



SAC

STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

2007-08 SAC Goals & Objectives

Transfer Credit

Goal Statement:

To standardize the transferability of core classes into a university accepted system whereby students are guaranteed credit throughout the University System of Georgia toward completion of a degree.

To raise awareness about current transfer systems already in place in the University System of Georgia, and to educate students on how to utilize transfer processes.

Objectives:

Research the Ombudsman and appeals systems at each University System of Georgia institution: *Completed telephone survey of questions for administrators at each USG. Discovered each USG institution had specific and individual issues.*

Research the specific problems encountered by students when attempting to transfer between University System of Georgia institutions: *Completing survey of questions for SAC students (Survey will be sent out Friday, October 26th and will need to be submitted back to Keisha Tully from Bainbridge College by November 28th.)*

Resending the survey discussed above. Due back to Keisha Tully keisha0786@yahoo.com on February 8th. Going to do a media campaign suggesting how to promote awareness of Ombudsman and so forth once survey information has been received.

Keep abreast of possible solutions provided by the core curriculum project currently in development (sandra.stone@usg.edu).

Following up with President at Georgia Southern University/the committee hasn't been operating at full capacity yet.

Planning to speak to Sandra Stone at the SAC Conference.

Provide an awareness raising campaign to educate students about how the Ombudsman and appeals processes can be used to find solutions for transfer credit concerns. *Working on this-expect to have recommendation for how to accomplish this at the January SAC meeting.*

Putting up a list of the Ombudsman's for each campus on the SAC website:

http://www.usg.edu/academics/programs/core_curriculum/ombuds.phtml. Also, recommending a change of the title of Transfer Ombudsperson to the Transfer Credit Advisor (TCA).

Update:

Used Spelling Commission recommendation and example of Tennessee System transferability to explain importance of goal.

Retention/Graduation

Goal Statement: To foster an environment that is conducive for students to be prepared enough to successfully matriculate through their respective institutions.

Objectives: To retrieve vital information on retention/graduation from the established Retention, Progression, Graduation initiatives each University System of Georgia institution has.
Retain open channels of communication with each SGA President or Student Advisory Council delegate informing them of changes/progress at each individual institution.
Remain in contact with the SAC Financial Aid and Follow-Up Committees (specifically in the areas of academic advising and the 18-month calendar/course availability.)
Find out the instrument that each institution is using to measure retention progression and graduation.

Update: **See PowerPoint on SAC website. Need questionnaire returned to individuals on the committee (see the PowerPoint to know which person you need to send your information to) by February 8th.**

Follow-Up

Goal Statement: To quantitatively and qualitatively follow-up on the progress of the following issues: Student Health Insurance, Academic Advising, Course Availability & 18-Month Schedule, and the Guaranteed Tuition Plan. While following up on the previously stated issues, our committee will report to the Student Advisory Council semi-annually on any findings.

To make the “Green Initiative” a top priority for the Board of Regents.

Objectives: Student Health Insurance: Identify what other university systems are doing and create an action plan to improve/expand healthcare coverage as deemed necessary.
Academic Advising: Advocate for system-wide mandatory advisements (before students can register they must be advised), after each advisement students receive a copy of course checklist (allows for student accountability), request that the proposed advising software by the Task Force on Enhanced Advising Processes be reviewed by the Student Advisory Council and all Student Government Associations.
Course Availability and 18-Month Schedule: Survey University System of Georgia institutions to determine whether course availability is an issue and ensure that the 18-month course schedule is being implemented by all University System of Georgia institutions.
Guaranteed Tuition Plan: Find and disseminate information on the Guaranteed Tuition Plan used by the University System of Georgia to the Student Advisory Council and all University System of Georgia institutions.

Update: **Created a proposal for encouragement of the Energy Management Initiative researched by President Adams. The**

proposal provided by SAC is to create a “Green Fee” which will help fund the ideas brainstormed by President Adams. See Proposal on SAC website.

Financial Aid

- Goal Statement:** To identify the issues University System of Georgia colleges and universities are experiencing with financial aid and advocate changes within the system to address these concerns.
To advocate positive change within the University System of Georgia colleges and universities concerning need-based financial aid.
- Objectives:** Identify the top five issues that concern students about financial aid within the system.
Submit the data from the survey to the Board of Regents (Tonya Lam), the Regents Advisory Committee for Financial Aid, and each institution’s Vice President for Student Affairs.
- Plan of Action:** Develop an electronic questionnaire that each campus will administer.
Send the questionnaire to the chairperson of the Regents Advisory Committee for Financial Aid for approval.
Contact all Student Advisory Council representatives to ask them to electronically distribute and survey a representative sample of each institution in the system.
Compile final results and report findings to Student Advisory Council representatives.
Create an action plan to resolve the issues (if any).
- Update:** *Looking to create and send out a survey. Sarah discussed a rough draft of the survey the committee will be submitting to the SAC Team, the Board of Regents, and the University System Office in an effort to gauge financial aid experiences, attitudes and problems.*
- Update:** **Important contacts made-9th district Regent Jolly, Lt. Governor Casey Cagle
Creating and emailing surveys out for SAC members to distribute.**
- Challenges:** **Legislature
Sources of funds**

Board of Regents Connectivity

- Goal Statement:** To enhance the line of communication between the University System of Georgia students and the Board of Regents.
- Objectives:** To continue researching the feasibility of getting more students involved and invested in the Board of Regents.
To ensure that at least two Student Advisory Council members attend each Board of Regents meeting.
Explore opportunities for Student Government Presidents to meet with their respective geographic Regents.

Update:

See PowerPoint on SAC website and questionnaire responses they have received from Student Regents they have interviewed thus far on www.georgiastudentopinion.com. Reminded SAC students that if they do plan to contact the Regents within their congressional district that they need to make sure they keep Tonya Lam abreast of their contact by emailing her at Tonya.Lam@usg.edu. Continue to send students to the BOR meetings.