

USG Committee on International Students and Scholars

January 27, 2012

1:00-3:00PM,

Georgia College Macon Center for Graduate and Professional Learning, Room 315

Meeting Minutes

Attending:

Dwight Call, Georgia College  
Sylvia Schell, UGA  
Marisa Atencio, Ga Tech  
Brett Reichert, Clayton State  
Gina Thurman, Augusta State  
Cheryl Park, Ga Gwinnett College  
Eric Sun, Macon State  
Angela Cooley, Ga Perimeter  
Maggie Emily-Hall, Albany State University  
Adam Johnson, Columbus State University  
Heather Housley, Georgia State University  
Jason Wynn, Georgia College  
Tanya Grubbs, Ga Southern  
Eli Cohen, Ga Southern  
Kristin Etheridge, Univ of West Ga  
Tracy Marshall, Fort Valley State Univ  
Baogang Gao, Clayton State University  
Lauren Braun, Valdosta State University

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. Minutes for September 23, 2011 Meeting Approved
3. USG Health Insurance Update  
Dwight Call gave an update on the bid process for a new USG student health insurance plan to begin in the 2012-13 academic year. The USG SHIP RFP has just been posted. The hope for the new plan is to provide better services at a lower cost. The committee hopes that the new plan will be approved by April 2012 and the new plan would then go into effect Fall 2012.

You can access all of the RFP documents at the following DOAS Procurement link:  
<https://ssl.doas.state.ga.us/PRSapp/maintanence?eQHeaderPK=111134&source=publicViewQuote>

The RFP Evaluation Committee is comprised of Tonya Lam, Cori Loftis, Beth Jones, Dwight Call, Lynn McCraney, Tom Sheer, and Paul Ferguson. Below is the RFP schedule of events taken from the e-RFP document:

Description	Date	Time
Release of eRFP	As Published on the Georgia Procurement Registry ("GPR") 1/10/12	N/A.
Deadline for written questions sent via email to the Issuing Officer referenced in Section 1.5.	1/20/12	5:00 p.m. ET
Responses to Written Questions	1/27/12	5:00 p.m. ET
Proposals Due/Close Date and Time	As Published on the GPR - 2/14/12	3:00 p.m. ET
Initial Proposal Evaluation Completed (on or about)	2 to 3 Weeks after Closing	N/A
Validated Proposal Evaluation Completed (on or about)	03/23/12	
Negotiations Invitation Issued (emailed) (on or about); discretionary process	03/24/12	TBD
Negotiations with Identified suppliers (on or about); discretionary process	03/27/12	TBD
Final Evaluation (on or about)	03/30/12	N/A
Finalize Contract Terms	04/06/12	N/A
Notice of Intent to Award* [NOIA] (on or about)	04/09/12	N/A
Notice of Award [NOA] (on or about)	04/23/12 (10 calendar days after NOIA)	N/A

4. Sharing Best Practices for Arrival/Campus Services for International Students (housing, airport pickups, etc.)

Updates from our campuses about how they transport students to campus. Suggestions included: Pre-arrival registration (arrival notification forms); charging students arrival (and/or orientation) fee; charging administrative fee to partner universities/organizations to coordinate services; working with local community and student groups (provide “goodie” bags, assist with transport); taxi services; close work with residence life/housing on campuses

5. International Admissions Issues:

- a) International Recruitment Agents- campuses shared experiences with use of recruiters/agents. Questions were raised about expense/cost (10% tuition for first year), incentives (waivers/scholarships), and trends. Many other states higher ed systems are beginning to use agents (SUNY, Ohio). There doesn't appear to be any BoR policy prohibiting use of agents. Heather Housley has been trying to seek clarification from the BoR Office, but has had no response as of yet. The only federal regulation against use of agents applies to students who qualify for financial aid. Suggestion was made to form a sub-committee to research/explore the ethical (unethical) implications of international student agent/recruiters. There are many different types of partnerships with agents, some where the student pays and others where the college pays a commission.

The National Association of College Admission Counseling (NACAC) is currently examining the ethical practice of using commissioned agents:

<http://www.nacacnet.org/ABOUTNACAC/POLICIES/Pages/IntlIncentiveComp.aspx>

Recommended resource American International Recruitment Council:

<http://airc-education.org/>

- b) Math Requirement in 3.2.6 of BoR Academic & Student Affairs Handbook/BoR Compass Placement Test-- Campuses shared admissions requirements. Some schools do require mathematics (via SAT test scores), while others administer COMPASS placement tests. [http://www.usg.edu/academic\\_affairs\\_handbook/section3/handbook/3.2\\_freshmen\\_requirements/](http://www.usg.edu/academic_affairs_handbook/section3/handbook/3.2_freshmen_requirements/)

- c) English Language Proficiency Requirement- campuses shared experienced with students and English Language Proficiency. A suggestion was made to have a future meeting topic about working with Exchange Visitors.

6. Announcements and Upcoming Events:

- Georgia Association of International Educators (GAIE) February 8-10, 2012 – Savannah:  
<http://gaieinfo.blogspot.com/>
- Georgia International Leadership Conference (GILC) February 24-26, 2012 – Rock Eagle:  
<https://sites.google.com/a/columbusstate.edu/gilc/>
- NAFSA Advocacy Day March 20-21, 2012 – Washington, DC:  
[http://www.nafsa.org/public\\_policy.sec/grassroots\\_advocacy/advocacy\\_day/](http://www.nafsa.org/public_policy.sec/grassroots_advocacy/advocacy_day/)
- NAFSA Annual Conference May 27 – June 1, 2012 – Houston, TX:  
<http://www.nafsa.org/annualconference/>
- NAFSA Bi-Regional (Regions III and VII) Conference October 14-18, 2012—Puerto Rico

**Next Meeting, September 14, 2012, 1:00pm, at the Georgia College Macon Center**