

Regents Advisory Council Meeting  
North Georgia College & State University  
Monday, May 17, 2010

Attendees: See attached list.

Meeting called to order at 9:40am.

Welcome: Angela Avery-Jones, Wes Thomas, Dr. John Clower, VP of Student Affairs (NGC&SU)

Minutes: Will be emailed to the listserv

**USG/BOR Update:** Tonya Lam – FY2010 Budgets are prepared. Cuts were not as deep as previously anticipated. Conceal/Carry Bill will be reviewed. Campuses will be asked to develop new policies; BOR's goal is uniformity throughout the system.

**Performance Audit on Mandatory Student Fees:** Tonya Lam – 18-24 month process – Office of State Audits (Performance Division) – Ensures adherence to BOR policies and regulations. Report was sent to Budget Officers and VPs of Student Affairs at each USG institution. Was initially a review of student activity fees, but was expanded to include all mandatory fees (eg tech fee, parking fee, athletic fee). The report is a RECOMMENDATION and reflects the auditors' interpretation of policy. Questions addressed: Are we in fact collecting fees for what we say we are collecting fees for? Are we spending those fees? Are their mechanisms in place to oversee the allocation of these fees?

Dave Leenhouts – p. 11 – Fees used for salaries, travels, scholarships. BOR response p. 12. BOR made changes to fee policies during January board meeting. "Philosophy" for fee allocations should be determined at the institution level (BOR). SAC consensus is that students are already involved in the fee allocation process at their respective institutions. BOR changed policy from "50% students" to a "minimum of 4 students" on the mandatory fee committee (Tonya will confirm that this policy change applied only to the mandatory fee committee).

**Off Campus Banks Accounts:** Brian Byrd – No BOR policy exists (Lam). GA Tech has Student Activity Fee Accounts, Agency Accounts, and off-campus accounts if the RSO so chooses (RSOs MAY NOT USE GA TECHS TAX ID #). Augusta does not allow advisors (institution employees) to sign for off campus accounts. Attendees have concerns regarding reference materials for tax questions faced by RSOs with off campus accounts. Attendees were asked for forward existing institution level policies to Tonya Lam. Lam will develop a "Good Practices" document for distribution to RACSL.

**Budget Cut Plans Impacting Student Life/Activities Depts.:** John Spranza – Salaries and benefits are coming out of student activity fees at GHC. GSC had to explain to allocation committee and students how activity fees are distributed (echoed by GPC and CCG). Students at the Medical College of GA proposed that a fee surplus be used to allow a moratorium on activity fees for the next academic year. GA Tech is decreasing funds for student publications (echoed by several institutions).

**Limits on Funding Requests by RSOs & SAF Allocations:** John Spranza – Include faculty members who are not RSO advisors. Eddie reminded everyone that the committee is making a recommendation only; the budget must still be approved by senior level administrators. KSU's fee committee has diverse representation of the study body (undergrads, grads, various RSOs, etc.) and emphasizes transparency.

Most compare expenditures with requests. Most do not check line item expenses. KSU gives all RSOs \$350 annually and have no caps in place. Most institutions do not allocated funds for advisor stipends; however, some do provide stipends for student officers/leaders.

A small percentage of programming board host/co-host off campus events.

**Agency Accounts:** Angela requested that attendees forward agency account policies. Note that taxes must be paid on expenses paid from agency accounts.

**Moratorium on Purchase of Vehicles:** Tonya Lam – state-wide. Cases may be made for requests, but justification of expenses must be documented.

**Transportation Policies:** Kaci – student travel to sanctioned student events. Distinction between class and RSO travel. Employees are insured by the institution if traveling for official business in their personal autos (must have yellow insurance card from the business office).

**SAC Update:** Tonya Lam – transition meeting was successful. Students have requested more responsibility in planning upcoming retreats. Next retreat is August 1-3, 2010 at Calloway Gardens. Heidi Lemming is the new graduate assistant and will be the SAC contact.

Lunch provided by Everything But The Mime

**Assessing Student Learning in Student Affairs:** Tome Miles – GPC used Weave Online for assessment. CCG is developing a rubric for assessment. GCSU utilizes methods adopted from Texas A&M (<http://studentlifestudies.tamu.edu/sllo>). ASU focuses less on learning outcomes and more on the impact student affairs has on graduation and retention rates. GA Tech utilizes pre and post assessments for specific student leadership development programs (ie students who engaged in intentional interaction between students and faculty & staff). T. Lam announced that the BOR will be evaluating student leadership development opportunities within the USG during the upcoming academic year.

**Organization Handbook:** KSU has a RSO and Advisor's manual. GHC and GSC have manuals on their websites. A free template is available at <http://www.myacpa.org/comm/student/documents/acpaadvisormannual.pdf>

**Student Life Website:** Angela – Ksuclubs.com is an example of a “blogger”/social media style website versus more traditional formats.

**Free Speech Policies:** Dave Leenhouts – for background info, see <http://www.onenewsnow.com/Legal/Default.aspx?id=498000>

Legally, we designate a free speech area, but we do not “grant permission” to utilize free speech areas on college campuses. Language in policies that imply the authority to grant such permission should be examined by legal counsel.

**Move on When Ready:** Danielle McDonald – GA Tech does not allow joint enrollment students/move on when ready students to participate in RSOs (they are not assessed SAF); the students CAN participate in campus events open to the entire student body.

**New RACSL Chair:** The committee unanimously approved the nomination of Josh Curtain for RACSL chair.

**Upcoming Student Leadership Conferences:**

GCLC February 12 in Athens, GA

Women’s Leadership Conference Oct 29-30 at GA Tech (good for students, faculty, and staff!)

Clayton State Diversity & Multicultural Conference Oct 14

APCA March 23-27, 2011 in Atlanta, GA (LAST TIME IN ALTANTA!)

**Job Openings:**

GA Tech Asst Dean/Director of Greek Affairs

GA Tech Asst Program Director of Student Center

GHC Student Life Program Coordinator (Bach req’d)

Augusta State University Coordinator of Greek Life & Leadership

Coastal College of Georgia Various Housing Positions

UGA Dean of Students

**Recommendation for AY 2010-2011 SAC Meetings: August 1-3; November 5-6; February 4-5; April 15-16**

**Professional Development Opportunities:**

New Professionals Conference Sept 24 at GCSU

GCPA Support Staff Workshop – Date TBD (Kathy Alday)

APCA Leadership Conference July 23-25 in NYC (Dave Leenhouts)

APCA Advisors Summit Jan 2-4, 2011 in Las Vegas (Dave Leenhouts)

**Upcoming RACSL Meetings:**

November 15, 2010 at Georgia Southwestern in Americus, GA

May 16, 2011 at Coastal College of Georgia in Brunswick/St. Simons, GA

**Notes:**

Add Dave to listerv – Cori Loftis

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