

**Minutes
DSP Meeting
Macon State College
August 1, 2008**

- Tonya Lam welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained that impetus for this type of gathering came from some DSP folks who have asked to talk about common issues. She stated that if the group planned to form, they would need a structure and by-laws.

- Introductions were made of everyone at the meeting:

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| Ann E. Loyd | Macon State College |
| Martha Wisbey | Board of Regents |
| Evelyn Oliver | Georgia Southwestern State University |
| Joy Norman | Columbus State University |
| Andrea Roberson | Dalton State College |
| Annie Sims | ABAC |
| Sharon Komanecky | Waycross College |
| Allen Chastain | Middle Georgia College |
| Jesse Abbott | Gainesville College - Oconee Campus |
| Carol Pope | Kennesaw State University |
| Michael Anderson | Georgia Perimeter College |
| Jacqueline Awe | Savannah State University |
| Rodney Pennamon | Georgia State University |
| Teresita Warren | Georgia State University |
| Louise Bedrossian | Clayton State University |
| Tonya Lam | Board of Regents |
| Jerry Haywood | Fort Valley State University |
| Tunji Adesesan | Georgia Perimeter College-Clarkston |
| Nancy Crisp-Reese | Georgia Perimeter College- Decatur |
| Karen Heath Green | Georgia Perimeter College-Newton |
| John Spencer | Georgia Southwestern State University |
| Dale Hartenburg | Medical College of Georgia |

- Christopher Lee, Director of AMAC (alternative Media Access Center) from Athens, Georgia presented the services that his office can provide to each participating school. He has the capacity to offer alternative texts in Braille, MS Word Documents, PDF files, Audio only and text/audio formats. His office is working with publishers and RFB & D to get books fast and transferred into alternative texts for students. Christopher offered to have his staff do training of technology related needs for any student with disabilities.
- Martha conducted a conversation with the group about how they would like to be structured and if they felt it was necessary to be a Regents Advisory Committee. Most felt that this would be a good way to have a voice to the regents if necessary on issues related to students with disabilities.
- The By-Laws were roughly drafted (see attached) and officers were elected: **Co-Chairs are Bonnie Martin at GPC and Louise Bedrossian at Kennesaw, the secretary is Jesse Abbott at Gainesville College.**

- A lengthy discussion about the cost and access to trained interpreters occurred and Carol Pope made some good suggestions along with Karen Green. Both seemed to be a good resource for help on this matter. We briefly discussed how interpreters were being paid and several folks said they hired them on staff and others said they just submitted the paperwork with the rationale for the expertise. At this point, no need for competitive bidding has been discussed at USG and we would defend this type of requirement due to the low numbers, needed expertise and high costs.
- Fees can be waived for students who are part-time but each institution may add fees if it is necessary for student learning (technology, etc...)
- Study Abroad came up and it was decided we could invite a speaker to discuss this issue with us in the future so we can better respond to students with disabilities wanting to study abroad. Some programs that are created as a part of a students' major field and done by the University have to make sure they can provide appropriate accommodations.
- It was decided that the group would try to use the listserv more to communicate and that the meetings would be annual, preferably in the summer.

The listserv is:

RACCCDSP@listserv.uga.edu

- Good first meeting. Adjourned at 2:00p.m. Once again, thank you Ann Loyd and her staff!