

STATE OF ALABAMA
Articulation and General Studies Committee
Troy University Montgomery Civic Room
April 17, 2008
9:00 a.m.

MINUTES OF MEETING

Committee Members Present:

Dr. Barbara Jones, Chair	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Evelyn White, Alternate	Alabama State University
Dr. Jeff Barksdale, Alternate	Auburn University
Dr. Daniel Osborn	University of Alabama at Birmingham
Dr. Victoria Rivizzigno	University of South Alabama
Dr. Ed Roach	Troy University
Dr. Joe Morris, Alternate	Jefferson State Community College
Dr. Rod Britt	Southern Union Community College
Dr. Kandis Steele, Alternate	Department of Postsecondary Education

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
Mr. Dendy Moseley, Alternate	AGSC/STARS

Others Present: Robert Lockwood-ADPE; Ray White-TUM; Colleen Britt-SUCC; ACHE Staff: Subrena Simpkins.

CALL TO ORDER	The regular meeting of the Articulation and General Studies Committee was called to order at 9:05 a.m. A quorum was determined by voice roll call of members present.
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	Roach moved for the adoption of the agenda with the addition of two USA courses from the IHI Committee. Britt seconded. The agenda was adopted as amended.

ANNOUNCEMENTS	<p>Dr. Ed Roach welcomed everyone to the Troy Montgomery campus. He then introduced Mr. Ray White, Vice Chancellor, who gave a historic overview of Troy University and how the school was established.</p> <p>Jones welcomed guests and institutional alternates in attendance.</p> <p>Sessions announced the new two-year AGSC member, Dr. James Mitchell, President, Wallace State Community College-Selma. He also informed the AGSC that the two-year system will be submitting a recommendation for the AGSC Vice-Chair before the July meeting.</p>
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	<p>Britt moved for the approval of the January 25, 2008 Minutes. Roach seconded. Minutes were approved.</p>

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Executive Director's Report

Course Proposal Form. Sessions informed the AGSC that the Course Proposal Form has been revised to include a section for explanation as to why an Academic Committee does not recommend a course for approval. This will facilitate the AGSC approval of Academic Committee recommendations.

Course Database Review. Sessions reported that Dendy Moseley has developed a listing of courses that have gone through the Academic Committees. A copy is attached-#4. The listing includes a column that records the reason for AGSC approval or disapproval in addition to the course name, discipline body, and date of submission.

Sessions stated that the STARS system manages over 1,600 courses per year. Thirteen hundred (1,300) of the courses are approved and 300 not approved. One-third of the courses are transmitted for review electronically to the Academic Committees each year.

Approved Courses and Ratified Templates. Sessions distributed an update of course/template review to date by the Academic Committees (copy attached-#5). Institutional specific course/templates will be sent this year to the Pre-Professional Academic Committees for review.

AGSC Research Subcommittee. Sessions stated that the Subcommittee met in March. He thanked the ACHE staff, particularly Subrena Simpkins, for the work being done in gathering data. Simpkins gave an overview of how the data will be collected (a copy of the subcommittee report is attached-#6).

Dr. Bob Lockwood, ADPE, stated that the Chancellor has requested that he do a similar data collection study. Since ACHE already collects the data for two-year and four-year institutions, he will be working closely with ACHE.

The subcommittee's next report will be at the July, 2008 meeting.

STARS Usage Reports. Nichols reported that a new column has been added to the usage reports to reflect unique students/users. By adding the unique students/users column, this will give a better picture of actual students that use a guide as opposed to those printing guides only.

Usage reports for February and March have been posted on the STARS website.

After Sessions asked for questions regarding the reports, Jones thanked Nichols and the STARS office for the new changes and stated that these changes will certainly improve the effectiveness of articulation.

DECISION ITEMS

ACADEMIC COMMITTEES

Academic Committee Course Recommendations. Sessions presented one course proposal recommended for approval by the Psychology Academic Committee for the University of Alabama at Birmingham (copy attached-#2):

- Abnormal Psychology

Sessions then gave an overview of the actions of the Psychology Academic Committee which included a voting recap and comments from the Committee's recommendation.

Several AGSC members agreed that the course is too narrow in scope to be placed in Area IV and referred to similar courses that have been presented to the AGSC that were not approved.

After comments from Dr. Osborne in support of the course, Osborne moved for approval of the course. Motion failed for lack of a second.

Sessions presented two course proposals recommended for approval by the Interdisciplinary Honors Innovative (IHI) Academic Committee for USA (copies attached-#3):

- Introduction to Gender Studies-USA
- Global Issues-USA

Rivizzigno moved for approval of the Introduction to Gender Studies course as recommended by the Academic Committee. Roach seconded. The Chair called for the vote which was 5 yes, 2 no, and 2 abstentions. Motion passed.

Rivizzigno moved for approval of the Global Studies course as recommended by the Academic Committee. Osborne seconded. After discussion of similar courses being rejected by the AGSC, Rivizzigno withdrew the motion. The course approval was tabled for further review.

Ratification of Templates. Sessions informed the AGSC that the Occupational Therapy program at Alabama State University (ASU) is listed on the STARS website as a bachelor's degree. He indicated that he received an email from ASU to change it to a master's degree. The ACHE inventory lists Occupational Therapy at ASU with a bachelor's and master's degree. Sessions requested clarification regarding the change.

AGSC members instructed STARS to notify ACHE of the discrepancy and request clarification before any changes are made.

Area V web pages. Sessions stated that the STARS office is receiving several calls regarding pre-professional coursework. He requested that the AGSC formally recommend to the institutions the addition of pre-professional courses to institutional Area V web pages.

Roach moved that Sessions draft a letter for the Chair to the Chief Academic Officers and the AGSC Points of Contacts requesting that pre-professional courses be added to Area V web pages. Britt seconded. Motion passed.

AGSC Subcommittee to Evaluate the Executive Director. Jones reported that the subcommittee has made revisions to the original recommendations. The "Procedures for Evaluation of the Executive Director", includes the submission of two reports: 1) Annual Report of the STARS/AGSC office which includes the activities of the STARS office and the self evaluation of the Executive Director to be presented to the Evaluation Committee at least three weeks prior to the AGSC annual planning retreat and 2) Annual Report of the AGSC to be presented to ACHE, legislators, etc., and the public to be released in September. A copy of the subcommittee's procedures are attached-#7.

Osborne moved to accept the recommendations of the subcommittee. Rivizzigno seconded. Motion passed.

SCHEDULE OF FUTURE AGSC MEETINGS

July 10-11, 2008	Faulkner State Community College-Gulf Shores Campus
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INFORMATION ITEMS

1. AGSC/STARS Usage Reports (Sessions/Nichols)
2. Academic Committee Course Recommendations (Sessions)
3. USA Course Proposals (Sessions)
4. Course Database Review (Sessions/Moseley)
5. Approved Courses & Ratified Templates (Sessions)
6. Research Subcommittee Outline for Data Collection (Simpkins)
7. Procedures for Evaluation of Executive Director (Jones/French)

The April 17, 2008 meeting of the AGSC adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Barbara Jones, Chair

Deborah Nettles, Recording Secretary