## Foreign Language Academic Advisory Committee to the Board of Regents (FLAAC)

**Monday, April 12, 2010**  
**Macon State College**  
**Macon, Georgia**

Chair: Jana Sandarg  
Chair-elect: Darren Broome  
Secretary: Eric Kartchner

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9:00 Welcome, introductions & approval of agenda (unanimous)

9:06 **Jon Valentine**, Department of Education
- Reports on Georgia’s leadership in the establishment K-12 proficiency standards.
- Lingua folio: Program that focuses on what student can do with the language; breaks the process down year by year. Follows a US version of the European Union’s Common Frame of Reference. Will track each student’s proficiency progress (based on the proficiency guidelines of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages [ACTFL]) and instruct them regarding the steps that they should take in order to improve their abilities (and their grade).
  - [www.georgiastandards.org](http://www.georgiastandards.org) (Elluminate: webinar)
- Four dual language programs in GA now, three of these public. Career tech tracks for high schools (particularly in Spanish for medical and law enforcement tracks).
- Initiation of Leadership Institute for K-12 foreign language (FL) teachers.
- Talking points for convincing local school boards to add K-5 FL programs: (See ACTFL’s website: [www.actfl.org](http://www.actfl.org)) SALSA works in tandem with the regular curriculum.
- Data on enrollments in specific languages available on DOE website (Spanish-75%, French-16%, Latin-4%, German-3%, others-less than 1%).
- Big push for use of French in Africa, especially for military use (“Tough guys take French”).
- Georgia Virtual often used by schools to expand language offerings.
  - [www.gadoe.org](http://www.gadoe.org), select subject “World Languages”

9:50 **Linda Noble**: Update from University System of Georgia (USG) and Georgia legislation
- State budget fluid, not finalized.
- Stimulus will expire soon.
- “300 list”: not definitive; Board of Regents (BOR) will have ultimate approval authority on any cuts.
- Albany State administrators have explored cutting FL. Cutting a program in order to actually accumulate savings is a complex and lengthy process. Best to be patient as we wait for the budget to finalize; no need to panic. FLAAC may want to issue a statement to the BOR on the importance of FL.
- What kind of contingency planning is occurring at the BOR level? Nothing. These decisions pushed down to the institutional levels, even to the department.
- No changes in formula funding currently contemplated.
- **Bill Griffin**: Why is FL so conspicuously absent from the common Core? Will the BOR ensure that FL remain healthy?
- **Linda Noble**: Indirectly, as we ensure that student and program outcomes are met. The BOR ultimately intends to get rid of the Regents Reading and Writing Tests; they are mostly concerned with assessment with regard to the Core.
“Creating a globally aware citizen” will be the learning outcome that must be met; if institutions can do this without FL, they would need to make an excellent case; it is possible, in theory, although highly unlikely.

- Re Regents Test: BOR allows for exemptions to the Regents Test.
- Re Office of International Education. Linda Noble is the contact for International Education for the time being. Resurrection of the office unlikely in the near future. Bernice: Lots of frustration on the part of FL educators on account of the loss of this office.
- International Studies direction varies tremendously from university to university.
- Linda Noble oversees USG study abroad programs.
- Stipends for faculty that lead study abroad programs: No uniform compensation rate across the System, nor will the System mandate a particular rate. FLAAC may consider drafting a position statement on the issue, which the System could share with the USG Provosts Council.
- Office of International Education issued numerical targets for study abroad; that practice continues, which suggests, indirectly, that quantity is more important than quality.
- Who will be our FLAAC rep and the Int. Ed. rep. next year? Probably Linda Noble: contact info: linda.noble@usg.edu

10:50 Break

11:00 Set time and place for FLAAC meeting 2011:
- Options: Jekyll or Macon
- Discussion: Cost, time, distance (Macon); interaction (Jekyll)
- Place: Macon State College
- Date: April 11, 2011

11:09 Merger of community colleges and technical schools (Jana Sandarg)
- No extended effort to merge community colleges and tech school; issue resolved through better articulation of courses between the two systems.

11:15 New Program Review Process: Update on Georgia Tech proposal for a Bachelor of Science in Applied Languages and Cultural Studies (Jana Sandarg)
- **Jana Sandarg**: Strong proposal, worth supporting
- **Bernice Nuhfer-Halten**: Is the Kennesaw degree at all similar to GA Tech’s? Bill: yes.
- **Linda Noble**: When proposing a new program, present the minimum requirements thoroughly.
- **Linda Noble**: FLAAC’s feedback to the review process was extremely valuable and appreciated.
- **Arnold Odio**: Can other institutions also create umbrella degrees (for example, a bachelor’s in modern languages rather than a specific language)? Answer: yes.
• Discussion on the use of literature (history, culture) to teach foreign language.

• **Official Statement:** As FLAAC representatives, we appreciate the opportunity afforded by the USG to review Georgia Tech’s proposal and are pleased that our suggestions were incorporated. We lend our unanimous support to Georgia Tech’s proposed BS in Applied Languages and Cultural Studies.

11:35 Lunch

12:30 Nomination and election of next secretary: Joe Johnson, Clayton State U.

12:30 Use of non-tenure-track faculty (lecturers)

• Valdosta State: Phase out of all temporary faculty; replaced with full-time lecturers (4-4 teaching load).

• **General question:** Is there a sense that some institutions are replacing tenure-track positions with lectureships?

• **Answers:** Valdosta has not experienced this.

• **Linda Noble:** Since 2007, State Universities must hire only those with terminal degrees or the equivalent into tenure-track positions.

• **Gary Schmidt:** West Georgia not allowed to hire lecturers from outside the institution.

• **Linda Noble:** Brief history of the Lecturer in the USG. Lecturers are not tenure eligible. A responsibility of the individual institutions is to differentiate between tenure-track and lecturer workloads. Legally, these workloads must be different.

• **What are the benefits for lecturers?** Full benefits.

• **Part-time faculty must have less than a 49% workload (typically 3-2 teaching load max).**

• There is currently a System imposed institutional cap on lecturers: 20% of the ranked faculty (temporary faculty are not included in this cap).

• **General question:** What makes a university a university? Does it have to do with the number of colleges?

• **Linda Noble:** It is mission dependent.

1:00 Discussion on part-time faculty ("adjuncts")

• Part-time faculty pay varies greatly across the system. Each institution sets its own policies regarding hiring, retention, and pay of part-time faculty.

• Part-time faculty play an important role in our institutions.

• Many of the metropolitan schools use a large number of part-timers.

• There are Teacher Retirement System (TRS) restrictions to consider when using TRS-retired faculty as part-timers.

• Sometimes the hiring of part-time faculty is tied to the timing of the release of the USG budget.

1:00 Testing for FL credits: institutional & external, transferability (**Eric Skipper**)

• Should students be allowed to obtain credit through a proficiency examination? If so, how?

• Should schools give credit for languages that they don’t teach?
• Should sign language be allowed to count as a foreign language?
• Will institutions across the system honor language credits granted through credit by proficiency by another institution?
• None of these issues were resolved—discussion only.

1:25 Foreign Language Association of Georgia (FLAG): Position paper supporting FL for all students (Carol Wilkerson)
• Motion to endorse this paper. Unanimous support.

1:34 Certificate in Spanish Translation at Gainesville State (Eric Skipper)
• Considerations: Who will teach the courses? Will they be certified translators themselves?
• Nature of the Certificate: The certificate will have only 12 hours of upper-division credit, fewer, therefore, than a typical minor. Linda Noble suggests that this may be the type of stand-alone certificate that needs system approval.
• Does a certificate need BOR approval? No. System approval? Stand-alone certificates, yes; certificates embedded in an already existing program, no.

2:00 Study Abroad
• Study abroad directors should be compensated.
• Linda Noble: It will be difficult to convince the Board to mandate a compensation policy for the System. This is most likely to be left to the discretion of each institution.
• Tuition pays for teaching (or directorship); program fees pay for the travel stipend.
• Dalton State has a program to Puerto Rico.
• Study abroad does not need System approval. The institutional presidents approve study abroad programs and notify the System.
• The committee discussed examples of various programs.

2:15 Other
• The FLAAC distribution list limited to the official BOR list.
• Expect a Language Lab Survey from Pedro Maligo.
• Recognition of retirees: Elena Odio, Ellen Blossman.
• Condolence cards are appropriate for Lynne McClendon, whose husband, Tom, recently passed away.
• Ellen Friedrick, SCOLT teacher of the year.
• 20th-century Spanish Poetry expert sought for participation in a text mining project. Interested participants should contact Bernice Nuhfer-Halten.
• Job opening at Kennesaw; lecturer, $45,000, 5-4 teaching load; background in K-12 teaching observation.
• Use FLAAC listserver to post jobs, calls for papers, conferences, grant opportunities, workshops, etc.
• North Georgia College and State University will be hiring a number of instructors of Less Commonly Taught Languages this summer.
2:30 Adjourn