

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

Virtual Zoom Meeting  
November 19, 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. Caterina Bristol, Alternate*	Alabama State University
<i>*Represented by Dr. Sandra Malone</i>	
Dr. Charles Bringardner	Auburn University
Dr. Rhonda Gaede	University of Alabama in Huntsville
Dr. Eric Loomis, Alternate	University of South Alabama
Dr. Catherine Wehlburg	Athens State University
Dr. D. Kristen Gilbert	University of Montevallo
Dr. Fred Figliano	Troy University
Dr. Tina Jones, Alternate	University of West Alabama
Ms. Mary-Beth Lancaster, Chair	Coastal Alabama CC
Mrs. Jackie Screws	Chattahoochee Valley CC
Dr. Bruce Crawford	Lawson State CC
Ms. Leslie Reeder, Alternate	Wallace CC -Dothan
Dr. David Campbell	Northeast Alabama CC

**Ex-Officio Members:**

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

**Committee Members Absent:**

Dr. Kathleen Amende	Alabama State University
Dr. Charles Israel, Alternate	Auburn University
Dr. Tonjanita Johnson, Alternate	University of Alabama System
Dr. Chantae Calhoun	Alabama Community College System
Dr. Mary Coleman	University of South Alabama
Mr. Shannon Nichols	AGSC/STARS

**Others Present:** Jacinta Whitehurst - ACHE, Brandy Stacey, Manny Smith, Sandra Malone, Eva Lewis, Dr. Frank Hammonds, and Lizzie Allison.

**CALL TO ORDER:**

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

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA:**

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Dr. Howard moved for the approval of the August 28, 2024 minutes. Dr. Crawford seconded. Minutes were approved.

**INTRODUCTIONS OF NEW MEMBERS AND GUESTS:** Dr. Sessions introduced the new member for Troy University, Dr. Fred Figliano who has been appointed to replace Dr. Hal Fulmer. He also introduced a few guests, Brandy Stacey, Many Smith, Sandra Malone, Eva Lewis, and Lizzie Allison.

**COURSE APPROVALS.** None.

**TEMPLATES FOR RATIFICATION.** None.

**UPDATE – 2025 ACHIEVE CONFERENCE.**

Dr. Sessions provided updates for the upcoming conference on March 5-6, 2025. Details included:

- Conference fee is \$125 until January 17<sup>th</sup>; after that date, fee will be \$175.
- Speakers for both conference days are being lined up.
- Alabama Transfers web page has links for agenda, registration, presentation proposal link, form for sponsors and exhibitors.
- Student panel will be included in conference.

Brandi Stacey emphasized the conference's significance for transfer student success, particularly in light of the absence of a NIST conference this year and encouraged early registration and dissemination of save-the-date information.

**UPDATE- ALABAMA NUMERACY ACT IMPACT ON TRANSFER**

Dr. Sessions discussed the Alabama Numeracy Act, which aims to enhance the preparation of future elementary educators in Alabama, particularly regarding changes in math course requirements for transfer students. He also mentioned the following;

- Meeting with the Chairs of the College of Education to discuss any opportunities to move junior level courses to the sophomore level so the community college student can take some additional course work before transferring to the four-year university.
- Creating a reverse transfer type course at the four-year university and reverse transfer back to community college for credit.
- Two-year colleges creating an immersing interactive course.

A copy of the handout is available upon request.

**AN INTRODUCTION TO EDVISORLY**

Dr. Sessions introduced the team from EdVisorly, including Manny Smith, Lizzie Allison and Brandy.

Manny Smith shared his background as a first-generation college student and military officer veteran. He is the founder and CEO of EdVisorly.

Brandi Stacey highlighted her journey from being a first-generation college student to her current role.

Lizzie Allison shared her personal experience navigating the transfer system and the founding of EdVisorly to streamline the process for students.

Manny Smith provided an overview of EdVisorly's mission and the challenges faced by community college students aiming to transfer. He explained their innovation framework, which starts with people, policy, and processes, followed by technology. He discussed their focus on elevating awareness across for transfer students and improving transfer student experiences through mobile-friendly solutions. Mr. Smith discussed focusing on advancing technology to optimize transferability, ultimately increasing transfers at institutions and within systems. He mentioned a few products he would discuss, including Recruit, the matching function where students can match with institutions and vice versa. Secondly, Mr. Smith discussed Artificial Intelligence (AI), which is specifically reading transcripts and doing automated transfer credit evaluations. He discussed the integration of AI in transfer credit evaluations, aiming to alleviate the burden of manual data entry for institutions. He also mentioned successful collaborations with various universities, showcasing high accuracy rates in transcript processing.

Lizzie Allison elaborated on EdVisorly Recruit, a mobile app designed to connect transfer students with universities, allowing for direct communication and information sharing.

Brandi Stacey shared that the EdVisorly Recruit has a seamless CRM integration and closes the information gaps for transfer students by letting them message in a way that is comfortable to them while the institutions do not have to change their processes.

Dr. Sessions indicated he is going to schedule a demo with Manny Smith of the EdVisorly platform for interested institutions.

### **Discuss Time, Date(s), Location for Winter Meeting**

February 2025

TBA

Dr. Sessions will send a Doodle poll to the committee members to determine the best possible date for the February 2025 virtual meeting.

### **Other Issues or Announcements:**

### **Adjournment**

Dr. Tadesse moved to adjourn the meeting, and Dr. Crawford seconded. Motion passed. The meeting of the AGSC was adjourned at 11:03 a.m.

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Chair, Dr. Mary Beth Lancaster

*Jacinta Whitehurst, Recording Secretary*