Community College
Dr. Rod Britt Southern	Southern Union Community College
Dr. Susan Price	Department of Postsecondary Education
Ms. Susan Salatto, Alternate	Central Alabama Community College
Ms. Linda Johnson, Alternate	Southern Union Community College

Ex-Officio Members:

Dr. Elizabeth C. French, Alternate	Commission on Higher Education
Mr. Keith Sessions, Executive Director	AGSC/STARS
Mr. Shannon Nichols, Alternate	AGSC/STARS

The Annual Review and Planning Session of the Articulation and General Studies Committee (AGSC) began at 10:00 a.m.

**Executive Director's Annual Report.** Sessions distributed copies of the 2004-05 Annual Report (copy attached - #1). The report included a review and discussion of:

1. Guiding Documents for 2004-05

2. Issues Addressed in 2004-05
3. Accomplishments 2004-05
4. Program Publicity and Visibility
5. STARS Usage Reports 2004-05
6. Goals for 2004-05
7. Executive Director Self Evaluation of 2004-05
8. AGSC Status Report on Implementation of the 2002 Program Evaluation Recommendations

A pdf document of the Executive Director's Annual Report can be obtained by [clicking here](#).

After presentation of the Annual Report, the AGSC recommended the following:

1. That the Academic Committee training sessions be conducted by video conference, conference call or interactive television to reduce travel costs;
2. That there be consideration of using graduate students to help with assessment of Articulation; and
3. That the effectiveness of the AGSC and the effectiveness of the Executive Director be evaluated separately.

The AGSC commended Sessions for his work as Executive Director.

<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	The regular meeting of the Articulation and General Studies Committee was called to order at 1:00 p.m. A quorum was determined by silent roll call of members present.
<b>ADOPTION OF AGENDA</b>	Glaze moved for the adoption of the agenda. Meehan seconded. The agenda was adopted.
<b>SPECIAL RECOGNITION</b>	Ms. Susan Salatto was presented with an award for her service as Chair of the AGSC.
<b>ANNOUNCEMENTS</b>	Dr. Victoria Rivizzigno and Dr. Keith Harrison were introduced as newly appointed representatives for the University of South Alabama.  Dr. Susan Price, Department of Postsecondary Education, will serve as Vice-Chair of the AGSC for 2006-07.
<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>	Meehan moved for the approval of the May 5, 2005 Minutes. Britt seconded. Minutes were approved.

## DECISION ITEMS

### ACADEMIC COMMITTEES

Academic Committee Course Recommendations. Sessions presented one course proposal recommended for approval for AUM by the Mathematics Academic Committee (copy attached - #3).

After discussion, Glaze moved for approval of the Academic Committee recommendation. Harrison seconded. Motion passed.

Speech/Communication Academic Committees. Sessions stated that he received correspondence from Dr. Beth Bennett (UA), Speech Academic Committee Chair and Dr. Mark Nelson (UA), Communication Pre-Professional Committee Chair for improving the work of the two academic committees (a copy is attached - #7). There are some courses that have been approved in Area IV that should be in Area II.

Nash stated that the request from the two academic committees is to:

1. Change the name of the Committee from “Speech Academic Committee” to “Communication Studies Academic Committee”.
2. Redefine the charge of the newly renamed “Communication Studies Academic Committee” to include:
  - Developing templates for Speech major, Communication Studies major, etc.
  - Giving the committee the flexibility to review and to approve courses as either Humanities or Social-Behavioral Studies within the discipline of Communication Studies/Speech Communication.
  - Restructuring committee’s membership to include four-year institutions with majors in these areas.

After discussion, Roach moved that the Speech Academic Committee and the Communications Pre-Professional Committee be combined and renamed as the Communications Studies Academic Committee with the responsibility of an academic discipline committee. Glaze seconded. Motion passed.

Troy University Course Listing. Sessions reported that since Troy University has officially merged three campuses, they are requesting that the AGSC general course listing for each campus be consolidated into one comprehensive course list (a copy of the request is attached - #6).

Glaze moved that the Troy campuses course listings be consolidated into one comprehensive list. Meehan seconded. Motion passed.

#### Ratification of Templates

Education Template. Sessions stated that he has had discussions with Thomas Chilton, chair of the Education Academic Committee, regarding changes to the Education templates in compliance to the No Child Left Behind requirements. Chilton reported that after meetings with the Arts and Sciences Academic Committee, it was decided to adopt the Arts and Sciences templates with some adjustments for the Education major. The following Education templates were updated to reflect these changes: Art, Biology, French, Geography, German, History, Math, Music, and Spanish. Copies of the revised templates are attached - #4.

Glaze moved for the ratification of the revised Education templates. Meehan seconded. Motion passed.

Physics Template. After discussion regarding concerns in Area V of the Physics template, Britt moved that the Physics template be reviewed by the Physics Academic Committee. Glaze seconded. Motion

passed. Sessions will place a note on the Physics Education template to reflect that the template is currently being reviewed.

Chemistry Template. There was discussion regarding the physics options on the Chemistry template. Britt moved that the Chemistry Academic Committee review the physics options on the Chemistry template. Meehan seconded. Motion passed.

Transfer Guides. Britt brought to the attention of the Committee that clarification should be made regarding courses listed on the STARS guide in Area III. He stated that students need to understand that they cannot take two introductory courses. A note will be placed on all STARS transfer guides to clarify choices for Area III in the sciences.

Transfer Agreement. Sessions reported that due to comments and/or complaints reported by advisors and two-year students regarding the validity of the transfer guide after an institution has made catalog changes, Items 11 and 12 of the Transfer Agreement were revised for clarification.

Glaze moved that Item 11 and 12 be combined to read:

*“Any changes made by an institution in its degree programs resulting from requirements of external accrediting and other regulatory agencies such as, but not limited to, the State Department of Education, ACHE, SACS, NCATE, or CLN will affect the transfer student in the same manner as the students native to the University.”*

Houser seconded. Motion passed.

## **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Virtual Lab. Nash reported that a survey of questions was sent to the four-year institutions regarding their use or planned use of virtual labs. The majority responded that there were no plans or discussions from their institutions for virtual labs. The University of Alabama and the University of West Alabama do offer online courses for non-majors.

Britt reported that only a few two-year institutions are experimenting with virtual labs. He stated that the state of Florida has several community colleges that offer a two-year degree online.

After some discussion, the AGSC agreed that the STARS office will continue to research this issue.

## **Executive Director’s Report**

STARS Usage Reports. Nichols reported that usage reports for July and August are posted on the STARS website. Any questions regarding the reports may be directed to the STARS office.

FAQ Page. Sessions reported that he has received recommended changes from Britt for the FAQ page. Meehan moved that the recommended changes be made and published on the web. Roach seconded. Motion passed.

## Schedule of Future AGSC Meetings

November 7, 2005	TBA
January 19, 2006	TBA

### INFORMATION ITEMS

1. AGSC/STARS Executive Director Annual Report (Sessions)
2. STARS Usage Reports (Nichols)
3. Academic Committee Course Recommendations (Sessions)
4. Templates for Ratification (Sessions/Nash)
5. Recommendations for Physics/Chemistry Templates (Nash)
6. Request from Troy University Course Listing Merger (Sessions/Roach)
7. Issues to Address Speech/Communication Academic Committees (Sessions)

The September 8, 2005 meeting of the AGSC adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Sue Kirkpatrick, Chair

Deborah Nettles, Recording Secretary