STATE OF ALABAMA
Articulation and General Studies Committee

MINUTES OF MEETING
Business Session Virtual
August 25, 2026 - 2:00 PM

Committee Members' Present:

Dr. Albert Russell	Alabama State University
Dr. Charles Israel, Alternate	Auburn University
Dr. Rhonda Gaede	University of Alabama in Huntsville
Dr. Tonjanita Johnson, Alternate	University of Alabama System
Dr. Nicole Carr	University of South Alabama
Dr. Eric Loomis, Alternate	University of South Alabama
Dr. Catherine Wehlburg	Athens State University
Dr. D. Kristen Gilbert, Alternate	University of Montevallo
Dr. Fred Figilano	Troy University
Dr. Amy Jones, Alternate	University of West Alabama
Dr. Jeff Goodwin, Alternate	Northwest Shoals Community College
Dr. Mary Beth Lancaster	Coastal Alabama Community College
Dr. Bruce Crawford	Lawson State Community College
Dr. Leslie Reeder, Chair	Wallace State Community College
Dr. Chantae Calhoun, Alternate	Alabama Community College System

Ex-Officio Members:

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

Committee Members Absent:

Dr. Douglas LaVergne	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Wubishet Tadesse, Alternate	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Seela Aladuwaka	Alabama State University
Dr. Charles Bringardner	Auburn University
Dr. David Campbell	Northeast Alabama Community College

Other Present: Jacinta Whitehurst, ACHE

CALL TO ORDER: The business session of the Articulation and General Studies Committee was called to order at 2:03 p.m.

WELCOME: Dr. Reeder introduced herself and stated it's a pleasure working as the Chair of the committee and she's looking forward to the great work ahead.

ROLL CALL & QUORUM: A quorum was determined by roll call of members present.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA: Dr. Wehlburg moved for the adoption of the agenda. Dr. Gaede seconded. The agenda was adopted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Dr. Crawford moved for the approval of April 29, 2026, minutes. Dr. Gilbert seconded. Minutes were approved.

RECOGNITION OF NEW MEMBERS AND GUESTS: Dr. Sessions introduced Dr. Jeff Goodwin of Northwest Shoals Community College as the alternate two-year college voting member, replacing Mrs. Jackie Screws, and Dr. Nicole Carr of the University of South Alabama (USA), replacing Dr. Julie Estis as the primary USA voting member.

ACTION ITEM: FOLLOW-UP FROM REVIEW AND PLANNING SESSION-RECOMMENDATION AND APPROVAL OF VICE-CHAIR (FOUR-YEAR MEMBER)

Dr. Wehlburg moved to nominate Dr. Gilbert as AGSC Vice-Chair and Chair Elect for 2026-27. Dr. Jones seconded. There were no other nominations. Motion carried.

ACTION ITEM: FOLLOW-UP FROM REVIEW AND PLANNING SESSION-APPROVAL OF AGSC PRIORITIES AND GOALS FOR 2026-2027

Dr. Sessions reviewed the following priorities and goals for 2026-27 that were recommended by the committee:

AGSC Priorities

- Advance the General Studies Curriculum Review through updated Area I-IV naming, continues subcommittee work, and stakeholder engagement.
- Strengthen statewide AP credit and transfer policies by expanding credit opportunities and improving transfer practices of these type courses.
- In accordance with the Alabama Numeracy Act, implement approved elementary and early-childhood education curriculum changes at four-year institutions and update Alabama Transfers Guides accordingly.
- Complete EdVisorly Pilot Project Phase 1, advance and evaluate Phase 2, and begin to prepare for possible statewide rollout if successful.

Alabama Transfers Staff Priorities

- Continue enhancing the Alabama Transfers website by expanding its services and ensuring the entire site achieves full ADA compliance by April 2027.
- Complete Phase 1 of the EdVisorly pilot program, advance and evaluate Phase 2, and if successful, begin Phase 3 planning for a statewide rollout to all Alabama public higher education institutions.
- Continue collaborate with university registrars to conduct annual reviews and updates of transfer course equivalencies.
- Continuing promoting Alabama Transfers and increasing awareness of AGSC initiatives.

- Support AGSC subcommittees in advancing their ongoing priorities and projects.

Dr. Russell moved to accept the recommendation of approval of the AGSC priorities and goals for 2026-27. Dr. Israel seconded. Motion passed.

ACTION ITEM: FOLLOW-UP FROM REVIEW AND PLANNING SESSION-APPROVAL OF 2025-2026 ANNUAL REPORT (WITH ANY CHANGES AND/OR CORRECTIONS)

Dr. Sessions reviewed the changes made to the Annual Report following discussions at the planning meeting. The following updates were made:

- The University of Alabama in Huntsville (UAH) was spelled out.
- Dr. Reeder's title was updated.
- The approved priorities were added.

Dr. Crawford moved to approve the recommendation regarding the 2025–26 Annual Report, with changes. Dr. Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried.

ACTION ITEM: FOLLOW-UP FROM REVIEW AND PLANNING SESSION-APPROVAL OF 2026-2027 BUDGET

Dr. Gilbert moved to approve the Fiscal Year 2026–27 Budget, as presented, with revisions. Dr. Jones seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Q&A: Dr. Crawford inquired whether the committee would approve the use of discretionary funds prior to their allocation. Dr. Sessions stated that he would present the proposed allocation to the committee for approval before reallocating the funds to other areas. A copy of the budget summary is available upon request.

APPROVAL OF COURSES: NONE

ACTION ITEM: RATIFICATION OF TEMPLATES

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

Artificial Intelligence (AAMU and AUM)
Dr. Gaede moved for approval of the ratification of the template. Dr. Russell seconded. Motion passed.

Civic Leadership (UM Only)
Dr. Lancaster moved for approval of the ratification of the template. Dr. Israel seconded. Motion passed.

Engineering - Artificial Intelligence (UA Only)
Dr. Gilbert moved for approval of the ratification of the template. Dr. Crawford seconded. Motion passed.

Informatics (UA Only)
Dr. Crawford moved for approval of the ratification of the template. Dr. seconded. Motion passed.

FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS FROM AGSC SUBCOMMITTEES

Dr. Sessions provided an update on the follow-up discussions from the planning. meeting. He provided links to the following full reports that were discussed from the planning meeting. All reports are available upon request.

- Full AP Credit Sub-Committee Report for 2025-2026
  *No further discussion was needed.
- General Education Sub-Committee: Summary of Spring 2026 Meetings
  * No further discussion for the General Education Sub-committee summary.
- EdVisorly Pilot Sub-Committee Report-The 2nd Year and Beyond
  *No further discussion on EdVisorly Sub-Committee report.
- Alabama Numeracy Act Sub-Committee Report
  *No further discussion on the Alabama Numeracy Act Sub-committee report.
- ACHIEVE Conference Planning Sub-Committee Report
  *No further discussion on the ACHIEVE Conference Planning Sub-committee report.
- He reviewed the current membership of the AGSC subcommittees and asked members to notify him if they wished to join or withdraw from a committee.

Dr. Crawford moved to accept the reports as presented for informational purposes. Dr. Wehlburg seconded. The motion carried. The reports were accepted.

FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION ITEM: 90 HOUR BACHELOR'S DEGREES

Dr. Sessions suggested waiting until the Chief Academic Officers meet and provide feedback on the 90-hour degree programs before the committee takes further action.

Dr. Jones noted that a subgroup within the Chief Academic Officers is working on a proposed regulation regarding 90-credit-hour degree programs.

Dr. Crawford moved the item to table until additional information is received. Dr. Calhoun seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Q&A: Dr. Loomis asked whether guidance on degree names would be affected by the proposed regulation.
Dr. Jones responded that three options for degree naming were being considered and that the group would likely recommend a way to identify reduced-credit-hour degrees so that institutions across the state could consistently recognize them.

Dr. McGill noted that the Bachelor of Applied Science (BAS) is an existing degree designation used for 120-credit-hour degree programs and that as a result the BAS nomenclature would not be considered for the reduced-credit-hour bachelor's.

COURSE EQUIVALENCY MATRIX UPDATE

Mr. Shannon Nichols provided an overview of the Alabama Transfers Equivalency website, highlighting improvements that make it easier for students to access course equivalencies by major and institution.

WEBSITE ADA COMPLIANCE UPDATE

Dr. Sessions provided an update on ADA compliance for the Alabama Transfers website. Southleft is working with the Alabama Transfers office to ensure the website meets the accessibility requirements under Title II, which mandates compliance with applicable web accessibility standards by April 2027.

OTHER ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Q&A: Dr. Crawford expressed interest in having Dr. Sessions coordinate a training session at his institution on the Alabama Transfers website for new student services employees and faculty within the community college system. Dr. Sessions explained that ongoing training opportunities are available to institutions through both in-person and Zoom meetings and encouraged interested institutions to contact them to arrange a session.

Dr. Johnson expressed interest in inviting representatives from SACSCOC to a meeting to discuss the new credit transfer consortium. She mentioned conversations were had that SACSCOC had expressed interest in using Alabama and Louisiana as models for implementing a faculty-driven transfer consortium. This voluntary approach would aim to reduce barriers for students transferring among SACSCOC member institutions. Dr. Sessions noted that Dr. Pruitt had contacted him to request a meeting to discuss how the Alabama Transfers system operates. He agreed that inviting representatives to present on the system at a future meeting would be beneficial.

DISCUSS POSSIBLE DATE FOR SCHEDULE OF FALL AGSC MEETINGS

Dr. Sessions agreed to send out a Doodle poll with dates in November 2026 for the Fall meeting.

Fall 2026	TBA/Location or Zoom

The August 25, 2026 meeting of the AGSC adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Chair

Jacinta Whitehurst, Recording Secretary