

# Meeting Minutes: Regents Advisory Committee on Student Life (RACSL)

**Monday, November 11, 2002**  
**Georgia College & State University, Milledgeville, GA**

**Call to order at 9:07 AM**

Welcome and introductions were made. In attendance were:

Michael Sanseviro	Georgia Perimeter College – Lawrenceville Campus, Chair
Brad Lord	Middle Georgia College, Secretary
Al Harris	Armstrong Atlantic State University
Alicia Caudill	Gainesville College
Angela Avery	Gordon College
Bengie Cravey	Darton College
Bree Salyards	Dalton State College
Dave Leenhouts	Coastal Georgia Community College
Eddie Howard	Georgia College and State University
Iris R. Shanklin	Atlanta Metropolitan College
J. Michael Stewart	Macon State College
Jeff Jacobs	Clayton College and State University
John Colson	Waycross College
Jowanda Durham	Middle Georgia College
Kay Phillips-Crabb	Augusta State University
Michael K. Aoa	Brewton Parker College
Phillip Rollins	South Georgia College
Rich Steele	Georgia Tech
Robert DeVries	Student Advisory Council Chair
Ruth Ann Middleton	Kennesaw State University
Sheena Glover	Georgia Southern University
Suzette Zompetti	Georgia College and State University

Terrance D. Smith	Fort Valley State University
Wesley Thomas	North Georgia College and State University
Robin Vickery	Valdosta State University

**Update on SAC - Robert DeVries, Chair:**

Meetings scaled back from 5 to 3 times a year. It has been recommended that schools bring fewer delegates and the board is seeking to change the constitution. Committee meetings will occur simultaneously allowing delegates to attending multiple committees. SGA's are encouraged to research issues at respective institutions prior to conferences. SAC in process of downsizing the executive board to conform more closely with the BOR policy manual. Candidate packets for elections will be sent out to SGA's for advance consideration and review. A ZERO TOLERANCE policy is being enacted concerning lewd and disruptive behavior at conferences. SGA advisors are strongly encouraged to attend. Fee modifications are being offered for advisors in attendance. SAC will be scrutinizing and reconsidering current constitution at the fall conference. Scaling down of SAC is current vision. Advisors voiced concern over opening of SAC meetings and banquets with prayer. Concern also voiced over possible politicization of SAC. Advisors will work closely with SAC during this transitory year, with hopes of gradually tapering off. SAC will not make resolutions at the conference from which the resolution stems. It will be visited at subsequent meeting. Considerable amount of discussion about SAC's relationship with BOR and the necessity for SAC to re-establish itself as a legitimate advisory body to the BOR. Meeting packet also included overview of planning retreat in September with new SAC mission, vision, and objectives.

**Updates and information on BOR University System Office – Michael Sanseviro**

Michael reviewed items included in USO reports to RACSA, specifically focusing on reports from Tonya Lam discussing Pipeline/Luminis web portal product, student privacy and shift away from SSNs by 2005, GABest and GAEasy. Included in meeting packet was overview of USO student services department, USG vision, mission, goals, guiding principles for strategic action, and selected BOR policy manual selections. Michael also shared that Dan Papp is leaving and Bill Bowes and Frank Butler will head areas previously under Dan's control.

**Update on RACSA – Al Harris representing Joe Buck as RACSA liaison to RACSL:**

Al, on behalf of RACSA, asked RACSL about the type of relationship desired between the groups. Should RACSL funnel concerns through RACSA, or seek more direct route to USO/BOR? Points made for both alternatives. After discussion, motion by Wesley Thomas, seconded by Iris Shanklin: RACSL will maintain direct link to RACSA while maintaining communication with USO student services department. Approved unanimously.

**Salvia Divinorum:**

Michael gave heads up to threat of a new drug gaining popularity on college campuses.

**RACSL Mission Statement:**

Motion made by Al Harris, seconded by Dave Leenhouts to retain current mission statement. Carried unanimously.

**Review of Goals and Objectives for 2002-2003:**

New goal (#7): Foster a collaborative effort and supportive base with all areas of student service. Goal #6 modification(#6E): Share information about policies, practices, and programs and their application on the campuses. Goal #1 modification (#1D): USG site to be used as a resource for RACSL. Useful websites will be posted. Motion by Jeff Jacobs and seconded to approve goals and objectives as amended. Approved unanimously.

**Discussion of Titles within USG:**

It seems appropriate to begin a move forward to affiliate our positions and realms of activity with the phraseology "student life."

**Handbooks:**

SACS has repealed requirement for printed handbook. Handbooks may be made available online. Requests made for RACSL members to e-mail links to their student handbooks to be made readily available online.

**General Requests/Information Items:**

Free Speech on Campus policy – Dave Leenhouts shared Coastal Georgia's information.

Harassment policies dealing with both sexual harassment and discriminatory harassment – some felt all aspects of harassment were not adequately covered in their handbooks, others felt the code of conduct adequately covered these concerns.

Staff /Student intimate relationships policies (or lack there of) was discussed.

Disability services concerns, particularly for students with dyslexia, were discussed.

Posting policies were discussed and vary across the system.

Spring recognition events for student organizations were discussed, ranging from banquets to outings.

Challenged with smoking on campus were discussed, and various approaches shared. At least one school, North Georgia College, has gone "smoke free."

**Travel Policies:**

Reimbursement only? One school provides money up front for students, but student must sign a waiver beforehand. Some schools provide all money up front for students. Staff is often required to pay all costs up front. Some schools use state purchasing card for student travel. Concern about inconsistency and how requiring students and advisors to fund their own travel upfront diminishes the ability for many to participate. Discussion about how athletics often has greater flexibility. On-going concern about institutional vehicle usage, and who can drive and who cannot. Policies vary greatly.

**Lunch Break:**

GCSU President Dr. Rosemary DePaolo addressed committee. MarSan Graphics, Inc. of Milledgeville provided lunch, and "Mark the Magic Man" Hulett provided entertainment.

**Alternate Governance:**

Bree Salyards discussed the Dalton College disbanding of SGA. A Presidents' Council is now made up of the presidents of campus clubs and organizations. Questions were raised as to the conformity of this body with USG

standards – representation on fee committees, etc. Apparently all bases are covered and this governing body is working well. Bree noted this format might not be well implemented at a large residential school and foresees the possibility of growth at her own institute requiring modification of the Presidents' Council. Dalton's council was modeled after the student governance approach used at Lee University in Cleveland, TN.

**Online Voting and Revised Election Codes for Online Elections:**

Colleges using online voting continue to report decreases in voter turnout, as appears to be the trend nationally, but increased accuracy. A few colleges report increased turnout as a result of using online voting. J.B. Clairborne, professor at Georgia Southern University, has created an online voting product called campus vote and has offered the use of the product to all USG schools for free for one year. A few schools have already used campus vote and reported that it worked well.

**Retail on Campus:**

Georgia Tech reports great success with on campus retailing and is looking for other ways to capitalize in this area. Rich Steele asked for ideas from others as Georgia Tech is preparing to expand retail services to new areas of campus. Concerns were raised about the type of retail services offered on campus, and a number of schools noted that they no longer allowed any credit card vendors on campus.

**Activity Fees/Effects of Budget Cuts:**

Colleges are wary of the seeming trend to pay staff positions out of student funds. Some colleges report student governments as having little control over student activity fees. This source of funding is attributed by some to a mismanagement or poor allocation in HOPE monies. Fees use and compliance with the spirit of BOR policy changes concerning student input is a growing concern for many.

**Construction Update:**

GCSU is in the midst of a growth explosion, but interest was expressed in the various visions for use of the new properties as concern student needs versus staff wants, etc.

**NPHC participation:**

Eddie Howard updated committee on representation at last regional conference. Made note of not many Georgia representatives in attendance.

**Assessment updates:**

As part of an on-going sharing of ideas with assessment, different approaches and tools were discussed along with the need to link funding and retention. Student satisfaction was also discussed and the new Nessie and Cessie surveys being developed.

**Upcoming Conference Information:**

Information about upcoming concerns for SAC, APCA, GPCA/GNTI, ACUI and SROW was shared. Next RACSL meeting will be Monday, May 19, 2003 at Ocean Plaza Resort on Tybee Island. Al Harris from Armstrong Atlantic will be serving as host. Hotel information was listed on agenda.

**Meeting Adjourned 3:30 PM.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Brad Lord, RACSL secretary.

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