

## Fall 2009 RACRA/RACSFJA Joint Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 16, 2009

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Cherise Peters (GSU) and Jay Mooney (UGA) with the introduction of guests from GSFC, OIIT, and the Board of Regents.

### **Georgia Student Finance Commission Update**

Tim Connell began with updates on two goals for the upcoming GA Legislative session. One was to establish a residency requirement for students who are eligible for GED vouchers. The other was to require GA high schools to send GSFC transcripts for all high school students, not just seniors. Other items of note:

- GA budget reductions have affected service cancelable loans and tuition equalization programs.
- Phoenix University students will become eligible for HOPE funding in FY2011 as it will have had a presence in Georgia for 10 years.
- A restructuring of the HOPE program is expected during the 2011 GA Legislative sessions, along with the first trigger for reducing the HOPE book allowance (except for Pell Grant recipients).
- GSFC has offered to consult with institutions interested in having high school GPAs calculated.
- The Financial Aid Advisory Council (FAAC) at GSFC is to continue with the possibility of an addition of an Admissions/Registrar Council at GSFC. Interested parties were directed to contact Sarah Baumhoff.

Richard Hawkshead presented a summary of the Compliance Program Reviews for 2007-2008.

Sarah Baumhoff highlighted the new GACollege411 website.

Tracey Ireland presented a Budget and Program Update with forecasts for the FY11 year.

### **Shared Services – BOR**

Tonya Lam reported that Chancellor Davis asked Presidents for input for the next shared services project. Suggestions included purchasing, accounts payable, purchasing cards, financial aid (verification), and the calculation of HOPE eligibility by GSFC. As of November 16<sup>th</sup>, no project had been selected.

### **U.S. Department of Education definition of Distinction – BOR**

Tonya Lam indicated that the 2005 submission of the approved State Scholars curriculum by the GA DOE was changed by the U.S. Department of Education. The requirement is that students must be a college prep (CP) graduate and have taken at least two of the three sciences (Biology, Chemistry, and Physics).

### **Move on When Ready Update – BOR**

Tonya Lam explained that the program guidelines for “Move on When Ready” are expected in March 2010 for implementation in Fall 2010. Funding of the program has not been established, although it is expected that the state funding for the high school on behalf of the student will transfer to the college. Dual enrollment requirements are being revised and the gap in funding is being reviewed.

### **Institutional Compliance with HEOA – BOR**

Chris Ferland presented a summary of the HEOA Institutional Disclosure Requirements. The “3-click” approach to consumer information is strongly suggested, i.e, no more than 3 clicks to locate it. The requirement for a Net Price Calculator must be on an institution’s website by October 29, 2011. Refer to [http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/news\\_room/ana\\_netprice\\_1029.asp](http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/news_room/ana_netprice_1029.asp), <http://www.nasfaa.org/publications/2009/rnpcposted110309.html> or <http://npc.inovas.net/institution/> for more information.

### **Institutional Fee – BOR**

Tonya Lam reported that the November Board Meeting will make effective the doubling of the institutional fee effective January 2010. (A news release and FAQs are now available at [http://www.usg.edu/news/release/regents\\_approve\\_8\\_percent\\_budget\\_reduction\\_plan\\_for\\_university\\_system/](http://www.usg.edu/news/release/regents_approve_8_percent_budget_reduction_plan_for_university_system/).)

The joint meeting of RACRA/RACSFA was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

**Regents' Advisory Council of Student Financial Aid (RACSFA) Minutes**

Monday, November 16, 2009

Presiding: Jay Mooney, RACSFA Chair

Attending:

Janelle Handcox	Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Lee Ann Kirkland	Armstrong Atlantic State University
Kaye O'Neal	Armstrong Atlantic State University
Alicia Scott	Atlanta Metropolitan College
Sonya Humphries	Atlanta Metropolitan College
Willene C. Holmes	Augusta State University
Debbie Turner	Bainbridge College
Steven Hayes	Bainbridge College
Robin Wade	Board of Regents
John Young	BOR-OIIT
Pat Barton	Clayton State University
Rodney Clements	College of Coastal Georgia
Martha Whittle	Darton College
Haley Hooks	Darton College
Cynthia Parks	East Georgia College
Freida Jones	Fort Valley State University
Johnny Nimes	Fort Valley State University
Susan A. Smith	Gainesville State College
Cathy Crawley	Georgia College and State University
Jared Smith	Georgia Gwinnett College
Donna Childres	Georgia Highlands College
Marie Mons	Georgia Institute of Technology
Robin M. Winston	Georgia Perimeter College
Judy Ferris	Georgia State University (Business Office)
Darrick Owens	Georgia State University (Registrar's Office)
Louis Scott	Georgia State University
Cassandra Burney	Georgia State University
Connie Murphy	Georgia Southern University
Elise Boyett	Georgia Southern University
Angela Bryant	Georgia Southwestern State University
Larry Mitchum	Gordon College
Dennis Chamberlain	Gordon College
Philip Hawkins	Kennesaw State University
Pat Simmons	Macon State College
Linda Aubrey Higgins	Medical College of Georgia
Adrienne Brown	Savannah State University
Becky Rumker	South Georgia College
Cinnimin Durham	South Georgia College
Kacie Hutchison	South Georgia College
Gary Bush	Southern Polytechnic State University
Bonnie Joerschke	University of Georgia
Jay Mooney	University of Georgia
Jennifer Jordan	University of West Georgia
Jennifer Maxwell	University of West Georgia
Doug Tanner	Valdosta State University

Debbie M. Howard      Waycross College  
Angela Speight      Waycross College  
The meeting was called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Jay Mooney.

First-time GASFAA attendees introduced themselves.

The October 22, 2009 Sector Meeting Minutes were approved.

#### **GSFC Toolkit for HOPE Audits**

John Young of BOR-OIIT indicated that there were six processes in place in the GSFC Toolkit, which would allow institutions to upload files of students selected in HOPE audits. Beta testing has been completed and a review of the results begins November 17<sup>th</sup>. A workbook, user documentation, and a Wimba session are planned for December 2009.

#### **FWS/Banner/ADP**

Robin Wade of the BOR requested feedback from RACSFA as to concerns and issues surrounding FWS and ADP. Members indicated that no ADP report exists that accurately reflects the year-to-date expenditure for FWS students. It was also noted that the ADP request for institutions to project FWS earnings for students is in direct violation of federal regulations in the FWS program. RACSFA requested via Robin Wade an update from the BOR Task Force that was reviewing FWS regulations and ADP capabilities.

#### **American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) and FWS**

Members discussed the ARRA replacement of FWS funds. This produced no advantage to the FWS students in that no new jobs or additional monies were available to them. Institutions who received more than \$25,000 in ARRA funding for FWS are asked to report duplicate information to both the U.S. Dept. of Education and to the Board of Regents. Members noted that any numbers reported were deceptive since there was no increase in FWS funding and the reporting assumes the full amount of FWS funds drawn down were used for FWS earnings which is not necessarily the case (JLD). Additional information on reporting is found at <http://www.ifap.ed.gov/eannouncements/100909ARRAReporting.html>.

#### **Transition to Direct Lending**

A committee to assist FFELP schools with preparation for a possible transition to DL was set up with Marie Mons and Doug Tanner agreeing to be co-chairs. DL institutions will be offering plans, information, strategies, and actions needed for FFELP schools to transition to DL. Initial actions suggested include updating the institution's PPA, creating a project plan, and using the U. S. Department of Education's website: <http://www.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/DirectLoan/index.html>

#### **Year-Round Pell**

Institutions are required to implement year-round Pell by the summer of 2010. Students must be at least ½ time and be working on at least 1 hours of their second academic year to be eligible for the second award. (The academic year is defined by the institution.) Jay suggested following the guidance in the 2009-10 FSA Handbook because the regulatory requirement published in the October 29, 2009 Federal Register to pay summer Pell from the ISIR year yielding the larger term Pell amount is not a requirement until the summer of 2011 (according to Jeff Baker in the FSA Final Webinar on Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>.)

#### **Shared Services**

An opinion paper from RACSFA is to be drafted and sent to the BOR in an effort to share expertise, point out regulations, 3<sup>rd</sup> party liabilities, customer service issues, and possibly offer a viable option for shared

services. RACSFA members are encouraged to discuss these issues with their supervisors and presidents.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Susan A. Smith, RACSFA Secretary