

BOR Meeting – November 5, 2015

Present: Dorinda Dowis, President, Jennifer Allen, Communications Officer, Peter Fenton, Emran Khan, Neal McIntyre, Michael Shapiro, Ron Hunter, Melchor de Guzman, John Siler, James Wright, David Jenks, Jason Armstrong, Karen Carter, Johnnie Dumas Myers, Anthony Fitzgerald, Brenda Sims Blackwell, Brittany Current, Louis Shepard, Marci Middleton, Michael Qualls, Charles Ochie, Sutham Cobkit, Steven Hougland

- Meeting called to order at 10:40 a.m. by Dorinda Dowis.
- Dorinda Dowis talked about the annual meeting of the BOR RAC groups held this past year.
- Dorinda Dowis introduced herself and Dr. Khan as the President Elect for 2017.
- Approval of the minutes – motion made by John Siler, and second by Karen Carpenter, motion passed.
- Comprehensive look at the system –
 - There is an athletic audit going on in the system.
- New business:
 - Jason from Darton State discussed the changes they wanted to make to Area F and thanked everyone for the feedback he received from the listserv.
 - There was some discussion about transferring courses from school to school at the 2000-3000 level. Some schools are taking 2000 level courses with grades of B or better as transfer courses for 3000 level courses. Schools are not consistent in how they are handling this. It appears that Registrar Offices are not allowing the schools to take the courses consistently across the board. There was mention that the BOR does allow 2000 level courses to transfer as 3000 level courses with grades of B or better in articulation.
 - There were questions about current consolidations and if institutions were hearing that they were consolidating.
 - Dorinda Dowis provided information on Columbus State University and the new President and Dean.
 - Dorinda Dowis asked if there is old business to discuss.
- Marci Middleton Middleton arrived to discuss BOR issues:
 - Key initiatives or tasks force items:
 - Data driven decision making
 - Partnerships
 - Accountability
 - What is happening in the BOR office in these areas?
 - Academic degree productivity – number of programs classified as low producing, not including certificates, etc. (see larger handout in print or electronic) – using certain minima criteria over a 3 year average than those programs were considered low producing and conversations were had with provosts to determine how and why these programs were low producing. What actions may be taken with these programs? Increase the productivity? Enhancing marketing? Partnerships? In early 2013, 642 programs were identified as low producing; in 2014, 382 were identified; and in 2015, 303 were identified. The number of programs were being reduced. By the 3rd year mark,

if the same programs were still flagged as low producing, the Chancellor is telling the schools that they need to engage in critical decisions on academic priorities and programs and resources and resource allocations. Programs may not be on endangered lists but they need to be reviewed closely.

- A question was asked about academic degree productivity and transferring students – how does a school consider this issue and make the arguments for continuing these programs. Marci Middleton made arguments for programs like Physics, industry specific programs, core curriculum type programs, etc.
- A question was asked about how a school that closes programs will be viewed by the system office – will this have a financial impact on the institution? Will they be viewed negatively for having to shut down a program? Resource allocation?
- A question was asked if CJ programs, in particular, were low producing (i.e., UGA). Marci Middleton stated that this involves institutional discussion and consideration.
- A question was asked about Albany State deactivating their program in spring 2016. Marci Middleton stated that there has not been a BOR mandate to deactivate programs that are low producing. Institutions are making those decisions. Once a decision is made to deactivate a program, an institution has two years max (although some go over the mark) to reflect, reactivate, etc. to make decisions about the programs. The school will teach out the students and provide critical advising to the students to assist them in graduating.
- A question was asked on how the thresholds were determined. Dr. Davis, Executive Vice-Chancellor, decided the thresholds would be 3 years.
- Post Approval Enrollment Monitoring – initiative in its third year – new programs where they watch enrollments three years out for projected enrollments from 2013 to 2014. About 51% of all new programs approved from 2010-2012 met projected enrollments in 2014. Projected enrollments are just that – projected. There are issues that affect enrollments and projections. There are no punitive actions if projections are not made. They also found that some programs were approved and the programs were never implemented.
- At the November board meeting, there should be a report about the number of programs terminated (30) and programs approved (38) by several institutions. Programs resulting from substantive changes – there have been a number of increases in A.S. degrees in technical colleges, especially in criminal justice, and in collaborations between universities and technical colleges. E-Major collaborative programs are growing, especially with Valdosta State University.
- Another development is Competency Based Education (CBE) – Mike Garn is a contact person on this – awarding credit for learning – how do we do this? How does it look? How does it tie to degrees? How does the system do this to oversee it and develop this? How does SACS oversee this and how do we comply with this? Rigor? Appropriate learning outcomes? There are pilot initiatives being used at Valdosta State – K-12 certificate and one at Columbus State.

- Distance learning – if you have a second or subsequent program that is totally online you are still required to notify the system office. If your program meets the 50% or more online mark it is needed to notify SACS and system office.
- Affordable Learning Georgia is a program to reduce the costs of college for students in Georgia. The costs of books is extremely high. If we could reduce the amount of books then we could save students money. This is an ongoing initiative to lower book costs for students – reduction of book costs, specifically in core courses. Has seen a savings of \$10 million. Goal is \$100 million.
- AACAUS, LEAP initiative – American Association of Colleges and Universities. Liberal Education America’s Promise. Liberal Arts colleges are signing on to support the liberal arts mission and to make it stronger.
- If there are students who have completed 60-65 credit hours but never earned a degree, the system office may reach out of these students and review their transcripts and award them a degree. It would be an Associate’s of Science or an Associate’s of Arts in Core Curriculum Degree.
- As of September, a compendium of all degrees were developed for the system. That information was shared with the chair of the BOR committee. That will be shared with the BOR committee.
- An initiative looking at high failure courses is occurring. If there is a high failure course your Provost may contact you about these types of courses if they are in your department.
- Core curriculum course changes go to the general education committee and then to the core curriculum at the BOR office.
- There have been changes to Teacher Preparation degrees. There has been a reintroduction of the Bachelor of Science in Education.
- Faculty Development – Ginger Durham – was an assistant to Mike Rogers – visit the BOR website for workshops in this area.
- Groups are looking at policies on transient students, homeschool students, and admission procedures.
- Key issues:
 - Safety and security on campus – women on campus
 - Consolidation – Georgia State University and Georgia Perimeter College, Kennesaw State University and Southern Polytechnic State, and Middle Georgia State is now Middle Georgia State University
 - At the October board meeting, there was a change in how core curriculums are recognized. If an institution wants an A.S. in a specific degree it will need board approval.
- A question was asked about Move On When Ready and the concerns about safety and security of minors and maturity of these students – student affairs office is working on guidelines and considering ages. There is a discussion about lower age limits and accountability.
- Questions were asked about how to make sure you are getting the emails for the BOR RAC.
- Meeting adjourned at 12:16 p.m.