

STATE OF ALABAMA
Articulation and General Studies
Committee March 22, 2002
10:00 A.M.

MINUTES OF MEETING

Committee Members Present:

Dr. Michael Malone, Chair	Troy State University Dothan
Dr. Bert Slafter, Vice-Chair	Department of Postsecondary Education
Dr. Linda Glaze	Auburn University
Dr. Rebekah Pindzola, Alternate	Auburn University
Dr. Shirley Houzer	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Barbara Jones, Alternate	Alabama A&M University
Dr. Sue Kirkpatrick	University of Alabama in Huntsville
Dr. Charles Nash, Alternate	The University of Alabama System
Dr. William Meehan	Jacksonville State University
Dr. David Johnson, Alternate	University of South Alabama
Dr. David Taylor, Alternate	University of West Alabama
Dr. Rod Britt	Southern Union Community College
Dr. Joe Morris	Jefferson State Community College
Dr. Elizabeth C. French	Commission on Higher Education
Dr. Ed Roach	STARS

Others present: Don Crump-SACS; Roger Ritvo-AUM; Maryanne Ivey-UAB; and Shannon Nichols-STARS.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA	Glaze moved for the adoption of the agenda. Meehan seconded. The agenda was adopted as distributed.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES	Glaze moved for the approval of the January 15, 2002 minutes. Morris seconded. Minutes were approved.
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Malone announced that Dr. Ed Roach will be serving as Interim Director of the STARS program.

DECISION ITEMS

ACADEMIC COMMITTEES

Ratification of Templates

Communication Studies or Speech. Malone reported that the chair of the Academic Discipline Committee has been notified and agrees with the recommendation of the AGSC that the following statement be included in Area V of the template: "The remaining hours in Area V must be fulfilled by the requirements of the institution to which the student plans to transfer. Please refer to the institutional home page or catalog for a major in Communication Studies or Speech. "

Interdisciplinary/Honors/Innovative Committee recommendations. Ritvo gave an overview of the course proposal in Public and Private Aspects of AIDS (AUM).

The AGSC recommended that the course be placed in Area V. After further discussion regarding concerns as to whether the course is appropriate for general studies, Ritvo withdrew the course proposal.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Subcommittee Reports

Assessment Project Update. Nash acknowledged the other members of the Task Force (Jones, Glaze, Morris, French, Nash, Britt, and Holley). He stated that the Task Force will meet again before the final report is presented to the AGSC.

A copy of the preliminary report was mailed to the AGSC members prior to the meeting. Crump stated that the preliminary report is for information to guide in discussion and that the appendices were provided to show the results of comments from surveys and focus groups. He stated that the final report will focus on four questions and responses to those questions: 1) the intent of the legislation; 2) the effectiveness of the organizational structure (AGSC Committee, STARS System, Discipline Committees); 3) the fulfillment of AGSC responsibilities; and 4) the overall impact on higher education in Alabama.

He reported that although there were many suggestions about how to make the system better, his findings from interviews and telephone conferences with focus groups was overwhelmingly positive.

After questions from AGSC committee members, Crump stated that the comments from focus groups included:

- Clarify the Academic Discipline Committees charge
- Review meeting dates of Academic Discipline Committees
- Appointment of a contact person/administrator at the STARS office to answer general questions and provide follow-up assistance
- Publicize and modify the STARS web site
- Modify the STARS User Information monthly reports to institutions
- Review consistency of format of Institutional Area V web pages

AGSC Committee members suggested that the final report include an Executive Summary, a copy of the Articulation legislation, and information on the effectiveness of the STARS system.

Malone suggested also that the Assessment Task Force review the findings of the final report after it is presented at the May meeting and prepare recommendations for the July meeting.

Review of Procedures Manual. Morris stated that the AGSC Handbook has been revised to reflect the recommendations of the AGSC from the January 15th meeting. Members were encouraged to view the Handbook on the STARS website (AGSC Handbook under faculty link) to review for approval at the May meeting.

Institutional Contact and Appeal Persons. Kirkpatrick distributed a copy of the subcommittee report which included recommendations (copy attached #2). She requested that AGSC members review the report and provide any recommendations at the May meeting.

STARS Update & Usage Report. Nichols distributed copies of the STARS Usage Reports by institution and by major for the months of January and February, 2002 (copy attached - #1). An overview of usage for November, 2000 through February, 2002 was also included. He reported that the STARS staff continues to monitor institutional Area V links/pages and transfer guides.

SCHEDULE OF FUTURE COMMITTEE MEETINGS.

May 22, 2002	Department of Postsecondary Education
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INFORMATION ITEMS DISTRIBUTED

1. STARS Update and Usage Reports (Nichols)
2. Institutional Contact & Appeals Subcommittee report (Kirkpatrick)

The March 22, 2002 meeting of the AGSC adjourned at 12:40 P.M.

Michael Malone, Chair

Deborah Nettles, Recording Secretary