

STATE OF ALABAMA
Articulation and General Studies Committee

Virtual Zoom Meeting
February 15, 2024
10:00 AM

MINUTES OF MEETING

Committee Members Present

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

Others Present Jacinta Whitehurst - ACHE and Mike Malley - UA

Call to Order

The meeting of the Articulation and General Studies Committee was called to order by Dr. Eva Lewis at 10:02 a.m. A quorum was determined by roll call of members present.

Adoption of Agenda

Dr. Crawford moved for the adoption of the agenda. Dr. Coleman seconded. The agenda was adopted.

Approval of Minutes

Dr. Coleman moved for the approval of the October 18, 2023 minutes. Dr. Wehlburg seconded. Minutes were approved.

Introductions of New Members and Guests

Dr. Sessions announced the appointment of Dr. Charles Bringardner, Associate Provost for Academic Affairs at Auburn University, who will be replacing Dr. Godwin as a voting member of the committee and Dr. Rosetta Howard, Interim Associate Vice President of Faculty and Undergraduate Studies, who will be replacing Dr. Arrington as a voting member for Alabama A&M University. Dr. Lewis thanked the former individuals on the committee for their contributions to the committee.

Need for New AGSC Liaisons

Dr. Sessions mentioned the need for new liaisons to discuss, as needed, any issues pertaining to AGSC with the Council of Presidents for which Dr. Wehlburg volunteered to be the liaison and the Council of Chief Academic Officers for which Dr. Jones volunteered to be the liaison.

Course Approvals

No courses to approve at this time.

Templates for Ratification

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

Interprofessional Health Sciences (CIP 51.0000) – Troy University Only

Dr. Crawford moved for approval of the ratification of the template. Dr. Tadesse seconded. Motion passed.

Sport Management (31.0504) – Troy University Only

Dr. Crawford moved to table the ratification of the template until Dr. Session can clarify if the two sport management courses that are offered by ACCS should be evaluated and added to the template specifically in Area V and will the 200 level courses versus the 300 level courses be an issue with Troy. Dr. Tadesse seconded. Template tabled to next meeting.

Parks and Recreation Management (CIP 03.0207) – Auburn University Only

Dr. Jones moved for approval of the ratification of the template. Dr. Wehlburg seconded. Motion passed.

UPDATE – 2024 ACHIEVE Conference Sub-Committee

Dr. Keith Session presented a brief update of the ACHIEVE Conference, which will be held on March 27-28, 2024. The following topics were mentioned:

- 153 registered guests
- Three keynote speakers confirmed
- Transfer student panel
- Promotional emails sent
- Webpages for conference
- Sponsors and exhibitors
- List of breakout sessions
- Draft agenda available
- Whova app access
- Hotel information
- Food planning
- Goody bags and door prizes for attendees
- Planning committee meeting dates

Dr. Sessions mentioned any unused funds will be gifted to the host institution to use for transfer scholarships.

Update – Alabama Transfer Website

Dr. Mike Malley discussed the launch of a new overall system usage page on the website. The website page will provide an overview of usage of the new transfer guide system. He demonstrated how the page is laid out in a bar chart format and provides usage breakdown by major, university (transfer destination), and by community college (sending institution). The information can be sorted and viewed by month, year, or overall total amounts.

AGSC & Alabama Transfer 2023-2024 Priority & Goals Update

Dr. Sessions presented a status report of the priority and goals that were agreed upon at the 2023 summer meeting. He mentioned the following:

- Alabama Transfers staff have already added a few new features to the website. They have hosted multiple zoom meetings and travelled to multiple campus visits to promote and publicize the new Alabama Transfers program in order to educate and train the primary end-user groups.
- ACHIEVE conference previously mentioned.
- Work with the four-year institutions and ACCS to gather updated AP and CLEP information has been conducted in an effort to begin to create a useful Alabama AP/CLEP matrix. One obstacle that has been encountered is the fact that many require scores and equivalent courses that vary from community college to another and the committee would like to see more consistency and continuity across the board with the ACCS schools in regards to how AP/CLEP credits are awarded. In the past, the AGSC has made a recommendation to the Chief Academic Officers across the state to accept a score of “3” for all AP credit coursework, but many universities still require a test score of “4” or “5”.

Dr. Lewis questioned when students are accepted by a community college with a

AP/CLEP score of a “3” and then transfers to a university that requires a “3 or 4” for that course, asking if they would have to retake the course at the university? Dr. Session suggested asking the records department how they handle a course from a community college with a pass grade instead of a letter grade.

Per Dr. Calhoun, the transcript does not have a grade on it. The transcript and the degree audit will only show if it has fulfilled the graduation requirement.

- No additional work has been done as of January 2024 to the General Studies Sub-Committee Priority to address identifying what general studies should look like in five years, the mission of general studies in Alabama, or addressing the challenges and/or barriers that prevent action on revising the general studies core.

Dr. Session discussed a survey he will be sending to educational administrators in reference to the General Studies priority goals as well as asking for feedback referencing sequencing issues in Area II and IV. Also, he would like to work with the committee on a succession plan as his staff had already created a draft for distribution shortly.

Dr. McGill mentioned one of the questions in regards to the sequence requirement may need to be reworded to ask for people’s thoughts on the rationale of the requirement or if they would support a rationale for the sequence requirement. She also mentioned the governor’s recommended budget included an additional \$200,000 request for the Alabama Transfers, which would increase the budget to \$799,589. This amount is one-third of an increase from last year.

Other Issues or Announcements

Dr. Lewis announced Dr. Janet Woodruff-Gordon as a new Provost at UAB.

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

July 2023

TBA In-person

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

Adjournment

The February 15, 2024 meeting of the AGSC was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Dr. Eva Lewis, Chair

Jacinta Whitehurst, Recording Secretary