

STATE OF ALABAMA
Articulation and General Studies Committee
Alabama Center for Commerce / Coast Room
Department of Postsecondary Education
Montgomery, Alabama
January 8, 1998
10:00 a.m.

Minutes of Meeting

Committee members present:

Dr. Evelyn A. Ellis, Chair	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Joe Morris	Jefferson State Community College
Dr. Paul Parks	Auburn University
Dr. Linda Glaze, Alternate	Auburn University
Dr. James Yarbrough	University of Alabama
Dr. Charles Nash, Alternate	University of Alabama System
Dr. Roy Johnson, Vice Chair	Southern Union Community College
Dr. Rod Britt, Alternate	Southern Union Community College
Dr. Larry Allen	University of South Alabama
Dr. Don Hines	University of West Alabama
Dr. Ed Roach	University of West Alabama
Dr. Glenda M. Curry	Troy State University Montgomery
Dr. Yvonne Kennedy	Bishop State Community College
Dr. Elizabeth C. French	Commission on Higher Education
Mr. Keith Sessions	STARS

Others present: Joey Holley-STARs; Maryanne Ivey-UAB; Michael Neilson-UAB; Bert Slafter-ADPE; Ada Long-UAB; Mary Orndorff-Birmingham News; Jay Goldman-UAB; Sam McManus-UAH; and Amy Ward-UA.

CALL TO ORDER	Meeting was called to order by Dr. Evelyn Ellis, Chair. Verification of quorum was made by voice roll call of members present. Dr. Bert Slafter welcomed everyone present. Guests introduced themselves.
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	Britt moved for the adoption of the agenda. Morris seconded. AGSC members unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Hines moved for the approval of the Minutes of November 14, 1997. Parks seconded. Minutes were approved as mailed.
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DISCUSSION ITEMS

STARS Report. Holley presented the On-line report as of January 8, 1998. The Usage report was given for November through December 1997. (Copies attached).

Internet Access to Minutes of AGSC Meetings. Sessions reported that the Minutes of the Articulation Committee are now available on the Internet. Instructions for viewing the Minutes have been sent to Chief Academic Officers, Academic Vice Presidents and Provosts, two and four year Presidents, President of Faculty Senate, Chairs of Discipline Committees and AGSC Members. (copy attached) Session stated that additions and updates are still in progress.

Area V Pre-Professional Courses. Roach reported that the Chief Academic Officers Ad Hoc Committee met on November 25, 1997. Disks of the Alabama College Directory were distributed to various institutions which are in the process of entering specific course numbers from the course directory. Roach stated that some Pre-Professional groups have completed their work but some are still not ready. Roach stated that he will bring as many recommendations as he can to the February 13, 1998 meeting of the AGSC.

Johnson stressed the importance of having these recommendations approved by February 13, since the AGSC has not received any recommendations for changes in the past few months.

Roach stated that a packet of information, which includes an approval signature page, will be mailed early next week to the Pre-Professional groups. After they have signed, the recommendations will be presented to the CAOs. The CAOs will then bring recommendations to the AGSC on February 13, 1998.

New Math Standards. Nash stated that the AGSC should communicate the new mathematics requirements for pre-calculus algebra and finite mathematics approved by the AGSC to high schools in the State. Nash stated that high schools need to be informed so that they can prepare their curriculum to meet the requirements for a beginning course in college mathematics.

Johnson stated that the AGSC needs to write Dr. Ed Richardson a letter including the mathematics requirement definition. Morris agreed to work with Ellis in preparing a letter for Richardson.

TSUD Questions About AGSC:

Question #1. In order to meet TSUD's current requirement that at least 50% of our new 12-semester-hour degree programs be completed at a four year school, can TSUD accept only 60 semester hours of the new statewide General Studies requirements? Or must we accept all 64 semesters [hours] and thus raise our degree programs to 128 semester hours?

Response: The transfer requirement is fifty-percent of total hours required for degree completion, not to exceed 23 semester hours in Area V. If the degree completion requirement is 128 semester hours, the institution would accept 64 semester hours (50%) in transfer. If the degree completion requirement is 120 semester hours, the institution need accept only 60 semester hours (50%) in transfer.

Question #2. In Area V, can a major from one school require a General Studies course which is NOT also listed anywhere in Areas I-IV? More specifically, could a school require that prospective English Majors complete in Area V a course in computer literacy, a course which no discipline committees in Areas I-IV are considering?

Response: While institutions are at liberty to establish program completion requirements and may require coursework which is not listed in Areas I-IV, a course may not be considered a General Studies course unless it is part of the approved General Studies course listing. Although graduation requirements for a particular program may differ from institution to institution, the General Studies component (Areas I-V) as approved by the AGSC must be accepted in transfer. Using the example above, TSUD may require that prospective English majors complete a course in computer literacy, but this course would not be considered as a component of Area V. The computer literacy course would need to be included in the upper division coursework as long as the transfer student was not jeopardized with additional coursework not required of the native student, Parks emphasized that the objective of the AGSC was to make Area V as common an experience as possible. If there is agreement in some disciplines, e.g., engineering, that there be specific courses in Area V for all engineering programs, an institution may then not add/substitute another course. However, a provision has been made for a four-year institution to petition the AGSC for an exception in the event that a program has a specific requirement in a discipline area unique to that program.

DECISION ITEMS

Discipline Committee Election of Officers. Sessions distributed a list of recommendations for Discipline Committee Chairs for the 1997-98 academic year. A copy is attached. After review and discussion, Parks moved for the approval of the newly elected Discipline Committee Chairs. Morris seconded. AGSC unanimously approved.

Sessions and Morris will meet with new Discipline Committee Chairs in late January to distribute the Training Manual.

STARS Budget. Due to the AGSC's decision to give more responsibility to the STARS office, Sessions recommended that the budget allocation to STARS include the \$14,500 allocated to the AGSC. An increase in salary for the STARS Assistant Director and the STARS Area Coordinator was also recommended. Sessions stated that bookkeeping will be simplified if the total Articulation allocation is managed by the STARS office. The STARS office will be responsible for all costs incurred by the AGSC. A copy of the budget proposal is attached. Johnson moved for the approval of the budget proposal. Parks seconded. AGSC unanimously approved the STARS budget proposal for 1997-98.

Johnson recommended that a three member sub-committee of the AGSC be appointed to handle recommendations regarding the budget and personnel needs. After some discussion, Parks moved for approval of a sub-committee. Johnson seconded. AGSC unanimously approved. Members of the sub-committee are: Dr. Evelyn A. Ellis-4-yr representative; Dr. Roy Johnson-2-yr representative and Chair; and Dr. Don Hines-Regional representative and Vice-Chair.

Training Manual for Discipline Committee Chairs. Sessions reported that a draft of the Training Manual has been completed and mailed to members of the AGSC. A copy is attached. Sessions went over the new forms added to the manual. Britt stated the Invitations to Submit Courses should be summarized. Morris will work with Sessions to condense the Invitations. Allen stated that the special

note to the Discipline Committees should be moved toward the front of the manual. After some review and minor charges, Curry moved for the approval of the Training Manual with the recommended changes. Britt seconded. AGSC unanimously approved.

Sessions stated that he will also develop a manual to be distributed to Chief Academic Officers and to the Commissioners of the Commission on Higher Education.

Discipline Committee Recommendations. Sessions distributed a list of courses recommended for approval from the Discipline Committees for Biology, Chemistry, Economics, and Foreign Language. A copy is attached. Morris moved that the courses recommended from the Discipline Committees be approved. Allen seconded. AGSC unanimously approved.

Interdisciplinary/Honors/Innovative Course Recommendations. Ada Long, newly elected chair of the Interdisciplinary/Honors/Innovative Committee, recommended approval of two courses from the University of West Alabama: Honors 200/Honors Special Topics-(5 qtr hrs) and Honors Forum (1 qtr hrs). Johnson moved for the approval of the honors courses submitted by the University of West Alabama. Curry seconded. AGSC unanimously approved.

SCHEDULE OF FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

February 13, 1998	Department of Postsecondary Education President's Conference Room-2nd Floor
March 12, 1998	Department of Postsecondary Education Coast Room-7th Floor

INFORMATION ITEMS DISTRIBUTED

1. Internet Instructions to View AGSC Minutes (Sessions)
2. 1997-98 Elected Discipline Committee Chairs (Sessions)
3. 1997-98 STARS/AGSC Budget Proposal (Sessions)
4. Discipline Committee Course Recommendations (Sessions)
5. TSUD Questions About AGSC (Sessions)
6. STARS On-line and Usage Report (Holley)

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Evelyn A. Ellis, Chair

Deborah Nettles, Recording Secretary