

# STATE OF ALABAMA

## Articulation and General Studies Committee

UAB National Alumni Society House  
1301 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue S., Birmingham AL 35205

### MINUTES OF MEETING Annual Review and Planning Session July 13, 2023 - 9:30 AM

**CALL TO ORDER:** The planning session of the Articulation and General Studies Committee (AGSC) was called to order by Dr. Bruce Crawford at 9:30 a.m.

**WELCOME FROM UAB:** Dr. Eva Lewis welcomed members and guests on behalf of Dr. Watts to UAB for the meeting.

**ROLL CALL:** Dr. Crawford asked Jacinta Whitehurst to call the roll to have a record of members present even though no voting would take place at this planning meeting.

**Members present:** Dr. Pamela Arrington, Dr. Kathleen Amende, Dr. Norman Godwin, Dr. Eva Lewis, Dr. Tonjanita Johnson, Dr. Mary Coleman, Dr. Bruce Crawford, Dr. Catherine Wehlburg, Dr. Hal Fulmer, Dr. Tina Jones, Ms. Mary-Beth Lancaster, and Dr. Chantae Calhoun. STARS staff: Dr. Keith Sessions and Shannon Nichols. ACHE staff: Dr. Robin McGill and Mrs. Jacinta Whitehurst.

Others present: Dr. Steve Katsinas

**WELCOME & RECOGNIZE GUESTS:** Dr. Crawford suggested everyone introduce themselves, including guests, at the meeting.

**PRESENTATION DRAFT OF 2022-2023 ANNUAL REPORT.** Dr. Keith Sessions presented an overview of the first draft of the 2022-2023 Annual Report. He discussed the transition to the new name *Alabama Transfers*. A copy of the 2022-2023 Annual Report is available by request.

**2022-23 Priority 1:** Dr. Lewis gave a review of the General Studies Core Subcommittee Priority Information listed in the annual report. She discussed the summary of responses from the survey that was sent to the institutions, which was presented at a previous AGSC meeting. She mentioned the request for feedback on the three options presented at a previous meeting to move forward with the potential restructuring of the state guidelines only yielded three responses.

Dr. Lewis gave an update on the University of Alabama's General Education Redesign meeting.

**2023-23 Priority 2:** Dr. Sessions gave a review of the Achieve Conference priority for which the host institution going forward will be allowed to retain the remaining funds from the Achieve Conference for scholarships. He also mentioned the University of South Alabama, along with Coastal Alabama Community College, will host the next Achieve Conference.

**2022-23 Priority 3:** Dr. Sessions gave a review of the Area Academic Committees and the Professional Academic Committees priority. He mentioned the goal is to get these committees more re-engaged and update the list of memberships.

**2022-23 Priority 4:** Dr. Calhoun gave a review of the ACCS approval for possible mathematical science courses that meet the new Math Pathways guidelines priority. She discussed the committee's goal is to make the non-STEM majors' course a quantitative reasoning thinking course. Dr. Sessions mentioned he is going to send an email to the four-year institutions' points of contact to check to see if any quantitative reasoning courses for non-STEM students are being actively worked on at the institutions.

Dr. Lewis discussed a new course at UA developed for non-STEM majors that is being tested at the institution currently.

Dr. Sessions stated statistics is an approved course for Area III for non-STEM majors. He also mentioned he will have a location on the website to share any information from institutions in regards to new mathematic reasoning courses.

**2022-23 Priority 5:** Dr. Sessions gave a review of the ACCS and community colleges' increase usage of the transfer guide system priority.

**2022-23 Priority 6:** Dr. Sessions gave a review of the launch of the new Alabama transfers website, provide training, and increase rebranding/marketing efforts among all constituents. Dr. Sessions mentioned the UA staff who helped with the new website: Jay Warner, Mike Malley, Brandi Stacey, Nathan Bray, and Dr. Steve Katsinas. Dr. Katsinas briefly spoke about the previous evaluations in 2002-03 and 2015-16, and the recommendations to change Area V as well as the use of mobile technology. He also recognized the previous Provost Whitaker, Charles Nash, current Provost Dalton, Brandi Stacey, and Mike Malley for their support of the new website. Dr. Sessions demonstrated some guide features on the new website.

**2022-23 Priority 7:** To work with the Alabama Association of Independent Colleges and Universities to discuss ways we can link students to their articulation agreements and course equivalency information from the current Alabama transfers website priority. Dr. Sessions discussed a willingness to help with consulting or guiding them in their effort.

**2022-23 Priority 8:** To determine AGSC's role in ensuring transferability of credit awarded for prior learning priority. Dr. McGill discussed to what degree AGSC should be involved in credit for prior learning. The recommendation was for AGSC staff to be engaged with two-year and four-year institutional representatives to complete course to course equivalency tables that include the most common PLA credits and identify differences in how these credits are assessed across institutions.

Dr. Lewis discussed with the committee suggestions for the goals and priorities to focus on in the upcoming 2023-2024 year. The committee suggested to carryover some priorities from 2022-2023 year and add additional priorities listed below:

- To continue the ACHIEVE conference;
- To continue the Alabama Transfer website;
- CLEP and AP analysis;

- Work with Alabama Transfers staff to develop and recommend a succession plan;
- Continue General Studies Core Sub-Committee to generate five questions requiring what general ed studies should be in 5 years and following through on the recommendations; and
- Address sequence issues in Area II and IV (Literature and History).

Dr. Sessions mentioned he asked for an increase in the AGSC budget, which was approved. He would like to use the increase of funds to hire additional staff and help with training, education, marketing, and social media.

**OUTGOING CHAIR RECOGNITION:** Dr. Sessions presented Dr. Crawford a plaque recognizing his service as the Chair of the Committee. Dr. Crawford thanked everyone.

Dr. Crawford adjourned the Annual Review and Planning Session with a prayer at 12:19 p.m. The business meeting will reconvene at 1:30 p.m.

---

Dr. Eva Lewis

*Jacinta Whitehurst, Recording Secretary*

**STATE OF ALABAMA**  
**Articulation and General Studies Committee**

UAB National Alumni Society House  
1301 10<sup>th</sup> Avenue S., Birmingham AL 35205

**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**Business Session**  
**July 13, 2023 - 1:30 p.m.**

**Committee Members Present:**

Dr. Eva Lewis, Chair	University of Alabama
Dr. Pamela Arrington,	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Kathleen Amende,	Alabama State University
Dr. Norman Godwin	Auburn University
Dr. Tonjanita Johnson, Alternate	University of Alabama System
Dr. Mary Coleman	University of South Alabama
Dr. Catherine Wehlburg	Athens State University
<i>Representing Dr. Phillip Way</i>	
Dr. Hal Fulmer	Troy University
Dr. Tina Jones, Alternate	University of West Alabama
<i>Representing Dr. Tim Edwards</i>	
Dr. Bruce Crawford	Lawson State Community College
Ms. Mary-Beth Lancaster	Coastal Alabama Community College
Dr. Chantae Calhoun	Alabama Community College System

**Ex-Officio Members:**

Dr. Keith Sessions, Executive Director	AGSC/STARS
Mr. Shannon Nichols	AGSC/STARS
Dr. Robin McGill	ACHE

**Committee Members Absent:**

Dr. Wubishet Tadesse, Alternate	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Caterina Bristol, Alternate	Alabama State University
Dr. Charles Israel, Alternate	Auburn University
Dr. Lisa Williams, Alternate	Jacksonville State University
Dr. Eric Loomis	University of South Alabama
Dr. David Campbell	Northeast Alabama Community College
Ms. Leslie Reeder, Alternate	Wallace State Community College
Mrs. Jackie Screws	Chattahoochee Valley Community College

**Others Present:** Jacinta Whitehurst and Steve Katsinas

**CALL TO ORDER:** The business session of the Articulation and General Studies Committee was called to order at 1:30 p.m.

**WELCOME FROM UAB:** Dr. Lewis thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

- ROLL CALL & QUORUM:** A quorum was determined by roll call of members present.
- ADOPTION OF AGENDA:** Dr. Fulmer moved for the adoption of the agenda. Dr. Arrington seconded. The agenda was adopted with an addition of a resolution in the other announcements/ issues for discussion or vote section.
- APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Dr. Crawford moved for the approval of the March 23, 20213 minutes. Dr. Fulmer seconded. Minutes were approved.
- RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS AND GUESTS:** Dr. Sessions introduced Dr. Kathleen Amende as the primary voting member for Alabama State University and Dr. Caterina Bristol will serve as the alternate due to Dr. Tanjula Petty leaving the committee. He mentioned the regional committee replacements have to be filled by the Council of Presidents so until that is done, Dr. Tina Jones, University of West Alabama, will continue to serve in place of Dr. Tim Edwards and Dr. Wehlburg, Athens State University, will continue to serve in place of Dr. Phillip Way.
- MEMBERSHIP UPDATES AND SPECIAL THANK YOU'S** Dr. Sessions shared his sincere appreciation to Dr. Way, Dr. Williams, and Dr. Edwards for their service on the committee and to the transfer students across the state. He also wanted to recognize Mrs. Brandi Stacey for her service and dedication as Chair of the ACHIEVE Planning Committee and helping with the launch of the new website. He thanked Dr. Wehlburg, Chair of the Planning Committee, and Dr. Coleman, Vice-Chair, for agreeing to serve for the next Achieve Conference. He also wanted to thank Mike Malley for his work with the website and rebranding.
- ACTION ITEM FOLLOW-UP FROM MORNING SESSION-RECOMMENDATION AND APPROVAL OF VICE-CHAIR (TWO YEAR MEMBER)** Dr. Crawford nominated Mrs. Mary Beth Lancaster as the AGSC Vice Chair. Dr. Lewis motioned to accept the nomination for Mrs. Mary Beth Lancaster. Dr. Calhoun moved to nominate Mrs. Mary Beth Lancaster as AGSC Vice-Chair Elect for 2023-24. Dr. Wehlburg seconded. There were no other nominations. Motion carried.

## **ACTION ITEM FOLLOW-UP FROM MORNING SESSION-APPROVAL OF AGSC PRIORITIES AND GOALS FOR 2023-2024**

Dr. Sessions reviewed the following priorities and goals for 2023-24 that were recommended by the committee:

### **The Alabama Transfers Staff will:**

- Continue to work to improve and add new features to the new website/database.
- Continue to train, educate, and re-engage transfer students, advisors, counselors, academic committee members, and administrators in relation to the new website and on-going AGSC activities.
- Continue to market and promote the Alabama Transfers program in order to improve/increase system usage.

### **The AGSC will:**

- Host the 6th Annual Achieve Conference.
- Evaluate and analyze CLEP and AP in an effort to create a useful crosswalk matrix to bring attention to and address possible issues or problems.
- Continue work of General Studies Core Sub-Committee with a goal of addressing the following:
  - Identify what general studies should look like in five years;
  - Identify the mission of general studies in Alabama; and
  - Identify and address the challenges and/or barriers that prevent action on revisioning the general studies core.
- Address sequencing issues in Areas II and IV (Literature and History).
- Work with Alabama Transfers staff to develop and recommend a succession plan.

Dr. Arrington moved to accept the recommendation of approval of the AGSC priorities and goals for 2023-24. Dr. Fulmer seconded. Motion passed.

## **ACTION ITEM FOLLOW-UP FROM MORNING SESSION-APPROVAL OF 2022-2023 Annual Report (with any changes and/or corrections)**

Dr. Crawford moved to accept the recommendation of approval of the 2022-23 Annual Report with a final review. Dr. Jones seconded. Motion passed.

## **APPROVAL OF COURSES**

Dr. Sessions presented the following course proposal recommended for approval:

### **Jacksonville State University**

### **PSC 102 - Introduction to State and Local Government (3 SH)**

Dr. Crawford moved to accept the Academic Committee's recommendation. Dr. Coleman seconded. Motion passed.

## **RATIFICATION OF TEMPLATES**

### **Respiratory Therapy Care - 51.0908 (JSU and UNA)**

Dr. Arrington moved for ratification of template. Dr. Fulmer seconded. Motion passed.

### **Sport Management - 31.0504 (AAMU Only)**

Dr. Sessions discussed the necessity in the future to create a new PAC group for majors in the Sport Management/Recreation Studies discipline.

A lengthy discussion occurred, regarding the limitation of courses in Area II. Dr. Coleman suggested Dr. Sessions clarify with the institution if any Fine Arts courses will be acceptable in Area II, and if any changes are made, it can be done at a later date.

Dr. Coleman moved for ratification of template. Dr. Calhoun seconded. Motion passed.

### **Sports Management & Recreation Studies - 31.0101 (USA Only)**

Dr. Coleman moved for ratification of template. Dr. Arrington seconded. Motion passed.

### **ACHIEVE CONFERENCE PLANNING SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Dr. Sessions stated he will meet with the committee to finalize dates and hotel room blocks.

### **GEN ED CORE REVIEW SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATE**

Dr. Lewis recapped updates from planning meeting. She discussed a decision needed for committee structure and subcommittees that need to be appointed within this committee.

### **INFORMATION ITEM – RNL REPORT “2023 PROSPECTIVE FAMILY ENGAGEMENT REPORT”**

Dr. Sessions discussed the RNL report for information purposes only. A copy of the report is available upon request.

### **OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION:**

Dr. Crawford discussed developing a resolution to recognize the University of Alabama for appreciation of their services rendered.

Dr. Coleman moved to develop a resolution recognizing Dr. Katsinas and the leadership at UA for their support. Dr. Crawford seconded. Motion passed.

Dr. Sessions mentioned in his proposed budget plan to possibly contract Mike Malley for continued help on ongoing projects and to help offset some cost to UA.

Dr. Lewis discussed creating a working group to help with a succession plan. The working group will be Dr. McGill, Dr. Crawford, Dr. Johnson, and Dr. Sessions.

Dr. Fulmer moved with the recommendation to create an adhoc working group to help with a succession plan. Dr. Arrington seconded. Motion passed.

Dr. Coleman asked if anyone was interested in being on a panel for a session at the Achieve Conference on the curricula tension of native students and transfer students.

**DISCUSS POSSIBLE DATE FOR FALL AGSC MEETING**

Fall 2023

TBA/Location or Zoom

**ADJOURN**

The July 13, 2023 meeting of the AGSC adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

---

Dr. Eva Lewis, Chair

---

*Jacinta Whitehurst, Recording Secretary*

DRAFT