

**REGENTS ACADEMIC COMMITTEE ON LIBRARIES (RACL)  
2025 FALL GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

October 31, 2025

Virtual Meeting

**ATTENDEES:**

RACL Committee Members:

Joy Bolt, University of North Georgia  
Dr. Lisandra Carmichael, Georgia Southern University  
Catherine Jannik Downey, Georgia Gwinnett College  
Ashley Dupuy, Kennesaw State University  
David Edens, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College  
Dr. Sonya Gaither, Clayton State University & Gordon State College  
Dr. Toby Graham, University of Georgia  
Debbie Holmes, College of Coastal Georgia  
Lynn Kelly, South Georgia State College  
Tamatha Lambert, Middle Georgia State University  
Frank Mahitab, Fort Valley State University  
Dr. LaVerne L. McLaughlin, Albany State University

Jessica Osborne, Georgia Highlands College  
David Owings, Columbus State University  
Blynn Olivieri Parker, University of West Georgia  
Robert Quarles, Atlanta Metropolitan State College  
Dr. Leslie Sharp, Georgia Institute of Technology  
Jeff Steely, Georgia State University  
Felix Unaeze, Savannah State University  
Dr. Shaundra Walker, Georgia College & State University  
Brad Warren, Augusta University  
Melissa Whitesell, Dalton State College  
John Wilson, Georgia Southwestern State University  
Laura Bell Wright, Valdosta State University

University System of Georgia/GALILEO/GIL/DLG:

Julie Walker, Lucy Harrison, Ken Henslee, Jeff Gallant, Russell Palmer, John Stephens, Jef Whatley, Mike White, Joy Woodson, Deena Anderson, Brad Baxter, Sean Boyle, Jared McReynolds, Seamus Narron, Sean Purcell, Barry Robinson, and Joshua Wier

Guests:

Jillian Collier, Georgia Gwinnett College  
Whit Gaines, Columbus State University  
Melissa Johnson, Augusta University  
Jennifer West, Savannah State University

**WELCOME, ROLL, APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES:**

Chair Dr. Shaundra Walker welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order. Lucy Harrison conducted the roll/attendance of the group and presented the agenda for the meeting, which was moved to be approved by Dr. Sonya Gaither, seconded by Dr. LaVerne L. McLaughlin and approved. The Minutes from the 2025 Spring General RACL meeting held April 25, 2025, at the

Georgia Institute of Technology Library, Atlanta, Georgia, were moved to be approved by Dr. Leslie Sharp, seconded by Dr. Sonya Gaither, and approved.

### **GENERAL GALILEO UPDATES:**

Lucy Harrison provided **high-level updates** that included the following:

- Ongoing K–12 funding gap concerns
- Request for additional State funding
- Declining E-resource usage trends
- Strategic planning scheduled for Summer 2026

John Stephens provided the following **E-Resources (including audiobooks)** updates:

- E-Resources: Accessibility
  - Planning December meeting on GALILEO accessibility
  - Monitoring upcoming ADA Title II changes impacting libraries
- E-Resources: Audiobooks.
  - Increased interest in audiobook hosting options (e.g., Blackstone, OverDrive/Libby, Palace Project)
- E-resources: AVON token distribution
  - 466 tokens available for video purchases
  - Recommendation: allocation by FTE, with option for local selection
- Springer Nature journals added to ProQuest Central
  - ~1,100 Springer Nature journals added to ProQuest Central
  - Healthy usage for new statewide resources (e.g., NewsBank, OED, AVON, CINAHL)
  - Overall statewide usage decline linked to Google AI overview and reduced open-web traffic
- Project COUNTER, Usage trends
  - Consortium membership benefits highlighted
  - Tickets available for COUNTER Conference

Russell Palmer provided the following **Interfaces/Development** updates:

- Shifting Development Priorities for FY 25-26
  - FOLIO development is highest priority for FY25–26
  - Ongoing GALILEO statistics, framework upgrades, and accessibility work
- GALILEO Portal Updates
  - Embedded search box generator released
  - “Show Newest First” option added to database listings
- Vendor Updates
  - EBSCO Natural Language Search enabled
  - Enhanced citation tracking features in EBSCO
  - New ProQuest Ebook Central reader app (no Adobe Digital Editions required)

Joy Woodson provided the following **Outreach – conferences, and anniversary** updates:

- GALILEO Annual Conference
  - Tentatively April 13–14, 2026 at Middle Georgia State University
  - Free registration anticipated; vendors present but not listed
- Anniversary & Survey
  - Anniversary programming planned (student scavenger hunts, giveaways, timeline)
  - Annual GALILEO User Survey runs November 1–17, 2025

Jeff Gallant provided the following **ALG Update**:

- Over \$198 million in cumulative student savings since 2014–15
- More than 1.5 million student enrollments impacted
- ALG OER accessibility audit completed, fixes in progress
- Affordable Materials Grant
  - Round 28 deadline: November 3, 2025
  - Round 29 deadline: March 23, 2026
  - Updated letter-of-support requirements discussed
- Libraries highlighted as key partners in affordable learning initiatives

The meeting adjourned for a break at 10:34 a.m. and reconvened at 10:48 a.m.

### **MEMBER DISCUSSION:**

Various members shared the following **Institutional Updates**:

- Leadership changes across several USG institutions
- Facilities updates (e.g., library renovations, new media storage)
- SACS reviews completed or ongoing at multiple institutions
- East Georgia State College and Georgia Southern University consolidation effective January 1, 2026

### **RACL Name/Role Change**

- RACL approved transition to a CAO Advisory Group (CAG)
- New name approved: Chief Academic Officer Advisory Group – Academic Libraries (CAGAL)
- Discussion of implications for meeting structure, authority, and collaboration
- Future engagement with CATs (CAO Advisory Teams) and CALs (CAO Advisory Leaders)

### **Library ROI/Impact and Value**

- Discussion of library ROI, assessment, and impact work by Melissa Johnson/Augusta University, Jillian Collier/Georgia Gwinnett College, and Laura Bell Wright/Valdosta State University.

### **Active Shooter/Swatting Hoaxes**

- Reports of AI-generated active shooter/swatting hoaxes affecting libraries.

### **Public Posting of CV requirements**

- Concerns about public posting of CV requirements were discussed.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 12:07 p.m. and reconvened at 1:30 p.m.

Lucy Harrison provided the following **GIL Updates (non-FOLIO)**:

- Courier service transition to FedEx updates
- Committee activity and officer vacancies noted
- Proposal to suspend interlibrary billing during FOLIO migration
- GUGM is tentatively scheduled for May 18-19, 2026, at MGA. Meeting may be impacted by changes to USO conference services. Waiting on FOLIO outcomes to proceed with additional planning

Sean Boyle provided the following **review of FOLIO and OpenRS Testing and Status**:

- Testing process, documentation, and issue tracking reviewed
- Extensive collaboration with EBSCO during testing period

Lucy Harrison led the open discussion concerning potential project scenarios.

The meeting adjourned for a break at 2:46 p.m. and reconvened at 2:55 p.m.

The open discussion continued following the break. A motion was made by Catherine Jannik Downey and seconded by Dr. Lisandra Carmichael, to cancel the EBSCO FOLIO contract and then renew and extend the Ex Libris consortial agreement. Motion passed.

### **ADJOURN:**

A move to adjourn the meeting was made by Dr. Leslie Sharp, seconded by Jessica Osborn, and the meeting was adjourned at 3:42 p.m.