

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

**Spring Meeting
Monday, May 15, 2006
Historic Banning Mills**

9:00 AM Breakfast and Check In

9:30 AM Welcome, Introductions & Agenda Review

9:45 AM University System Office

The Regents are meeting today and tomorrow. An important topic of discussion will be residency rules. The current residency rules require students to live in Georgia for one calendar year. Several students missed the residency window by days or months. The proposal will include extending the rule to residents who moved to Georgia as a result of the hurricane during the fall term 2005. The Vice President of Technology is retiring and an interim candidate will be on staff immediately. The Senior Vice President, Dan Pap, will be leaving the system office for the President position at Kennesaw.

10:15 AM New Student Insurance

The insurance contract was signed in February. This is the first time we have a system wide contract for health insurance for the first time. All campuses that have students in the mandatory group will be required to participate. The mandatory group includes all graduate assistants on a tuition waiver, graduate and undergraduate students on J or F Visas, all graduate or undergraduate students in programs that require health insurance (i.e., nursing), and all students on fellowship. The policy is not just major medical. The program includes medications. Students who purchase the insurance can also purchase insurance for their dependants and family members. Optional plans are available for all students directly from company, Pierce Pierce. The negotiated costs is \$830/year. The costs will be applied to the student bill for students in the mandatory group. Insured students can obtain waivers. There is an option for students to purchase supplemental insurance. Some student had insurance coverage through their home institutions that may have been less expensive than the current plan. Students in the mandatory group will be required to use the approved provider for campus based insurance coverage. The BOR has signed a one year contract with the option to renew the policy after four years. Pierce and Pierce will provide free brochures and update the website to each campus. Each campus has the discretion of adding an administrative fee to the base cost. The policy covers student throughout the state provided students find a provider that will use the company. Students pay a deductible for services.

10:30 AM Six Sigma

The project management theory is rooted in manufacturing and applied to higher education. Consult "What is Six Sigma" by Pete Pande and Larry Holpp (McGraw-Hill publishers, 2002) for more information. The translation process of Six Sigma into the higher education arena is unclear at this point. The program focuses on customer service, accountability and responsibility of the project. Risk taking, active and 'rapid' change are valued by the chancellor.

10:45 AM Communication for programming

The question, "Can we develop a forum to exchange information about artists and agencies?" was posed. The group seems receptive to some type of avenue and we can use the listserv to share information about successes and challenges. Please send your programming schedule monthly to take advantage of block booking opportunities.

11:00 AM Travel Expenses

Student travel waivers protect the advisors and students. Students who travel with the advisor should return with the advisor. Georgia College pays for the first night of lodging and the fees when students participate in tournaments or conferences. The second night of lodging is the responsibility of the students who will be reimbursed when they return to campus. Other schools pay registration and the students are responsible for lodging and transportation expenses.

11:15 AM Club Sports

Georgia Highlands College students are interested in starting a club sports teams to compete against other college students. These types of clubs can get the same rights and privileges as any other student organization. Each club needs an on campus advisor who may or may not be their coach. The intramural coordinator sets the on-campus schedule and coordinates off campus competitions. Some students play in the local (city) sports clubs. Georgia Tech sports club students pay \$50 a year for membership. The advisor or Student Life representative can be responsible for equipment purchased by the organization.

11:30 AM Student Purchases and State Tax Reimbursement and Food Purchases

Some business offices are not paying back the sales tax. Eddie suggested we open accounts for direct billing with specific vendors who charge the student life office. It is important to provide officer and advisor training about campus policies. New BOR and state policy states that taxes cannot be reimbursed to students or advisors.

Clayton State does not fund food for general meetings and Campus Dining has the right of first refusal. All catering services must go through the campus provider.

11:45 AM Liability Issues for Students Under Age 18

Students under the age of 18 must have parental permission to participate in campus activities, especially travel, and the parent or guardian's contact information must be listed on the form. International students are considered minors until the age of 24. Joint enrollment students cannot be involved in co-curricular activities. Tonya will send the exact policies to the group.

RESPONSE FROM TONYA LAM : US laws that apply to domestic students also apply to international students. An international student 18 or older should be treated the same as a domestic student who is 18 years of age or older. A student, domestic or international is considered a minor at 17 or younger.

12:00 PM Lunch

Thanks to Jay's Aquamassage, our Sponsor
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1:00 PM Faculty Notification of Student Travel

Most colleges with representatives present send a letter stating the students are traveling on official institutional business. The memo does not excuse the students from class or responsibility for their work. Other institutions have support from the Vice President who endorses letters sent to faculty. Some directors document travel with employers as well.

1:15 PM Facilities Reservation Process/Responsibilities/Charges

Most institutions charge student clubs for the expenses incurred by other areas such as security and custodians. Other student organizations are required to secure outside vendors for certain services such as av. There is a central reservations center with some segmentation with classrooms, gymnasiums and auditoriums.

1:30 PM Gospel Choir Funding

Gospel choirs are governed like any other student organization. They are allocated a budget and can use the funds according to student activity fee guidelines.

1:45 PM GA Rising Leadership Program

Students are selected to attend the leadership program sponsored by the Fanning Leadership Institute at UGA. Program goals include community leadership, making a difference and the needs of the state and community. There are three sessions in Spring, December and Spring. The attendance fee is \$250 and does not cover transportation. Each session is a weekend retreat including research and follow up.

2:00 PM Retention

Some members of the group have been asked to prepare retention reports and gathering documentation to support research. Each unit at some institutions are expected to justify how it supports the overall retention effort. West Georgia uses the swipe card system to collect data and link it through BANNER. Suggested resources include "The Freshman Year Experience", "The Senior Year Experience" and Goal Quest computer program.

2:15 PM Tuition Cap

The tuition cap policy will begin in fall 2006. Each year a new rate would be set for the guaranteed for a year. There has been discussion on the guaranteed versus continuing rate. Students at four-year institutions will be granted 12 consecutive semesters at the guaranteed rate. Students at two-year institutions will be granted 9 consecutive terms at the guaranteed rate. Transfer students (earned college credit after high school) get an additional six terms. The rate is not based on hours but academic years. The following questions were asked during our discussion: "Who will be accountable and what appeal process will be available for students who cannot take the required classes and graduate in two or four years?" and "What happens at the end of three or four years?" Appeals will stay at the campus level: The BOR will not hear cases. The tuition cap is just tuition, not fees or housing. Summer 2006 rates will be determined at the discretion of the USG institutions.

2:30 PM Stipends and Financial Aid

Some student leaders are awarded grant program through financial aid. Other students receive a stipend through student accounts. The institutions (GA Tech, Clayton, and Kennasaw) write contracts for the students and

amount earned is paid with a per diem at the end of each term. In this case the students are reimbursed at the end of the semester for their work, the payment is claimed on the next year tax returns and FAFSA forms and doesn't interfere with students' current year financial aid. This process is similar to how students are awarded essay contest prizes.

2:45 PM Reserve Accounts

State auditor asked Georgia Highlands College to drain student activity fee reserve. No one else present received a similar request.

3:00 PM Alcohol

A group of Georgia Tech graduate students is petitioning to have free alcohol at campus events (on-campus happy hour) sponsored by the institution. Drink tickets of one drink per hour for the duration of the event would be provided. Other schools haven't discussed this type of programming.

3:15 PM Use of Equipment Purchased with Student Activity Fees for Different Purposes

Outside areas are using equipment purchased with student activity fees. It is a common practice for musicians to use instruments. The artists are being paid for the talent, not the equipment. Others considered the act a violation of BOR policy in the area of personal gain.

3:30 PM Elections

Incoming Chair: John Spranza Incoming Secretary: Janea Johnson

3:45 PM Upcoming dates; meetings, conference, etc...

November 13, 2006 at University of West Georgia May 14, 2007 at Augusta State College

4:00 PM Adjourn

Prepared by Janea Johnson

Special thanks to our hosts and sponsor!

The Spring 2006 RASCL participants thank Jay's Aquamassage, our sponsor.

Attendants

Kathy Alday, Kennesaw State University
Garrett Burgner, Dalton State College
Alicia Caudill, Gainesville State College
Eddie Howard, Augusta State University
Jeff Jacobs, Clayton State University
Janea Johnson, Georgia Perimeter College
Robin Jones, Armstrong Atlantic State University
Tonya Lam, Board of Regents

Dave Leenhouts, Coastal Georgia Community College
Sharon Lloyd, Gordon College
Ron Lunk, Georgia College and State University
Danielle McDonald, Georgia Institute of Technology
Tom Miles, Georgia College and State University
Eric O'Cain, Darton College
Linda Picklesimer, University of West Georgia
Heath Rogers, Georgia Highlands College (host)
Iris Shanklin, Atlanta Metropolitan College
Cara Skeat, Gainesville College
Rich Steele, Georgia Institute of Technology
Charlie Strong, Macon State College
Wesley Thomas, North Georgia College and State University

Guest Presenters/Speakers:

Tonya Lam, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Services, University System of Georgia
Jay Dukes, Auquamassage, Sponsor

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