

**STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**Articulation and General Studies Committee**  
**Faulkner State Community College - Gulf Shores Campus**  
**July 18-19, 2013**

**MINUTES OF MEETING**

**Planning Session**  
**July 18, 2013 - 2:00 PM**

The afternoon annual review and planning session of the Articulation and General Studies Committee (AGSC) was called to order by Dr. John Schmidt at 2:10 p.m.

Ms. Linda Caldwell, Director of Housing and Special Events at Faulkner, welcomed AGSC members. She introduced Ms. Sarah Godwyn, Public Relations Director at Faulkner, who was a former student at Faulkner and Troy University. Ms. Godwyn stated that she personally used the STARS system to acquire her degree. She expressed her appreciation to the committee.

Dr. Sessions then asked each member and guests to introduce themselves.

2012-2013 Annual Report. Dr. Sessions gave an overview of a draft of the Annual Report which was previously distributed to members (copy attached - #1). He reviewed the entire report which included the activities and accomplishments of the AGSC/STARS staff.

He also gave an overview of the new revisions made to the STARS website.

The Annual Report will be sent to various constituencies throughout the state and published on the STARS website.

2013-2014 Budget Projections. Dr. Sessions reviewed the proposed budget for 2013-2014 (copy attached - #2). Dr. Schmidt commented that efforts had been made to solicit additional funding from the legislature but to no avail. He thanked Dr. French and ACHE for their efforts in securing level funding. Dr. Schmidt also encouraged AGSC members to advocate an increase in the budget as much as possible.

Dr. Nash commented that the initial funding of \$1.5 million is no longer needed but that a request to restore the budget to \$500,000 would be sufficient for the current operations of the AGSC/STARS. Committee members agreed.

There was discussion regarding ways to lobby the legislature to increase the STARS budget. Dr. Bennett suggested demonstrating how costs are cutting into the current budget which level funding will not support as well as demonstrating what can be done if additional funds are available. Dr. Sessions stated that these concerns were outlined in the Sustainability Report. There was also discussion on other ways to fund STARS such as internships for students to work at the STARS offices and the possibility of an institutional fee for using STARS.

After discussion regarding software needs, the Committee agreed that upgrades to the STARS server must be included in the 2013-14 budget.

Dr. Sessions thanked the Council of Presidents and the State Board of Education for their support of AGSC/STARS.

AGSC/STARS 2013-2014 Priorities. The following are the AGSC priorities for 2013-14:

1. Investigate the possibility and costs associated with conducting another external evaluation of the AGSC/STARS program similar to the 2002 Donald Crump Study.  
[http://stars.troy.edu/reports/AGSC-STARS Evaluation Project Final Report.pdf](http://stars.troy.edu/reports/AGSC-STARS%20Evaluation%20Project%20Final%20Report.pdf)
2. Craft AGSC/STARS legislative strategy in Fall 2013 for increased funding in the 2014-15 budget cycle followed by legislative visits (create sub-committee to work on this).
3. Identify student interns/grad assistants to augment the anticipated vacancies in AGSC/STARS staff.
4. Examine collaborative approaches with other states for transfer of academic credits. At the same time, review collaborative approaches within state private colleges.
5. Upgrade all AGSC/STARS technology and electronic data systems (will need \$25,000 - \$50,000 not currently in budget).
6. Work with ACHE staff to determine if there is a way to track the graduation rates (BS/BA) of students who used the STARS transfer guides during their time at the community college.
7. Review scope of ACT 94-202 (articulation legislation) as it relates to the AGSC's oversight of four-year to four-year transferability.
8. Review scope of AGSC's role in monitoring and approving courses offered through various online instructional delivery systems.

#### OTHER CONCERNS

Dr. Sessions announced that Dendy Moseley will be leaving the STARS staff and accepting a position at Troy University.

The afternoon session was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

## **MINUTES OF MEETING**

### **Business Session July 19, 2013 - 9:00 AM**

Committee Members Present:

Dr. Barbara Jones	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Juarine Stewart, Alternate	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Sharron Herron-Williams	Alabama State University
Dr. Constance Relihan	Auburn University
Dr. Beth Bennett	University of Alabama
Dr. Charles Nash, Alternate	University of Alabama System

Dr. Keith Harrison	University of South Alabama
Dr. Mark Heinrich	Shelton State Community College
Dr. Amelia Pearson	Southern Union Community College
Dr. Bruce Crawford, Alternate	Lawson State Community College
Dr. William Meehan	Jacksonville State University
Dr. John Schmidt, Chair	Troy University
Dr. Suzanne Ozment, Alternate	University of Montevallo

Ex-Officio Members:

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

Committee Members Absent:

Dr. Alfred Smith, Alternate	Alabama State University
Dr. Victoria Rivizzigno, Alternate	University of South Alabama
Dr. Richard Holland, Alternate	University of West Alabama
Dr. Gary Branch	Faulkner State Community College
Dr. Joe Morris	Jefferson State Community College
Dr. James Mitchell	Wallace Community College-Selma

Others Present:

Dr. Gregg Janowski	University of Alabama System
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<b>CALL TO ORDER</b>	The regular meeting of the Articulation and General Studies Committee was called to order at 9:00 a.m. A quorum was determined by roll call of members present.
<b>ADOPTION OF AGENDA</b>	Meehan moved for the adoption of the agenda. Heinrich seconded. The agenda was adopted.
<b>APPROVAL OF MINUTES</b>	Heinrich moved for the approval of the February 1, 2013 minutes with corrections: Add Dr. Barbara Jones to list of members and spelling correction of Delta Chi fraternity. Relihan seconded. Minutes were approved with corrections.  Dr. Schmidt thanked Dr. William Meehan for his leadership in securing member re-appointments to the AGSC by the Council of Presidents.

<b>RECOGNITIONS</b>	<p>Ms. Barbara Ann Spears, Interim Dean of Academic Programs-ADPE and Dean of Instruction-Trenholm State Technical College was welcomed as a guest.</p> <p>Dr. Schmidt thanked Faulkner State Community College for their hospitality and a great meal from the Culinary Arts department with special thanks to Dr. Gary Branch. He commended Dr. Heinrich and the two-year system for the trades and skills exhibited.</p> <p>On behalf of the AGSC, Dr. Schmidt thanked the State Board of Education for their Resolution of Support to the AGSC.</p> <p>Dr. Keith Sessions presented Dr. John Schmidt, Senior Vice Chancellor for Advancement &amp; External Affairs-Troy University, with an award for his service as Chair of the AGSC.</p> <p>On behalf of the AGSC, Dr. Schmidt thanked Dr. Sessions for his enthusiasm, passion, and energy as Executive Director of AGSC/STARS. He continued with the following comments:</p>
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*“I just want to share a couple of things. I am a product of Alabama and Alabama schools and certainly Alabama College now University of Montevallo. I want to thank each of you for the time, talent, and energy that you contribute to this committee. As I look back, I’ve spent 45 years now in the workforce. Twenty-five years in the Marine Corps and now almost 20 years in higher education. And I wanted to reflect on leadership. I was a young Marine lieutenant in Vietnam. I went to then Alabama College who produced some pretty good graduates. The mayor of Montgomery was a classmate and friend of mine. Dr. Hawkins was a classmate and friend of mine, also my boss. The Mayor of Eufaula was a classmate and friend of mine at Alabama College. I could go on and on. My point being is that I had a chance in the Marine Corps to do a lot of things. From a young lieutenant in Vietnam, the Marine Corps sent me to graduate school. I attended the University of Wisconsin in Madison in the 1970s. Those of you who are younger than that know that the 70s was a pretty tumultuous time being a young person. I participated in conducting the embassy evacuation in 1991, so I know about embassy evacuations. I say all that because I was a product from the Catholic schools and the college system in Birmingham, Alabama. There are two young lieutenants that I mentored. One is now the senior military aid to the Secretary of Defense and the other is the commander of the Afghan forces in Afghanistan. So I really had a chance to see some young folk and to guide and spearhead.*

*And then now I’ve had the opportunity for the last 20 years to be in higher education in Alabama with a wonderful boss, Dr. Hawkins. And in that capacity we had a chance to do everything that a university will let you do. And then going on to earn my doctorate in my mid-50s. I say all of that because it’s been a wonderful journey. And then coming full circle here to see the talent, the energy, and the innovation that comes out of this Committee. Any success that I have enjoyed started here in the education system in Alabama. I use a great military term that I think applies to what we do here as a committee – improvise, adapt and overcome. I think you do that every day in your capacities as the academic leaders, in your capacities in the classrooms. You are improvising, adapting, overcoming the dollars obstacles, and overcoming the rigidity of academia. Then you never forget your mission. And the mission is to always serve the students.*

*When I first came to higher education it was a new energy for me coming out of the military. But one of the questions that I wrote down, I still have it on my desk today: what do these decisions mean to students? I didn't know either. But I knew my mission was to serve those students. Just like the troops. And I think each of us here come to that. What does it mean to students? And I think we see that as we look at these study guides, as we look at the way to adapt and improvise in serving the students because that's the future of our state, and our communities. What does this body do? First of all, I think it enables students to succeed. We have seen that. We saw that in the testimony yesterday from the Faulkner State graduate here. We create collaboration. I believe we save money. We avoid duplication and then finally I think we do serve as examples of regulation and also innovation. I think that's something as a body that we all do as well. So I just want to say thanks for the opportunity to be part of this process. And thank each of you for what you do on a daily basis and will continue to do at your universities and colleges. And I want to thank you for giving me the opportunity to just reflect a little bit".*

Dr. Nash thanked Dr. Schmidt for the positive attitude and integrity he has brought to the AGSC.

<b>ELECTION OF CHAIR:</b>	Dr. William Meehan moved to nominate Dr. Mark Heinrich as AGSC Chair and Dr. Sharron Herron-Williams as AGSC Vice-Chair elect for 2013-14. Dr. Crawford seconded. Motion passed.
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## **DECISION ITEMS**

### **Executive Director's Report**

AGSC/STARS Budget. Sessions presented the 2013-2014 AGSC/STARS proposed budget (copy attached-#6). After some discussion, Meehan moved to approve the budget as submitted. Williams seconded. Motion passed.

STARS Usage Reports. Dr. Sessions stated that the usual usage reports can be accessed from the STARS website. He emphasized that the CAPPS report is also available. Specific institutional reports can be requested from the STARS office.

Dr. Schmidt encouraged members to have their institution access any reports for recruitment purposes. Dr. Sessions stated that the STARS staff is considering the addition of an option for students to receive text messages from prospective institutions when contact information is entered on the STARS guide.

AGSC/STARS 2013-2014 Priorities. The AGSC 2013-14 priorities discussed during the planning session were approved and will be included in the Annual Report.

## **ACADEMIC COMMITTEES**

Academic Committee Course Recommendations. Sessions presented the following course proposals recommended for approval by Academic Committees (copies attached-#3):

EH 101S-Freshman Composition (with Studio)-UAH

The English & Literature Academic Committee recommended approval for Area I.

Bennett moved to accept. Jones seconded. Motion passed.

EH 207 Readings in Literature and Culture I-UAH

The English & Literature Academic Committee recommended approval for Area II. Bennet moved to accept. Meehan seconded. Motion passed.

EH 208 Readings in Literature and Culture II-UAH

The English & Literature Academic Committee recommended approval for Area II. Bennett moved to accept. Jones seconded. Motion passed.

EH 209 Honors Seminar in Literature and Culture I-UAH

The English & Literature Academic Committee recommended approval for Area II. Bennett moved to accept. Jones seconded. Motion passed.

EH 210 Honors Seminar in Literature and Culture II-UAH

The English & Literature Academic Committee recommended approval for Area II. Bennett moved to accept. Jones seconded. Motion passed.

BIOL 1000 Intro to Biology-AUM

The Biological Sciences Academic Committee recommended approval for Area III. Bennett moved to accept. Relihan seconded. Motion passed.

BIOL 1001 Intro to Biology Laboratory-AUM

The Biological Sciences Academic Committee recommended approval for Area III. Bennett moved to accept. Jones seconded. Motion passed.

BIOL 1050 Intro to Environmental Biology-AUM

The Biological Sciences Academic Committee recommended approval for Area III. Bennett moved to accept. Jones seconded. Motion passed.

BIOL 1051 Intro to Environmental Biology Laboratory-AUM

The Biological Sciences Academic Committee recommended approval for Area III. Bennett moved to accept. Harrison seconded. Motion passed.

**Ratification of Templates.** Sessions/Nash presented the following institution specific templates for ratification as recommended by the Chief Academic Officers (CAOs) (copies attached-#4).

Kinesiology (UM)

Hotel, Restaurant, and Hospital Management (AU and UA)

Interior Design (AU and UA)

Nutrition (AU and UA)

Apparel and Textiles (AU and UA)

Forestry (AU and AAMU)

Food Science and Technology (AAMU)

Bennett moved for ratification of the templates recommended by the CAOs. Heinrich seconded. Motion passed.

Update on Meetings with Ad-hoc Committees. Sessions reported that there are at least eleven (11) program templates that are still being reviewed. A meeting will be scheduled with institutional representatives from the institutions involved to develop one template.

Speech Course Requirement Issue. Bennett stated that she has received complaints from institutional representatives that there are institutions that offer AGSC approved speech courses as distance learning courses. A copy of the complaints are attached-#5. The concern is that there is no true audience experience for the student and the request is that the AGSC enforce the specific guidelines and criteria of the Communication Studies template.

After some discussion, Bennett moved that the AGSC reaffirm its April 16, 2010 approval of the criteria and guidelines of the Communication Studies template. Any course submissions that deviate from the guidelines will need approval from the academic committee and the AGSC. Harrison seconded. Motion passed.

#### OTHER

Dr. Nash provided an article, University of Wyoming to Automatically Accept in-state Community College Graduates, for information (copy attached-#7).

### **SCHEDULE OF FUTURE AGSC MEETINGS**

October 18, 2013	10:00 am	Alabama A&M University
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### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

1. AGSC/STARS 2012-2013 Annual Report (Sessions)
2. AGSC/STARS Proposed Budget for 2013-2014 (Sessions)
3. AGSC/STARS Course Recommendations (Sessions)
4. Ratification of Templates (Sessions/Nash)
5. Speech Course Requirement Issue (Bennett)
6. Article, University of Wyoming to Automatically Accept in-state Community College Graduates (Nash)

The July 18-19, 2013 meeting of the AGSC adjourned at 11:45 p.m.

John Schmidt, Chair