

STATE OF ALABAMA
Articulation and General Studies Committee
Troy University Extended Learning Center
February 18, 2011

MINUTES OF MEETING

Committee Members Present:

Dr. Barbara Jones	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Patricia Duffy	Auburn University
Dr. Jeff Barksdale, Alternate	Auburn University at Montgomery
Dr. Beth Bennett	University of Alabama
Dr. Charles Nash, Alternate	University of Alabama System
Dr. Keith Harrison, Vice-Chair	University of South Alabama
Dr. William Meehan	Jacksonville State University
Dr. John Schmidt	Troy University
Dr. James Mitchell, Chair, Alternate	Wallace State Community College Selma
Dr. Mark Heinrich	Shelton State Community College
Dr. Amelia Pearson, Alternate	Southern Union Community College
Dr. Joe Morris	Jefferson State Community College
Dr. Kandis Steele, Alternate	Department of Postsecondary Education

Ex-Officio Members:

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

Others Present: Raji Gouridine-WCCS, Constance Relihan-AU, Reba Davis-TU; and Kim Dove-TU.

Committee Members Absent:

Dr. Lloyd Walker, Alternate	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Alfred Smith, Alternate	Alabama State University
Dr. Sharron Williams	Alabama State University
Dr. Terry Roberson, Alternate	University of Montevallo
Dr. Victoria Rivizzigno, Alternate	University of South Alabama
Dr. Richard Holland, Alternate	University of West Alabama

Dr. Susan Price	Department of Postsecondary Education
-----------------	---------------------------------------

CALL TO ORDER	The regular meeting of the Articulation and General Studies Committee was called to order at 10:05 a.m. A quorum was determined by voice roll call of members present.
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	Meehan moved for adoption of the agenda. Harrison seconded. The agenda was adopted.
RECOGNITIONS	Nash introduced Dr. Beth Bennett, Professor and Department Chair of Communication Studies-University of Alabama. Sessions introduced Dr. John Schmidt, Senior Vice Chancellor for Advancement & External Affairs-Troy University, who was endorsed as a regional representative by the Council of Presidents. Dr. Sharron Herron-Williams has been appointed the representative for Alabama State University. Dr. Alfred Smith will serve as alternate.
WELCOME	Dr. Schmidt welcomed everyone to Troy University. He stated that Dr. Hawkins would like for AGSC members to return for a tour of the campus and lunch. He announced that Troy has partnered with CGI computer company which is near the campus and should create at least 300 jobs. Troy University technology center is also housed there.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Bennett moved for the approval of the October 15, 2010 minutes. Meehan seconded. The minutes were approved.

Executive Director's Report

STARS Usage Reports. Nichols reported that all usage reports (copy attached-#1) are on the web in addition to the 2010 Annual CAPPS report. Sessions stated that requests for guides in business, nursing, and elementary education continue to be high. Usage numbers are up particularly with two-year students.

He reminded AGSC members of the transfer choice charts which are reports generated monthly and sent to the institutions who in turn use the reports for recruitment. Sessions has done a mock student test and found that the institutions are sending more creative emails to prospective students rather than using regular mail.

Specific institutional reports are available from the STARS office in several formats (email, merge documents, etc.).

Alabama Math, Science, and Technology Initiative (AMSTI): Ms. Kim Dove, Director of AMSTI-Troy Regional Center, gave an overview of the program. She stated that there are eleven (11) AMSTI sites in the state. The Troy University site serves 58 schools. She distributed a brochure highlighting the

program (copy attached - #2). Members of the AGSC were invited to tour the warehouse facilities which houses the math and science kits delivered to schools ready for use by the teachers and students.

Alabama Connecting Classrooms, Educators, and Students Statewide (ACCESS): Ms. Reba Davis, Director of ACCESS, gave an overview of the program. ACCESS is an initiative of the Alabama Department of Education that provides opportunities and options for Alabama high school and middle school students to engage in Advanced Placement (AP), elective, and other courses to which they may not otherwise have access. Ms. Davis distributed material describing the program and its accomplishments (copy attached-#2).

Although funds have been cut, Nash encouraged members to meet with legislators and others to promote funding for the AMSTI and ACCESS programs. He stated that the programs prepare youngsters who will be students at the colleges and universities. The foundation that is established through AMSTI and ACCESS becomes the base upon which the institutions can build stronger programs in addition to preparing students.

ACADEMIC COMMITTEES

Revision of Guidelines for Course Submission. Sessions distributed proposed revisions to the guidelines and criteria for submitting course proposals (copy attached - #3). There was lengthy discussion regarding language that would list courses in institutional catalogs and bulletins.

Schmidt moved, with an amendment from Nash, that the following language be added to the guidelines:

"Courses submitted for AGSC approval must first be approved by the submitting institution. Courses submitted that do not meet these requirements will be returned to the submitting institution and will not be reviewed by the Academic Committee or the AGSC. Course submissions must indicate the course area designation (Area I, II, III, IV, or V)."

Bennett seconded. Motion passed as amended.

Academic Committee Course Recommendations. Sessions presented the following course proposals recommended for approval by Academic Committees (attached - #4).

AAST/AMS 201 Introduction to African American Studies (University of Alabama)

The Humanities Academic Committee recommended approval for Area II. This course was approved by the AGSC at its October 15, 2010 meeting with the condition that the course be placed in Area IV. Based on an email sent to Sessions from UA, the course is submitted for Area IV. The course approval is confirmed.

Introduction to Latin American Studies (University of North Alabama)

The Area/Ethnic Studies Academic Committee recommended approval for Area II. There was discussion regarding which area the program should be placed. Bennett moved to accept the course contingent upon placement in Area IV. Meehan seconded. Motion passed.

Principles of Macroeconomics (Auburn University)

The Social Science Academic Committee recommended approval for Area IV. Meehan moved to accept. Bennett seconded. Motion passed.

Introduction to Political Philosophy (Auburn University)

The Philosophy Academic Committee recommended approval for Area II. Harrison moved to accept. Meehan seconded. Motion passed.

Philosophy East & West (Auburn University)

The Philosophy Academic Committee recommended approval for Area II. Harrison moved to accept. Jones seconded. Motion passed.

Introduction to Philosophy (Auburn University)

The Philosophy Academic Committee recommended approval for Area II. Harrison moved to accept. Meehan seconded. Motion passed.

Introduction to Public Speaking (Auburn University)

The Communication Academic Committee recommended approval for Area II. Bennett moved to accept. Schmidt seconded. Motion passed.

Introduction to Language (University of North Alabama)

The Interdisciplinary/Honors/Innovative Academic Committee recommended approval for Area II. Duffy moved to accept. Meehan seconded. Motion passed.

Introduction to International Studies (University of North Alabama)

The Interdisciplinary/Honors/Innovative Academic Committee recommended approval for Area II. There was discussion regarding which area the program should be placed. Steele moved to table approval for clarification. Harrison seconded. Motion passed.

Introduction to Film Studies (University of North Alabama)

The Interdisciplinary/Honors/Innovative Academic Committee recommended approval for Area II. Meehan moved to accept. Schmidt seconded. Motion passed.

Ratification of Templates. Sessions presented the following institutional specific templates for ratification (copy attached - #5):

- Poultry Science (AU)
- Nutrition (AU)

Meehan moved for ratification of the templates. Bennett seconded. Motion passed.

SACS Question from University of North Alabama. Dr. John G. Thornell, UNA, posed the following question to the AGSC:

"...have a question about STARS as we continue our audit for a SACS review in 2011-12...STARS references Area V as an opportunity to count courses appropriate to the major on behalf of the general education program. Core Requirement 2.7.3 of SACS states that the general education courses 'do not narrowly focus on those skills, techniques, and procedures specific to an occupation or profession.' It also requires 'breadth of knowledge.' Have any institutions raised a concern about these two being in conflict with each other? I am curious as to how this should be handled."

After some discussion, the AGSC agreed that Area V is not considered part of General Education and that the courses in Areas I-IV meet the SACS requirements in CR 2.7.3.

Other Issues/Announcements.

Duffy stated that she had received questions from AU faculty regarding laws, rules, or regulations other than the articulation legislation that governs student transfer. AGSC members replied that there are no other laws or regulations.

Moseley announced that he would be traveling to AU for a seminar/workshop on STARS.

Sessions announced that STARS will be conducting a pilot survey from students at Troy to evaluate their experience with STARS. He invited other institutions to participate.

Sessions stated that he has been traveling with Schmidt, who is meeting with presidents. Since most meetings include deans of student services and academic deans, Sessions has an opportunity to answer questions about STARS. Nash commented that AGSC/STARS should be careful about becoming a recruitment vehicle for any one campus. These visits may be interpreted as recruitment by some; and the process could crossover and work against the articulation and general studies program.

SCHEDULE OF FUTURE AGSC MEETINGS

April 22, 2011	10:00 a.m.	University of Alabama/Tuscaloosa
----------------	------------	----------------------------------

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. STARS Usage Reports (Nichols)
2. AMSTI/ACCESS Brochure Materials (Dove/Davis)
3. Revisions of Guidelines for Course Proposals (Sessions)
4. AGSC/STARS Course Recommendations (Sessions)
5. Ratification of Templates (Sessions)

The February 18, 2011 meeting of the AGSC adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

James Mitchell, Chair

Deborah Nettles, Recording Secretary