### Student Advisory Council (SAC) Fall Conference Minutes

**Friday, October 19-Saturday, October 20, 7:15pm-9:30pm; 8:30am-3:30pm**  
**Valdosta State University**

**University System of Georgia (USG) Campuses and Representatives in Attendance**

| Willie Dean | Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College |
| Kaitlen Fulp | Armstrong Atlantic State University |
| Tony Wright | Atlanta Metropolitan College |
| Isaac McAdams | Augusta State University |
| Keisha Tulley | Bainbridge College |
| Williams Azubike | Clayton State University |
| Alex Acton | Columbus State University |
| Nathan Smith | Dalton State College |
| Brandon Moore | East Georgia College |
| Tricia Batchelor | Gainesville State College (Gainesville) |
| Todd Rice | Gainesville State College (Oconee) |
| Ryan Greene | Georgia College & State University |
| Amanda McCollum | Georgia Highlands College |
| Chervon Pannell | Georgia Perimeter College (Clarkston) |
| Brandon Bragg | Georgia Perimeter College (Newton) |
| Brandon Cook | Georgia Southern University |
| Alex Smith | Georgia Southwestern State University |
| Tiffani Rose Brown | Georgia State University |
| Wes York | Gordon College |
| Tracey Carter | Kennesaw State University |
| John Money | Macon State College |
| Eddie Lovett | Middle Georgia College (Cochran) |
| Shannon Hudson | Middle Georgia College (Dublin) |
| Phil Metzer | Middle Georgia College (Eastman) |
| Sarah Witherington | North Georgia College & State University |
| Candi Williams | South Georgia College |
| Kevin Moss | Southern Polytechnic State University |
| Michael Naghshineh | University of Georgia |
| Joshua Copeland | University of West Georgia |
| Jonathan Stroble | Valdosta State University |
| Iris Shanklin | Atlanta Metropolitan College |
| Eddie Howard | Augusta State University |
| Arlene Cook | Bainbridge College |
| Jenny Greayerbiehl | Board of Regents |
| Tonya Lam | Board of Regents |
| Regent Potts | Board of Regents |
| Jeff Jacobs | Clayton State University |
| Angela Avery-Jones | Georgia Perimeter College (Clarkston) |
A welcome and introductions were given by Student Government President, Jonathan Stroble. Mr. Stroble introduced the President of Valdosta State University, Ronald Zaccari.

President Zaccari welcomed SAC to Valdosta State University and acknowledged the importance of the Student Government Association on Valdosta’s campus, specifically Mr. Stroble’s contribution to campus, as well as other Student Government Associations across the state.

President Zaccari then discussed the “To The Point Task Force on Enhanced Advising Processes” document. President Zaccari introduced the EAP Task Force as one of the ten task forces appointed by Chancellor Davis last year. The topic of academic advising was also something that the 2006-2007 SAC decided was an important topic and formed a committee to look at academic advising.

President Zaccari explained that the EAP Task Force was charged by Chancellor Davis to examine the current academic advising processes taking place throughout the University System of Georgia and to formulate appropriate recommendation to improve the quality and effectiveness of advising at all USG institutions.
President Zaccari referred to the previous meeting with the SAC Committee responsible for academic advising at Atlanta Metropolitan College in February 2007 and discussed that meeting’s influence on the current recommendations made by the EAP Task Force.

President Zaccari reviewed the EAP Task Force original findings about the three primary advising models found throughout the USG: (1) decentralized-professional or faculty advisors housed within the academic departments; (2) centralized-professional and faculty advisors housed in an advising center; or (3) combination-students are advised within their academic unit and later transferred to an advising center, or vice versa.

President Zaccari also reviewed the ten recommendations the EAP Task Force have created after completing all of their research and talking to students and the SAC. The recommendations are:

- Adopt a clear academic advising mission statement that corresponds to the institution’s mission and includes appropriate goals and student outcomes.
- Define and post an advising administrative structure to assure consistency and coherency in advising across all academic departments of the institution.
- Develop a policy that mandates undergraduate students meet with their advisors before registering. The frequency of these advising meetings are to be determined by each institution.
- Develop an online advising handbook at each institution that includes: mission statement; responsibilities of academic advisors and students; list of advising tools; proactive/intrusive advising information; and referral information and links.
- Require academic departments to provide and post comprehensive advising plans, including such elements as degree requirements, program map, roles and responsibility of advisors and students, and training and assessment plans.
- Ensure institutions post an advanced two-year course schedule to facilitate advising and academic planning.
- Require academic training for all individuals responsible for undergraduate academic advising, including professional advisors, faculty, and academic department chairs and deans.
- Purchase a system-wide technology process to improve advising communication, the advising process, and assessment of advising programs.
- Mandate that all USG institutions annually assess their advising effectiveness in each of the following categories:
  - Individual advisors and advising units
  - Proactive/intrusive advising information
  - Referrals
  - Intervention with academic difficulties
  - Proactive communication
  - Student satisfaction
  - Course advising accuracy
- Require USG institutions to annually evaluate the advising effectiveness of all faculty and professional advisors as part of their annual review, which will be included as part of the promotion and tenure processes for faculty advisors.
President Zaccari shared that he believes the next step for the EAP Task Force will be to create action steps for the ten recommendations and to travel to each of the 35 USG institutions to review the information from his taskforce with the President and other constituencies. President Zaccari said he believes the ultimate goal for the task force is to find and recommend the use of one software package for all 35 USG institutions to use.

Lastly, President Zaccari encouraged the SAC students to pick up the charge on their campus—to share the information he presented and provide the EAP Task Force feedback about the plan.

Saturday, October 20, 2007

8:30am-9:00am Breakfast

9:00am-9:30am Icebreaker
   Iris Shanklin, Atlanta Metropolitan College

9:30am-10:30am Review of 2007-2008 SAC Goals/Committee Work
   Jeff Jacobs, Clayton State University

Mr. Jacobs reviewed the SAC Goals established at the 2007 Summer SAC Retreat. The goals committees then broke up to converse about their goals.

10:45am-11:30am SAC Committee Reports
   Jeff Jacobs, Clayton State University

Each committee gave an update about what they had accomplished so far this semester, what they are currently working on and what they anticipate working on prior to the January SAC meeting. Please see the SAC Goals 07-08 document and the accompanying PowerPoint presentations for additional information about what was presented.

11:30am-12:30pm 2007 USG Strategic Plan Presentation
   Regent Willis Potts

Regent Potts reviewed the USG Strategic Plan document (http://www.usg.edu/regsents/strategic/strategic_plan2007.pdf) and answered questions asked by the members of SAC about the strategic plan:

- Goal One: Renew excellence in undergraduate education to meet students’ 21st century educational needs.
- Goal Two: Create enrollment capacity to meet the needs of 100,000 additional students by 2020.
- Goal Three: Increase the USG’s participation in research and economic development to the benefit of a global Georgia.
- Goal Four: Strengthen the USG’s partnerships with the state’s other educational agencies.
- Goal Five: Maintain affordability so that money is not a barrier to participation in the benefits of higher education
- Goal Six: Increase efficiency, working as a system.
Regent Potts also discussed the relationship between the strategic plan and SAC’s goals for this year and encouraged SAC to form subgroups revolving around each of the strategic plan goals as a way SAC can participate in this plan.

Regent Potts encouraged SAC to think about the role they can play in making the strategic plan goals a reality. He also assigned SAC a specific assignment: to dig up data about where the USG institution’s tuition rates fall among the 15 southern state’s public institution’s tuition. Once that data is found Regent Potts wants SAC to engage in a dialogue about what the state of Georgia should do about tuition rates (January 2008 SAC Conference).

Regent Potts ultimately asked SAC to gather data about all of the anecdotal information and complaints they have in an effort to legitimize their goals.

**12:30pm-1:30pm**  **Lunch/Institutional Round Tables**  
*Eddie Howard, Augusta State University*

SAC broke up into institutional sizes and discussed issues common to their institutions in an effort to make students aware of the issues faced by each institution size.

**1:30pm-2:15pm**  **What is Your Institution Doing?**  
*Angela Avery-Jones, Georgia Perimeter College (Clarkston)*

SAC students shared institutional/organization best practices, campus updates, or innovative programs taking place on their campuses.

- **Atlanta Metropolitan College**: book loan program—working on continually funding that program, seminar on AIDS awareness (used movie called “Life Support”), this upcoming week 10-21-07 will be “Spirit Week” on campus
- **Bainbridge College**: problems with reaching students and working to get faculty more involved with student life on campus, have a Halloween/Fall Festival coming up this week 10-21-07, have a “fall ball”—similar to high school prom
- **Gainesville State College (Oconee)**: changing names of emails to actual name instead of using 924 numbers, working on a book exchange with the other Gainesville campuses, working on transportation between the three campuses, building recreational space (to encourage more involvement), working on encouraging more participation with SGA (only have ten people)
- **Georgia Southern University**: candidate’s forum for the upcoming city council, homecoming week this upcoming week 10-21-07, library construction, putting up a new residence hall (will have its own built-in community), campus going completely wireless, working on creating incentives for Senate members
- **Georgia State University**: SGA legislation working on: fall break (around Thanksgiving or Labor Day), effectiveness of student newspaper, two fees: student activity fee and athletic fee (goal-a football team)
- **Gordon College**: Creation of two SAC Research Committees and Outreach Committee (raises awareness of SGA and completes community service projects)
• **Kennesaw State University**: over 20,000 students-moving to a more traditional population, building more residence halls on campus, encouraging more collaboration among student groups, been surveying students to receive feedback, currently focused on homecoming, working on getting a football team on campus, passed a bill last year for fall break, but it was not passed in the faculty senate-will be addressing that again next year

• **Middle Georgia College (Eastman)**: surveyed students about how to engage them on campus and found that taking students on tours of potential career facilities and asking company members to come to campus and serve on panels to give information about their careers, working on interactive lab (open in January) to encourage students to engage outside of the classroom

• **North Georgia College & State University**: new residency policy will be implemented (in Fall 2008), building new residence halls, construction on campus: parking deck and recreation center, looking at increasing the technology fee

• **Valdosta State University**: very land-locked institution-dealing with issues revolving around that, just celebrated a centennial celebration-SGA bought a clock tower to recognize that accomplishment, currently have a lot of construction on campus

Not all institutions were able to share what was happening on their campus with the larger group. The following institutions submitted information in written form:

• **Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College**: new technology student center opened, Halloween carnival, moonlight mania (kick-off basketball game), Ms. ABAC Pageant 2008, Centennial Birthday 1908-2008

• **Armstrong Atlantic State University**: painting crosswalks for pedestrians, new student center-breaking ground summer 2008

• **Augusta State University**: looking to restructure the humanities program from zero--four-hour interdisciplinary courses to two--three-hour discipline specific courses, looking to institute a new constitution

• **Clayton State University**: SAC building and new student housing August 30th

• **Columbus State University**: student concerns: advising, monetary: new restrictions on funding, increasing visibility and accountability

• **Dalton State University**: new president search, beginning BA’s in accounting, biology and mathematics

• **Gainesville State (Gainesville)**: community service: fall carnival for kids, star tree, blood drive, driving Ms. Daisy

• **Georgia College and State University**: connect ed-text emergency, message board system for student and campus advertising, book prices-faculty and book requisition, new student structure and wellness center, restructuring campus website with student input

• **Georgia Perimeter College (Clarkston)**: campus forum meet and greet your SGA, trying to reach the non-traditional students, more community service events, more community events, Transfer Admission Guarantee (TAG)

• **Georgia Perimeter College (Decatur)**: Decatur increase, TAG, recycling, community service, Lawrenceville losing 6,000 building

• **Georgia Southwestern State University**: working on ways to know who is on SGA (town hall meetings, wearing name tags, and updating the webpage), new parking lot, opened new residence halls, Fall Fest, created lounges for commuter students
• **Macon State College**: new BA program in history, new building for the business school, strengthening teacher-student relationships (surveys), SGA sponsored dinner for teachers-served by students

• **Middle Georgia College (Dublin)**: community service outreach: Ronald McDonald House, VA Hospital

• **South Georgia College**: Quality Enhancement Program, campus activities, renovating Clower Activities Center, new residence hall (Tiger Village), renovating science departments

• **Southern Polytechnic State University**: campus re-design-lots, entrances, buildings (new, expansions), spreading name

• **University of Georgia**: within SGA: football tickets for everyone, campus lighting, safety, advising: peer advising, registration, Dead Week possibility, statewide: student regent, [www.georgiastudentopinion.com](http://www.georgiastudentopinion.com)

• **University of West Georgia**: passed a student fee of $60, building a health and wellness building (state funded), 365 acres donated to campus by the city, another 1100 acres promised to be donated if they do good things with the first 365, online courses proven to rank #1

**2:15pm-2:30pm  Committee Task Wrap-Up**  
*Jeff Jacobs, Clayton State University*

Joshua Copeland and Tracey Carter shared their experience attending the October Board of Regents (BOR) Meeting. Mr. Copeland and Ms. Carter specifically discussed academic advising, distance learning technology information (Georgia On My Line), and the health workforce initiative that was presented at the BOR meeting.

More information about the October BOR meeting can be found on the Board of Regents website ([http://www.usg.edu/regents/minutes/2007/](http://www.usg.edu/regents/minutes/2007/)) once the minutes are approved at the November BOR meeting.

**2:30pm-2:45pm  Evaluations and Wrap-Up**  
*Jenny Greyerbieh, Board of Regents*

Jenny Greyerbieh thanked Valdosta State University for hosting the Fall 2007 SAC Conference, specifically SGA President Jonathan Stroble.

Evaluations about the conference were filled out.

A reminder was made about the Spring 2008 SAC Meeting, which will be held on January 25-26, 2008.

**3:00pm-3:30pm  Valdosta State University Campus Tour**  
*Jonathan Stroble, Valdosta State University*