

Spring RACRA meeting March 19, 2009

The meeting began with the introductions of the 2008-2009 Officers: Steve Hamrick, Chair; Cherise Peters, Co-Chair; and Jennifer Brannon, Secretary. Introductions of new employees and retiree announcements were made. The minutes from Spring 2008 could not be approved. The minutes will be sent electronically, and the minutes will be approved at the next meeting. The adoption of by-laws and mission statement was presented and a couple of changes were mentioned. On Page 2 article 3, the statement is revised to read that RACRA will meet at least 2 times per year unless circumstances prohibit it. Under the Vice Chair's duty, we will take out 2 months under bullet one. We added a bullet under the Secretary's duty to provide minutes to Student Affairs. Motion was made to accept as amended. The motion was seconded. There was no discussion. The vote taken and the motion passed.

Sarah Wenham addressed the following items:

- Veterans – In August 2009 the New GI Bill will go into effect. There is a GI Bill Workshop March 31 – April 4. Contact Sarah about VA coming to your campus about VA training. www.USG.edu/veterans site has VA resources and policies. Look into developing campus veterans' sites. The Omega committee was discussed which is sanctioned by the federal government. They want Georgia to be recognized as the educational place for active military and veterans. Look for creative ideas from campuses best practices.
- The New FAQ Tool on the Student Affairs Resource page. You can search by category or by keyword. Hopefully, it will be posted by mid April.
- Tuition Classification Updates – Presentation from the WIMBA sessions are posted on the resource page. The new manual should be available soon. FAQs will be added to FAQ tools. Colleges need to audit tuition classifications on campus with 10% of files at least once a semester. Keep documentation of the campus audits have occurred. This information will be in the new manual.
- Updates & Transitions – GAcollge411 – Not many changes. Undergraduate applications changes included the new Ethnicity and race, cell phone numbers and military personnel information. Graduate applications had similar changes. The GAcollge411 site is undergoing some changes toward a new look. The hard launch should be July 1 with a soft launch April 1. There will be an application fee waiver demo on March 25 at 1pm. There was a suggestion to get with College Board to make fee waivers available online. Discussions ensued about counselors handing out waivers.
- Georgia Apply to College Week went well for those involved. 94% of the students surveyed said it was a good program. 79% said the event influenced their decision to apply to college. Discussions were held regarding some of the challenges and lessons learned from the event.

Tonya Lam addressed the following items:

- Dual Enrollment, Joint Enrollment and Home school students – any home school student who can provide course work and SAT to meet our admissions standards can do joint enrollment. Dual enrollment means the student is in high school and earns credits in college and paid for by ACCEL. Joint enrollment means the student pays out of pocket. Articulation of courses of dual enrollment program is being reviewed by subcommittees. Another committee is looking at a model called EDGE where you take courses in high school and take a test (like AP) and earning college credit. The courses are the ones in the pathways sections of the new high school curriculum.
- Dee Minter asked for the USG to have equal representation as co-chair on the committee discussion of EDGE. There is concern about the impact on discussions that will be made on the USG. Tim Connell is that chair.
- Increase the number of courses in the mini-core from technical schools.
- The impact of weighting of courses of joint enrollment was discussed. Joint enrollment courses are not being weighted for HOPE although AP courses are.
- A discussion about ACCEL paying for summer courses is also on the table.
- In the technical school system, approved programs and courses are the same course on all technical colleges. Tonya wants us to go to our campus and look at how you are currently articulating credit now. We need to be consistent across the map
- Transfer of Joint Enrollment Classes from Non USG colleges—are we all holding to min SAT 970 and High School GPA 3.00 – Will not accept the courses if below the 970.
- Legislative Updates – Review the updates from the morning. Bills for the session that USG is watching closely because of financial impact. HB 700 – recommendation of construction of buildings to the same state agency GSFIC. This would take away the USG office of facilities. SB 169 – ethical treatment of human embryo act. This passed in senate aims at preventing cloning and embryos for any purpose. This has serious impact to research at universities and potential to attract research industries for Georgia economic development for the state. SB 194 – amends current code for state agencies to benefit for multiple year leasing. This would help for contracts of energy and performance savings where you will not see a benefit in a year. Resolution SR 140 – would create a senate study committee to consolidate higher education institutions - SSU and AASU and Darton and Albany. HB 149 - Move On When Ready program for 11th and 12th to attend college and have the FTE money go with the student. Students in high school who are determined eligible would take the money the HS would receive to the institution the student is attending (USG or TSG). Passed - HB 157 – set new limits on HOPE scholarship when lottery reserves dips down. Books and mandatory fee benefits could be removed when lottery reserves dips to certain levels. HB 294 – transfer of technical college to BOR or vice versa must be approved by general assembly. HB 313 – Hope eligibility calculation for single one diploma (2012 or later will only have 1 diploma) HB 391 – exemption for text book tax for USG and TSG. HB 400 – bridge bill – gives student choice of student and prepares for post secondary and careers. Counselors trained to help student career guidance and have a graduation plan for all students. Counselors are accountable that they have helped each student develop own plan. Career pathways as part of the 2012 grads and on. House resolution 165 – 4 years college help make Georgia the #1 destination for entrepreneurs and education, science,

innovation and technology - ties into ICAPP. Budget revenues are down 34%. USG budget 12% cuts. No info on stimulus package and impact – most in forms of grants – how collectively apply for these grants.

- Question about furlows – Chancellor thinks it is a short term solution. However, think we may see it next year.
- Temporary fee should not be continued but may come back in a different format.
- Legislation tells us the budget and USG makes tuition and colleges go from there. The question arose if the GTP will stay? Tonya said that she was not hearing any thing that it will go away. Students are not pleased with the GTP.
- Academic Calendar Changes – On the agenda for the upcoming Board meeting, propose to have 2 academic semesters of 15 instructional weeks – any period of 7 consecutive days in which 1 day of instruction or examination or day a study for examination occurs. This can not include registration day. Current policy final exam week was not included and now it can be. It will be an institutional decision. 15 weeks is the minimum. Your decision if the final exams are part of the 15 weeks or not. 75 class days is no longer a requirement. 750 minutes of instruction per credit hour is still required. The earliest starting date and the latest ending date is gone. Replace with Fall semester no earlier than August 1 and no later than December 31. Spring no earlier than January 2 and end no later than May 30. Each term must be separated by at least 1 day. Specialized programs that do not include physical space can be within a term or overlap terms. These dates are at the discretion of the college. The grade has to be in the term with the majority of the course work is given. If this is approved at the BOR, then the schedules will be starting for Summer 2010. Submit calendar by March 30 each year. Registration or class experience on religious holidays on dates that conflict on major religious holidays. Each institution has the discretion to make the policy. Severe weather cancellations and make-up days may be at the discretion of the administration.
- GSU & UGA are using plus and minus grades. This does not affect HOPE eligibility.
- Immunization changes for Military include immunization exemptions for active military shot records are current, monitored and get more shots than we need. They can show their current Military ID.
- GRITS has created the USG form in GRITS to use as a print out form. They are looking for ways for downloading to Banner.
- GSFC Compliance Review Changes – GSFC wants to cut down on the amount of travel to do this and they are looking for ways of automation for review. They are looking for us to possibly run scripts for the info and send them electronically; however, they could not define what they really needed. USG provides the script that needs to be run, send encrypted and look to see what information they need in a useful manner. GSFC would no longer look at tuition classification decisions and SAP compliance. Dee Minter discussed the complexity of the new GSFC compliance review.

- College Source – The BOR is cancelling the College Source contract. We will find out what services we are losing and what will remain. This would be reinstated when the budget situation turns around.
- 4th Science requirement – 2012 grads will have 4 sciences to graduate. USG supporting the Department of Education on the admissions requirements. Modified admissions requirements. 4 science course - if grad from GA public HS will have to have 4 (3 college prep) and 1 CTAE course that has been decided. Outside GA or private schools, must have 4 no matter what kind of science. College can really look at 3 high school and physical science in 8th grade for out of state and privates. The catch is moved physical science as an 8th grade course and in the 9th grade. It must be the 9th grade course only count in state public students.

2012 - All students graduating from public HS will not have CPC deficiencies. There will be the eliminated foreign language for requirement of graduation, but it is still requirement of foreign language requirement for admissions. On the USG website under Staying the Course, there are two levels listed as College Ready & Career Ready.

GHSGT basic proficiency levels will get them their diploma and will satisfy the “No Child Left Behind.” Advanced and Honors levels equal College and Career Ready. In the future, the HSGT scores will be used to exempt the Compass test. You will test the Basic proficiency students in COMPASS.

Georgia Alternative Assessment – Access curriculum is for those who may not be able to be successful at the regular curriculum. We will not accept students in this assessment. This equals special education diploma. Student would have to get GED.

- Academic Advising – Courses not intended for Transfer. – Chancellor wants to clearly define in catalog or schedule course that are offered that are not designed to transfer. BOR wants the information at the course level. Core curriculum is now being looked at.
- Library access for online students was posed. No good information was given for Tonya’s questions.

Karen Nunn - USG won the PESC best practices award for XML projects:

- XML Transcripts – It was requested to report your status on line. There is a page on the USG site under technical information tab. – etranscripts project. Subscript to the XML list service is on the USGXML-L@listserv.uga.edu Karen Nunn 706-583-2060 karen_nunn@usg.edu
- High School transcript downloads – the numbers are growing. Fill out the survey that was sent to RACRA on Wednesday the 18th. Many would like to have the access to pull

down the final transcripts after graduation. There is an option for the student to mark online that they want their transcript sent now and after graduation.

- Small group going to Summit – will do a WIMBA session for the information learned there since many will not be able to travel. No comment has been made about GA summit for next year.
- Banner 8 – is still on schedule.

Other issues that were requested for the agenda:

Race and Ethnicity Changes (MCG) – No discussion held.

GTP (fixed for 4) update and how are offices handling appeals (KSU) – Comments there is a handbook on the USG site with a policy.

Status reports of Degree Works implementations (KSU) – 7 colleges are using this and some are implementing. USG Degree works

Clarification and Discussion of Academic Renewal (ABAC) – wants the USG policy to be reworded. MGC agreed.

Criminal Background screening practices to decide admission (KSU). MCG, SPSU both send info to Police Chief and that person does background check and talks with VP.

Smart Catalog Poll: Who is using it? (VSU) – This is a commercial product to make a catalog. 2 or 3 colleges are using it - \$50,000 ish

ZSRTUIC form for residency (How to get it to work, anybody having trouble?) (GSU) - The process to run to generate a list of students who have been changed from resident to non-resident or vice versa.

New FERPA Changes – overview of changes could come. Contact Tonya about interest in a FERPA update sessions on campus or at RACRA.

The 2009-2010 Officers were named: Cherise Peters, Chair; Jennifer Brannon, Co-Chair; Secretary – Winnie Tsang-Kosma.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by Jennifer Brannon on June 2, 2009