

Meeting Minutes: RACRA Spring Meeting 2011

Date: Tuesday, April 5, 2011

Location: Macon State College

Morning Session – Joint meeting of RACRA and RACSFA

Pat Barton, RACSFA chair, presented changes to the HOPE scholarship and the HOPE Grant.

1. HB326 changes the HOPE Scholarship
 - Eliminates book and fee allowance
 - No payment for remedial or developmental courses
 - Single chance to regain eligibility due to falling below a 3.0
 - 7 year limit for award following high school
 - Funded at 90% of tuition costs based on a new HOPE formula
2. Zell Miller Scholarship
 - 100% of tuition covered
 - Must have a 3.7 high school gpa and 1200 on SAT in one sitting or
 - Be valedictorian or Salutatorian of high school class
 - Rigor is established for courses beginning in 2015
 - 3.3 college gpa required for maintaining Miller
 - Can lose Miller scholarship once, but if above a 3.0 can receive HOPE (90%) instead
3. HOPE Grant
 - Eliminates book and fee allowance
 - Single chance to regain eligibility due to falling below a 3.0
 - Funded at 90% of tuition costs based on a new HOPE formula
 - Individuals with Bachelors degrees are not eligible
 - Requires a 3.0 at checkpoints to maintain
4. HOPE Formula
 - Formula may not not equal a true 90% of tuition costs when credit hours are considered

Tonya Lam, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, discussed Accel funding. The General Assembly will be voting on Accel funding in a few days. It appears the funding courses may change from Lottery monies to a line-item in the State budget. It is currently slated for 100% funding; however book and fee allowances will probably be eliminated.

Sarah Wenham – Director of Student Access, Board of Regents

1. Two course listings for Accel will be allowed per year. A course must appear on the course listing before a student registers, in order to guarantee funding.
2. Distance Learning and State Authorization
The Federal department of Education has issued a new ruling that is effective this year stating that any college or university, that has an out of state student taking an on-line course through their campus, must receive permission for that course from the student's home state of record. There are many questions concerning this ruling and more information will be presented as it becomes available.

Ron Day, Financial Aid Director, Kennesaw State, discussed program integrity as it related to federal aid. There are several changes this year concerning federal aid disbursement including, but not limited to:

repeating coursework, validity of the high school diploma, definition of credit hours and Satisfactory Academic Progress.

Pat Barton discussed unofficial withdrawals, new rules for making money eligible for books within seven days, and utilizing the FAFSA to discern Lawful Presence.

Jennifer Brannon, RACRA chair, called the after RACRA meeting to order after lunch.

After introduction of new members, minutes from the September 30, 2010, meeting were approved. The slate of officers for next year was presented:

- Chair – Winnie Tsang-Kosma, GA State
- Vice Chair - Gaye Hayes, Georgia Southwestern
- Secretary/Treasurer – Connie Snyder, Bainbridge College

The slate of officers was approved.

Daphene Blackmon, Project Director for GATracs, discussed the Georgia Transfer Articulation Cooperation Services project. This web portal will be part of GAcollge411.org and will allow students to get all the information they need to transfer to another school within Georgia. This portal will pull transfer articulation information from our campus Banner systems and populate a comparison table available for student use.

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1. Move On When Ready (MOWR) – The Enrollment Verification process will be changing to an on-line process to simplify fee payment.
2. The USG admission requirements concerning the GA DOE Math sequencing was discussed.

Julia Grubbs, ITS, discussed the progression to Degree Works by each campus and stated that one representative form each campus will be identified to avoid confusion. There will be a kick-off meeting in June.

Jennifer Brannon led the group in a discussion of the several topics.

- Lawful Presence was further discussed and representatives discussed how this would happen on their campuses
- Business Office concerns of a statement concerning collections and cell phone usage was discussed
- ADM appropriate code for satisfying the Regents Examination requirement was discussed

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Gaye S. Hayes, Secretary
RACRA 2010-2011