

STATE OF ALABAMA
Articulation and General Studies Committee

Virtual Zoom Meeting

April 30, 2024

1:00 PM

MINUTES OF MEETING

Committee Members Present

Dr. Rosetta Howard	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Wubishet Tadesse, Alternate	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Kathleen Amende, Alternate	Alabama State University
Dr. Caterina Bristol	Alabama State University
Dr. Charles Bringardner	Auburn University
Dr. Charles Israel, Alternate	Auburn University
Dr. Eva Lewis, Chair	University of Alabama
Dr. Tonjanita Johnson, Alternate	University of Alabama System
Dr. Mary Coleman	University of South Alabama
Dr. Catherine Wehlburg	Athens State University
Dr. Hal Fulmer	Troy University
Ms. Mary-Beth Lancaster, Vice-Chair	Coastal Alabama Community College
Mrs. Jackie Screws	Chattahoochee Valley Community College
Dr. Bruce Crawford	Lawson State Community College
Ms. Leslie Reeder, Alternate	Wallace Community College -Dothan
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. Eric Loomis, Alternate	University of South Alabama
Dr. Jason Newell, Alternate	University of Montevallo
Dr. Tina Jones, Alternate	University of West Alabama
Dr. David Campbell	Northeast Alabama Community College

Others Present: Jacinta Whitehurst, ACHE; Dr. Mary Grimes-McGreer, ASU; Dr. Tau Kadhi, AAMU; Dr. Salam Khan, AAMU; and Frank Savina, University of Texas.

Call to Order

The meeting of the Articulation and General Studies committee was called to order by Dr. Eva Lewis at 1:03 p.m. A quorum was determined by roll call of members present.

Adoption of Agenda

Dr. Fulmer moved for the adoption of the agenda. Dr. Wehlburg seconded. The agenda was adopted.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Fulmer moved for the approval of the February 15, 2024 minutes with a correction in the spelling of Dr. Sessions last name. Dr. Wehlburg seconded. Minutes were approved.

Introductions of New Members and Guests

Dr. Sessions introduced new members and guests. Dr. Rosetta Howard, Alabama A&M Interim Associate Vice President of Undergraduate Studies, Dr. Charles Bringardner, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs at Auburn University and guests, Dr. Mary Grimes-McGreer, ASU; Dr. Tau Kadhi, AAMU; Dr. Salam Khan, AAMU; and Frank Savina, University of Texas.

Course Approvals

No courses to approve at this time.

New ACCS Mathematics Non-STEM Pathway Course in Pilot Phase (MTH 108 - Quantitative Reasoning)

Dr. Sessions introduced Dr. Chantae Calhoun to discuss with the committee the new non-STEM math course.

Dr. Calhoun shared some background and current status of a new course developed by the community college system. The creation of the new math course would provide students in the non-STEM majors another option rather than Finite Math or Precalculus Algebra. The course has been added to the ACCS course directory, but the course is not available to all colleges. The course will be taught at select colleges as a pilot program in the Fall 2024. ACCS would like feedback from the universities. This course may come to the committee in the future for approval, and if approved, the course will be added to all appropriate transfer guides as a math course option in Area III.

Dr. Sessions stated he will send the course information to the universities for feedback in which questions should include responses on course objective and learning outcomes to make sure the course is not overlapping on other courses being offered.

Dr. Bristol mentioned the math course is not on the state's approved list for education certification requirements. She stated that each institution, if they wanted to adopt this course, would have to submit every checklist in order for the course to be considered as an option.

Dr. Coleman mentioned concerns that her math chair and coordinator have with the course. The question posed was: Does the course include the use of spreadsheet software Excel training because during previous discussions, it was an important part of the quantitative reasoning math course? Dr. Calhoun stated she would seek more clarification.

Math Pathways Presentation – The Dana Center & Alabama A&M University

Dr. McGill shared background information on the presenters from the Dana Center and Alabama A&M University.

Dr. Kadhi discussed the background of the Alabama A&M Math pathways. He also discussed challenges with college algebra and alternative paths for students beyond calculus. Dr. Kadhi talked about new quantitative reasoning and data pathway courses being considered, and the challenges with transferring credits to other institutions. The new pathway courses will be launched in Fall 2024. They will collect and analyze Fall 2024 data of the DFW rates in the core math courses and report, comparing and contrasting the findings by midsemester Spring 2025.

Dr. Savina discussed the misalignment of math courses that were designed in the past, such as algebra and pre-calculus, and how more statistics and quantitative reasonings is now needed. He talked about his current work for the Gateway Level Math project. He also addressed the current curriculum, in which only 20% of majors require calculus, and how more majors require statistics, quantitative reasoning, and data science. He indicated the importance of a state task force to address misalignment in education.

Q and A:

Dr. Lewis asked how do these non-STEM courses that do not require calculus help students to understand the economy? Dr. Savina response was statistics is a substitute course, and it plays a vital role in understanding the world and the way we sample data.

Dr. Sessions stated he would share the work the AGSC subcommittee compiled from research and surveys, which indicate the need to open the math pathways to include statistics and quantitative reasonings courses in Alabama.

Dr. Calhoun asked Dr. Kadhi to connect with ACCS math facilitator to compare the quantitative reasoning course that both ACCS and Alabama A&M University have developed.

Templates for Ratification

Dr. Sessions presented the following institution specific templates for ratification (copies are available upon request):

Sport Management (CIP 31.0504) – Troy University Only

Dr. Fulmer moved for approval of the ratification of the template as amended.

Dr. Wehlburg seconded. Motion passed.

Digital Forensics (43.0403) – UAB Only

Dr. Wehlburg moved for approval of the ratification of the template.

Dr. Crawford seconded. Motion passed.

Sports Coaching (CIP 36.0108) – Troy University Only

Dr. Fulmer moved for approval of the ratification of the template.

Dr. Tadesse seconded. Motion passed.

Occupational Safety and Health Management (CIP 15.0701) – JSU Only

Dr. Wehlburg moved for approval of the ratification of the template.

Dr. Calhoun seconded. Motion passed.

Medical Laboratory Science (CIP 51.1004 and 51.1005) – AU and AUM Only

Dr. Bringardner moved for approval of the ratification of the template.

Dr. Coleman seconded. Motion passed.

Recap/Update: 2024 Achieve Conference

Dr. Sessions gave a summary on the 2024 ACHIEVE Conference, which was held on March 27-28, 2024 in Mobile, AL. He thanked Dr. Coleman, Alison Wood, and others at USA, Bishop State CC, and Coastal Alabama CC for hosting the conference.

- 247 attendees (Most have paid; they are still finalizing the financial total.)
- 212 attendees downloaded Whova app
- 69 speakers
- 43 sessions
- Certificate of Attendance and Participation was requested
- \$8,750 raised from sponsors and exhibitors

He also highlighted positive feedback from attendees about the conference, including Manny Smith, Founder & CEO of EdVisorly.

Dr. Coleman thanked Dr. Sessions, his staff, Shannon Nichols, and Jacinta Whitehurst for their assistance at the conference.

Update: Alabama Transfer Website

Dr. Sessions shared a link to the system reports.

Update: Succession Planning Sub-committee

Dr. Sessions shared information about the subcommittee's meeting held the previous week. They are working on a detailed budget format and should have some finalized details by the summer meeting. They are considering a strategic plan to incorporate the additional funds awarded, showing how the funds will be implemented for future use. The subcommittee members are Dr. Crawford, Dr. Johnson, Dr. McGill, Dr. Sessions, Shannon Nichols, and Anita, the committee secretary.

Set Time, Date(s), Location for Summer Planning Meeting & Regular Meeting

Tentatively July 9 – 21, 2024

TBA In-person/Virtual

Dr. Sessions will send a Doodle Poll to the committee members to confirm the best possible date, in person or virtual, for the Summer 2024 meeting.

Other Issues or Announcements

Dr. Coleman is working on the update of the AP Credit spreadsheet and will start distributing the materials to the institutions' registrar offices as soon as possible.

Dr. Lewis is going to meet with the Gen Ed subcommittee in May 2024.

Adjournment

The April 30, 2024 meeting of the AGSC was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Dr. Eva Lewis, Chair

Jacinta Whitehurst, Recording Secretary