

STATE OF ALABAMA
Articulation and General Studies Committee
University of South Alabama / Faculty Club
June 26-27, 2017

MINUTES OF MEETING

Planning Session
June 26, 2017 - 1:30 PM

The planning session of the Articulation and General Studies Committee (AGSC) was called to order by Dr. Suzanne Ozment at 1:30 p.m.

Members present: Dr. Pamela Arrington, Dr. Charles Nash, Dr. Marsha Adams, Dr. Suzanne Ozment, Dr. Herbert Riedel, Dr. Constance Relihan, Dr. Charles Israel, Dr. Mary Coleman, Dr. Eric Loomis, Dr. Hal Fulmer, Dr. Bruce Crawford, Dr. Patricia Sims, and Dr. Russ Rothamer. STARS staff: Dr. Keith Sessions, Mr. Shannon Nichols. ACHE staff: Dr. Elizabeth French and Ms. Deborah Nettles.

Others present: Angela Jones-UWA.

Dr. Mary Coleman welcomed members and guests to the University of South Alabama.

Discussion of the AGSC Bylaws was added to the Planning Session agenda.

Draft of 2016-2017 Annual Report. Dr. Keith Sessions presented the draft of the 2016-2017 Annual Report.

A lengthy discussion followed regarding items to be included as accomplishments for the coming year.

A copy of the AGSC Membership 1994-2017 was distributed to AGSC members. It was decided that the document should be included in the Annual Report each year. A copy is attached-#1.

AGSC/STARS Goals and Priorities 2017-2018. There was discussion regarding the priorities and goals for 2017-2018. The following goals and priorities were proposed: 1) make STARS guides more accessible on mobile platforms; 2) establish a planning committee to develop a statewide conference on transfer and student success to be sponsored by the AGSC in 2018-19; 3) initiate an annual STARS training session for Institutional Points of Contacts in conjunction with the Fall AGSC meeting and consider offering a webinar or other distance delivery options for Points of Contacts each spring; 4) establish a task force to evaluate and revise as needed the current structure of the Academic Committees and Pre-Professional Committees and make recommendations for improvement by Spring 2018.; and 5) implement a standardized template for institutional Area V pages by Spring 2018.

2017-2018 Proposed Budget. There was discussion on the proposed 2017-2018 AGSC/STARS budget. It was agreed that changes should be made on the following line items: 1) reduction of the student workers to \$3,500; 2) add line item-Professional Development Conference \$9,000; and contingencies line \$1,000.

AGSC/STARS Bylaws. There was discussion on the draft of the AGSC Bylaws. It was agreed that Dr. Ozment will incorporate the revisions discussed and present them at the business session.

Dr. Relihan agreed to serve as Chair-elect of the AGSC.

The Planning Session was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

STATE OF ALABAMA
Articulation and General Studies Committee
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MINUTES OF MEETING

Business Session
June 27, 2017 - 8:30 a.m.

Committee Members Present:

Dr. Suzanne Ozment, Chair	University of Montevallo
Dr. Pamela Arrington	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Constance Relihan	Auburn University
Dr. Charles Israel, Alternate	Auburn University
Dr. Marsha Adams	University of Alabama in Huntsville
Dr. Charles Nash, Alternate	University of Alabama System
Dr. Mary Coleman	University of South Alabama
Dr. Eric Loomis, Alternate	University of South Alabama
Dr. Hal Fulmer	Troy University
Dr. Patricia Mims, Alternate	Athens University
Dr. Bruce Crawford	Lawson State Community College
Dr. Herbert Riedel	L.B. Wallace Community College
Dr. Russ Rothamer, Alternate	Alabama Community College System

Ex-Officio Members:

Dr. Keith Sessions, Executive Director	AGSC/STARS
Mr. Shannon Nichols	AGSC/STARS
Dr. Elizabeth C. French	ACHE
Dr. Jim Purcell, Executive Director	ACHE

Committee Members Absent:

Dr. Anthony Overton	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Gary Branch	Faulkner State Community College
Dr. James Mitchell, Alternate	Wallace Community College-Selma
Dr. David Campbell, Alternate	Northeast Alabama Community College

Others Present: Ms. Angela Jones (University of West Alabama)

CALL TO ORDER	The business session of the Articulation and General Studies Committee was called to order at 8:35 a.m. A quorum was determined by roll call of members present.
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	Dr. Relihan moved for the adoption of the agenda. Dr. Coleman seconded. The agenda was adopted.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Dr. Adams moved for the approval of the March 22, 2017 minutes. Dr. Fulmer seconded. Minutes were approved.
NEWLY APPOINTED MEMBERS	The two new appointments from the Council of Presidents were announced: Dr. Ken Kitts, President, University of North Alabama, will replace Dr. Ken Tucker. Dr. Tim Edwards, Provost, University of West Alabama will replace Dr. Suzanne Ozment.
ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR	Dr. Coleman moved to nominate Dr. Relihan as AGSC Vice-Chair for 2017-18. Dr. Fulmer seconded. There were no other nominations. Motion carried.
RECOGNITION OF OUTGOING CHAIR	Dr. Keith Sessions presented Dr. Suzanne Ozment, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, University of Montevallo, with an award for her service as Chair of the AGSC. Dr. Ozment thanked the AGSC for allowing her to serve as chair.

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR: Dr. Ozment worked on several drafts of the AGSC Bylaws.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Dr. Sessions distributed to AGSC members a written report of activities. A copy is attached -#2.

The STARS staff has created online training videos (PREZI) for students, counselors/advisors, academic administrators and faculty groups that will be available by the fall semester.

Updates on AGSC/STARS Goals & Priorities 2016-17

The following actions were taken on AGSC/STARS goals and priorities for 2016-17:

1. *Goal A. Refine the protocols for resolution of student complaints and develop a process for presenting findings to the AGSC periodically as information items.*

Student complaint of transfer from Northeast Alabama Community College regarding credit for history sequence prescribed on his transfer guide.

See Executive Director's Report #4 for resolution of this issue.

2. *Goal B. Implement opportunities for student engagement*

Campus visits were made to several institutions and AGSC/STARS promotional material was distributed. *See Executive Director's Report #3 for a listing of campus visits.*

3. *Goal C. Improve STARS web-based services on mobile platforms*

The STARS staff is continuing work on the new web design for the STARS "GET THE GUIDE" section of the website. Software has been purchased that will help to convert the site from desktop to mobile depending on the device the end-user is using.

4. *Goal D. Area V Concerns*

Area V Subcommittee Report (Relihan, Coleman, Fulmer, Williams)

Dr. Relihan distributed a proposed standardized template to be used for Area V. A copy of the proposed Area V template is attached-#3.

5. *Goal E. Evaluate the current structure of the General Studies Academic Committees and the Pre-Professional Academic Committees to make recommendations for improvement*

This item is being addressed by the Area V subcommittee and is currently in the preliminary phase.

STARS Operations

Usage Reports. Nichols reported that reports are available on the STARS website. Any special reports can be requested through the STARS office. Copies of March, April, and May 2017 reports are attached-#4.

Remarks from Executive Director of ACHE. Dr. Purcell suggested to the AGSC a way to improve community college transfer in Alabama. The first part requires a slightly lower general minimum core of general education requirements. 35 hours rather than 42. He stated that this would give Associate degree graduates more work-related courses and possibly an undergraduate certificate or minor to add to their transfer degree. The second part requires full acceptance of an Associate of Arts, Associate of Science, and Associate of Teaching degree. This could help transfer students in completing their degree with less loss of time, credits, and tuition. He stated that 32 neighboring states have this system.

Dr. Purcell stated that he would like to work on the following projects in Alabama: 1) reduce remediation rates in high schools; 2) assist and encourage more high school students to apply for financial aid (FAFSA); 3) encourage cost savings for student textbooks by the use of Open Education Resources (OER); 4) encourage institutions to send grades for students to ACHE; and 5) improve the overall statewide structure on approving programs for institutions.

In response to Dr. Purcell's remarks, Dr. Relihan stated that the transfer student graduation rates are not much different from the graduation rates of native students. She stated that she would like to see more data before accepting that the current system in Alabama is not working. She also reiterated that more technology like the EDUnav presentation given to the AGSC at its March, 2017 meeting would help the student see in real time the choices they are making.

Dr. Nash volunteered to share feedback reports with Dr. Purcell.

Dr. Ozment stated that the AGSC is not just concerned about time, money, and credit but about the student having the credit that will situate them to succeed in their major. She stated that it would be good to look at some specific pathways from two or three states where they are already doing what Dr. Purcell is proposing.

Approval of Course and Ratification of Templates. None at this time.

Approval of FY 2017-2018 AGSC/STARS Budget. The budget (attachment-#5) was presented and discussed at the planning session with the following recommendations from the AGSC: It was agreed that changes should be made on the following: 1) reduction of the student workers line item to \$3,500; 2) add line item-Professional Development Conference \$9,000; and contingencies line item \$1,000.

Dr. Adams moved to approve the budget with the recommendations made at the planning session. Relihan seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of AGSC/STARS Bylaws. The Bylaws were presented and discussed at the planning session with a recommendation to include the date and a page with each member's signature. A copy of the Bylaws is attached-#6.

Dr. Ozment moved to adopt the Bylaws with the recommendations made at the planning session. Fulmer seconded. Motion passed.

Approval of AGSC/STARS Goals and Priorities 2017-2018. The following goals and priorities were discussed at the planning session:

1. Make STARS guides more accessible on mobile platforms;
2. Establish a planning committee to develop a statewide conference on transfer and student success to be sponsored by the AGSC in 2018-19;
3. Initiate an annual STARS training session for Institutional Points of Contacts in conjunction with the Fall AGSC meeting and consider offering a webinar or other distance delivered session for Points of Contacts each spring;
4. Establish a task force to evaluate and revise as needed the current structure of the Academic Committees and Pre-Professional Committees and make recommendations for improvement by Spring 2018.; and
5. Implement a standardized template for institutional Area V pages by Spring 2018.

Dr. Coleman moved for approval of the goals and priorities. Fulmer seconded. Motion passed.

OTHER

Dr. Riedel expressed concern regarding having another option in Math instead of Finite Math. He expressed an interest in speaking to the Math Discipline Committee regarding the issue.

The current AGSC subcommittees are:

Area V Subcommittee: Relihan-Chair, Coleman, Fulmer, Loomis, Sessions

Task Force for Discipline Committees (including Pre-Professional) Subcommittee: Adams-Chair, Coleman, Israel, Riedel, Sessions

Planning Committee for Statewide Conference on Transfer and Student Success to be held 2018-2019: Arrington-Chair, Crawford, Simms, Sessions

SCHEDULE OF FUTURE AGSC MEETINGS

October 12, 2017	1:00 pm	TBA/Montgomery
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Points of Contacts 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. AGSC/STARS Annual Report (Sessions)
2. Executive Director's Report (Sessions)
3. Example of Area V standardized template (Relihan)
4. STARS Usage Reports (Nichols)
5. AGSC/STARS Proposed Budget FY2017-18 (Sessions)
6. AGSC Bylaws (Ozment/Sessions)

The June 26-27, 2017 meeting of the AGSC adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Herbert Riedel, Chair

Deborah Nettles, Recording Secretary