

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Regents Academic Advisory Committee on History
February 8, 2025 at 10:00 AM at Georgia College & State University and VIA TEAMS**

Members in Attendance

In Person: Sarah Mergel (Dalton State), Adam Tate (Clayton State), Jeff Howell (East Georgia State College), Jeff Burson (Georgia Southern, proxy), Bob Burnham (Middle Georgia), Bronson Long (Georgia Highlands), Edward Hightower (Atlanta Metropolitan), Aran MacKinnon (Georgia College and State University, proxy)

On Teams: Robin Suzanne Conner (Georgia State), Michael Morris (CCGA), Bryan McGovern (Kennesaw State), Glenn Robins (Georgia Southwestern, proxy), Barney “Jay” Rickman (Valdosta State), William Simson (Georgia State-Perimeter), James Galt-Brown (ABAC), Michael Gunther (Georgia Gwinnett), John Tone (Georgia Tech), Ruth McClelland-Nugent (Augusta), Kevin Jones (UGA), Colleen Vasconcellos (University of West Georgia), Mark Vickery (GAH Liaison), Nathan Orgill (Georgia Gwinnett), Pedro Rivera (Savannah State), Jeff Rogers (Gordon State)

Meeting Minutes

Dr. Mergel started the meeting at 10:07 am.

Common Course Information Update

Dr. Mergel had sent out a form on common core courses at each of the institutions. She presented a handout that documented the core history courses offered at the various institutions. HIST 2111-2112 are offered at the majority of USG institutions. There are more variations among institutions in the World History offerings.

Dr. Mergel mentioned during our fall RAACH meeting that the USG is interested in the RAACH creating brief course outlines for the various history courses in the core. The motivation for this seems to be to facilitate transfer credits among institutions.

The consensus of the group was that there seemed to be little need for such outlines. The common prefixes of the core courses seem to be sufficient for registrars to assist transfer students. Also, some questioned whether there were currently transferability problems regarding history core courses in the USG. If so, members of the RAACH have not heard of these.

BOR Changes to the Georgia Legislative Requirement

Dr. Mergel presented the RAACH with a handout of the changes to the legislative requirement, particularly the documents required to be taught in the courses that satisfy the requirement. The RAACH had a discussion of how institutions were implementing the changes.

There was a lengthy discussion of the topic. Some institutions have divided the documents among the two or three courses that can cover the legislative requirement. Some have noted that the American Government course will cover these documents. One concern voiced was the fact that most of the documents on the list were appropriate for HIST 2111 (the first half of the US History

Survey). In fact, only one of the documents falls into the timeframe of the second half of the US History Survey. Other issues voiced were the need to revise tests for transfer students who come from outside the USG with credits of American Government and US History. At most institutions, there is a test for students to take to meet the Georgia history and Georgia constitution requirements in such a case. Representatives discussed updating their institutional tests to incorporate the new documents.

Career Ready Competencies in IMPACTS

Dr. Mergel then led a discussion of the Career Ready Competencies in IMPACTS in the Citizenship Area (critical thinking, intercultural competence, persuasion). There were many helpful suggestions made by participants as to how to do this. Some noted that the Career Services Office on their campuses have helped in this. Others suggested ways to use the CRCs in instructions for assignments in their courses. In general, the group agreed that the CRCs were important and needed to make it from being language in the syllabus to explicit discussions and instructions in the core courses.

RAACH Elections

The chair elect, Dr. Adam Tate, will serve as chair of the RAACH for 2025-2026. No one initially volunteered to take the chair elect role. The members voted to have the election electronically during the spring 2025 semester as one person expressed interest in the chair-elect position but was unwilling to commit at the time. Dr. Mergel will also follow up with the members regarding the staffing of the World history and the American history subcommittees after the meeting. Those interested in serving on the standing committees or on an ad-hoc committee to discuss bylaws revisions should reach out to her via email.

The meeting adjourned at 11:43 AM.

Results of the Elections Conducted Electronically from 02/21/2025 to 02/28/28

The members voted to approve the following individuals to serve for AY 2025-2026.

- Chair Elect: Ruth McClelland-Nugent (Augusta)
- At-Large Executive Committee Members: William Simson (Georgia State-Perimeter) and Michael Morris (CCGA)
- US History Subcommittee Members: Gary Sprayberry (Columbus State) and Edward Hightower (Atlanta Metropolitan State)
- World History Subcommittee Members: James Galt-Brown (ABAC) and Michael Morris (CCGA)
- Graduate Programs Subcommittee Members: Colleen Vasconcellos (UWG)
- Major Programs Subcommittee Members: Ruth McClelland-Nugent (Augusta) and Bryan McGovern (Kennesaw State)
- Ad-Hoc Bylaws Subcommittee: James Galt-Brown (ABAC), Sarah Mergel (Dalton State), and Colleen Vasconcellos (UWG)