

STATE OF ALABAMA
Articulation and General Studies Committee
Department of Postsecondary Education
Presidents Conference Room
October 5, 2012

MINUTES OF MEETING

Committee Members Present:

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| Dr. Sharron Williams | Alabama State University |
| Dr. Constance Relihan | Auburn University |
| Dr. Charles Nash, Alternate | University of Alabama System |
| Dr. Victoria Rivizzigno, Alternate | University of South Alabama |
| Dr. William Meehan | Jacksonville State University |
| Dr. John Schmidt | Troy University |
| Dr. Mark Heinrich | Department of Postsecondary Education |
| Dr. Amelia Pearson, Alternate | Southern Union Community College |
| Dr. Kandis Steele, Alternate | Department of Postsecondary Education |
| Dr. Gary Branch | Faulkner State Community College |

Ex-Officio Members:

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

Committee Members Absent:

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| Dr. Barbara Jones | Alabama A&M University |
| Dr. Lloyd Walker, Alternate | Alabama A&M University |
| Dr. Alfred Smith, Alternate | Alabama State University |
| Mr. David LaRocque, Alternate | Auburn University |
| Dr. Richard Holland, Alternate | University of West Alabama |
| Dr. Beth Bennett | University of Alabama |
| Dr. James Mitchell, Alternate | Wallace State Community College-Selma |
| Dr. Mary Beth Armstrong, Alternate | University of Montevallo |
| Dr. Joe Morris | Jefferson State Community College |

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| CALL TO ORDER | The regular meeting of the Articulation and General Studies Committee was called to order at 10:10 a.m. A quorum was determined by roll call of members present. Steele welcomed members to the Department of Postsecondary Education. |
| AGSC MEMBERSHIP | Sessions stated that a letter nominating Dr. Suzan Ozment-UM has been submitted to STARS office (copy attached-#1). He reminded President Stewart by email that appointments for regional university representatives must be nominated and approved by the Council of Presidents. |
| ADOPTION OF AGENDA | Rivizzigno moved for adoption of the agenda. Meehan seconded. The agenda was adopted. |
| APPROVAL OF MINUTES | Schmidt moved for the approval of the July 19-20, 2012 minutes with corrections. Meehan seconded. Minutes were approved with corrections. |

DECISION ITEMS

Executive Director's Report

STARS Usage Reports. Nichols stated that the usage reports currently posted on the website date two years back. A copy of the monthly reports for August is attached - #2. Dr. Schmidt requested that a multi-year timeline be developed to show the progress of STARS usage.

ACADEMIC COMMITTEES

Ratification of Templates. Sessions stated that he and Dr. Nash met with ad hoc committees (Environmental Science and Liberal Arts/Studies) to develop a common template to replace the multiple institution specific templates that currently exist. As a result, the templates were recommended from the Environmental Science and Liberal Arts/Studies ad hoc committees to the Chief Academic Officers (CAO) for approval. The Chief Academic Officers recommended the following templates for ratification (copies attached-#3):

Environmental Science. Rivizzigno moved for approval. Nash seconded. Motions passed.

Liberal Arts/Studies. After discussion, Pearson moved for approval with the amendment that English 101 and 102 be listed in Area I. Relihan seconded. Motion passed.

After further discussion regarding the development of one common template to replace multiple institution specific templates, the AGSC agreed to establish the following Pre- Professional Committees to include two non-voting members from the two-year system:

Environmental Science Pre-Professional Committee. Meehan moved for approval. Rivizzigno seconded. Motion passed.

Liberal Arts/Studies Pre-Professional Committee. Nash moved for approval. Pearson seconded. Motion passed.

International Studies Pre-Professional Committee. Rivizzigno moved for approval. Schmidt seconded. Motion passed.

Institutional Specific Templates. Several templates were tabled at the July 20, 2012 of the AGSC to determine which templates can be combined to make one common template rather than multiple institution specific only templates. Sessions distributed and explained a listing of proposed templates to combine into one. A copy of the list is attached-#4.

Sessions suggested that the institutional points of contact meet to discuss the differences and similarities in the programs highlighted on the listing provided by Sessions.

After some discussion, Rivizzigno moved that Nash, Session, and Steele work with the institutions involved to combine any institution specific templates on the listing. Schmidt seconded. Motion passed.

OTHER ISSUES

AGSC/STARS Publicity Proposal. Sessions presented a proposal to publicize AGSC/STARS throughout the state in major newspapers. A copy of the proposal is attached-#5. AGSC members would be interviewed or write articles that would focus on the importance of the AGSC/STARS program to students in their counties. The STARS office would provide statistics and information related to the use of the system.

Schmidt commented that articles written should all have the same message. In addition, he stated that the Legislature should be solicited for an increase in appropriation to AGSC/STARS. Nash stated that the Council of Presidents should be the voice to the Legislature. After more discussion, Nash agreed to make a presentation to the Council of Presidents at their next meeting to solicit support of increased funding for the AGSC/STARS program.

Sessions agreed to provide a summary report of the AGSC/STARS that could be used as background information to solicit funds from the Legislature.

There was discussion initiated by Dr. Branch regarding for-profit institutions' accreditation and tuition charges. He stated his concern that students are thinking they are getting a legitimate degree that is transferable and they are not.

Dr. French commented on the complexities of the transfer of credit issue in the context of regionally accredited institutions and nationally accredited institutions. She detailed the relationship of SACS accredited institutions to other regionally accredited institutions as well as the nationally accredited institutions and their accrediting bodies, pointing out that the U.S. Department of Education recognizes both regional and national accreditation agencies.

Transfer Guide Fee. There was discussion regarding charging a fee for transfer guides to offset some of the cost for processing and producing the guides. In addition, there was discussion regarding a possible STARS usage fee.

SCHEDULE OF FUTURE AGSC MEETINGS

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| February 1, 2013 | 10:00 a.m. | Alabama College System |
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INFORMATION ITEMS

1. AGSC Representative Appointment Request letter (Sessions)
2. STARS Usage Reports (Nichols)
3. Ratification of Templates (Sessions/Nash)
4. Institution Only Template Review Listing (Sessions)
5. Proposal to Publicize in Newspapers (Sessions)

The October 5, 2012 meeting of the AGSC adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

John Schmidt for Kandis Steele, Chair

Deborah Nettles, Recording Secretary