

**Regents Advisory Committee on Learning Support**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**February 25, 2016, 12:30 – 4:00 PM**  
**Middle Georgia State University**  
**Foundation Board Room (Student Life Center)**  
**Minutes**

**Welcome**

Dr. Elizabeth Gassel Perkins, Chair (Darton State College), provided the welcome and called the meeting to order at 12:40. Lunch, introductions, and networking followed until the group discussion began at 1:10.

**Attendees**

| Name                     | Title   | Institution                |
|--------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Eric Sun                 | Assoc. Dean, College of Arts and Sciences               | Middle Georgia State       |
| Curtis Bailey            | Director Learning Support                               | Atlanta Metro St. College  |
| Deborah Manson           | Asst. Prof. English                                     | Perimeter College          |
| Robert Burrell           | Cood. Of Learning Support                               | Kennesaw State             |
| Dede deLaughter          | Director Learning Support                               | UNG                        |
| Grace Fleming            | Senior Advising   | Armstrong State            |
| Donald Pearl             | Director Academic Success                               | GA Tech                    |
| Rosie Petties            | Director Learning Support                               | Fort Valley State          |
| Carol Cohen              | Director Advising Center                                | Georgia State University   |
| Vince Postell            | Cood. Of Learning Support                               | Dalton State University    |
| Michele Stewart          | Learning Support Faculty                                | Gordon State College       |
| Alicia Roberson          | Director of Centralized Advising                        | Valdosta State University  |
| Melody Shumaker          | Cood. Of Learning Support                               | Columbus State             |
| Masi Ann Roberts         | Dir. Of Ctr for Aca. Success                            | CSU                        |
| Mary Ann Goldwire        | Interim Dir. Academic Success                           | Savannah State             |
| Da'Mon Andrews           | Asst. Prof. Math  | East Georgia State College |
| Barbara Brown            | Asst. VC of Transitional & General Education            | System Office              |
| Teresa McClure           | Student Relations Cood.                                 | UGA                        |
| Elizabeth Gassel Perkins | Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences                  | Darton State College       |
| Mackenzie Tatum          | Transitional Studies and Academic Retention Coordinator | Darton State College       |

## Group Discussion and Questions

Special Guest: Dr. Barbara Brown

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Transitional and General Education  
University System of Georgia

## Legend

Information present on the agenda

Minutes and answers reflected from the meeting

Answers from Dr. Barbara Brown

- Transition from COMPASS to Accuplacer
  - What updates do we have on implementation? Compass will be gone on November 30, 2016. If student is admitted on or after January 1, 2017, you must use the new EPI/MPI calculations.
  - When can we fully transition? Any time you are ready.
  - When will we be given guidance on cut scores or how the EPI/MPI are calculated with Accuplacer? Data from Accuplacer should be able to be placed into Banner by this Summer at the latest. Dr. Brown will check with Ga Best on how the Accuplacer scores converted into Compass will look in Banner.
  - Has anyone begun using Accuplacer already? If so, do you have any advice for the transition from COMPASS to Accuplacer? Some schools had transitioned to Accuplacer, but no specific advice was discussed.
  - How will the Accuplacer Scores be entered into the Banner System? Entered as Accuplacer or converted to COMPASS? Converted to Compass. The concern is that if Accuplacer scores are converted to COMPASS it will appear in years to come that the student actually took the COMPASS. This will change data and in essence falsify the student record. Dr. Brown will check with Ga Best on how the Accuplacer scores converted into Compass will look in Banner. There will be a place to enter Accuplacer scores in the future. There were several questions about how we would be able to tell a difference between an actual COMPASS score and a converted score from Accuplacer. However, the problem will be a non-issue after the initial year, as students who did not exit learning support will have to retest if they have been out for over a year.
  - Can COMPASS and Accuplacer scores be mixed for admission? Yes. (Also, if multiple SAT/ACT scores are provided, the highest will be used in the new EPI/MPI – see SOATEST priority document from Dr. Brown for more information).
  - What will the system retest policy be for Accuplacer? No system retest policy. I will SUGGEST one if desired. Currently, many institutions allow one retest for COMPASS at the student's expense.
  - Will COMPASS scores that placed a student out of LS ever expire? If not, how long will COMPASS scores be good? Recommend a year.
  - What will the cut scores be for Accuplacer? We have cut scores for Placement Indices, cut scores for Accuplacer are an interim measure. See document labeled ForLSAdvCommMtg.xlsx for more information.
- EPI/MPI Placement Allows for greater access.
  - Who is using EPI/MPI for placement? Armstrong, College of Coastal Georgia, Dalton State, Fort Valley, Georgia Southern, Georgia Southwestern, Middle Georgia.

- How are you determining EPI/MPI – with forms created by Georgia Best? Another method? *At some institutions, the process was done in Banner. At others, the calculations were completed manually using the placement calculator.*
- For those currently using EPI/MPI formulas for placement, how are you calculating them? Who is calculating them (Admissions? Learning Support? IR? Math/English departments)? At what point in the application process? *A variety of answers were provided. At some institutions, the admissions or registrar’s office assisted. At others, the LS directors provided feedback to admissions. There will be forms created by Ga Best for Banner by this summer.*
- Also, for those currently using EPI/MPI, what is your range for placement into Foundations for English Composition? For non-STEM-pathway math? For STEM-pathway math? *These scores varied by institution. For some institutions, there was not a distinguishing difference between non-STEM math and STEM math placement scores. See document labeled ForLSAdvCommMtg.xlsx for more information and guidance.*
- Testing and Grading
  - What is your current retest policy? *If the student does not exit learning support and sits out for a year, the student must retest.*
  - Which campuses use a pass/fail grading system [instead of A, B, D, F] for the MATH 0999/0998 co-requisite labs, and which campuses use a pass/fail grading system for the ENGL 0999 co-requisite lab? *A variety of answers were provided, but a common theme seemed to be that most institutions used a pass/fail grading system for co-requisite courses.*
- Models for co-requisite remediation
  - Of those offering co-requisite coursework wherein students in, e.g., Section A of ENGL 0999 must also be enrolled in Section B of ENGL 1101, two questions: How are you putting these pairs on your schedule, and how are you assuring that students are appropriately enrolled? *Many schools do a manual audit process. Some institutions found a way to link the two courses. Some institutions used a process through their registrar’s office and some through their Banner administrator. Dr. Brown is going to investigate if there is a way for this to be completed more easily through ITS.*
  - What model are others using for co-requisite LS coursework? E.g., same professors for both Support and Gateway; different professors; specifically paired Support and Gateway sections; blended Gateway sections (w/students in Support as well as students who don’t have the requirement)? And how is that going? *A variety of answers were provided, and many of these topics were addressed through presentations at the GADE conference the next day.*
  - What are the credit hours of your ENGL 0999? Does anyone have advice for how to structure the Support courses so that students find value in them and don’t blow them off because they “don’t count”? *The courses ranged from 1-2 credit hours and 1-3 contact hours. Different strategies were recommended, included working closely with co-teachers (if different instructors), reminding them about co-requisite requirements and consequences of faculty withdrawal for non-attendance, etc.*
- Current placement scores using COMPASS
  - Who is still currently using COMPASS for placement? If so, what are your “rules” for placement into foundations-level coursework and co-requisite-level coursework? *These scores varied by institution. See document labeled ForLSAdvCommMtg.xlsx for more information and guidance.*

- Additional questions and concerns
  - It was recommended that the committee commit to meeting twice per year, especially as we continue to work through full implementation. The next meeting will be held in the fall (probably around October), and it was discussed that MGSU was a convenient location for all of the different institutions.
  - The committee decided to maintain the chair position as a January to January appointment. Elizabeth Gassel Perkins will retain the chair position until December 2016.
  - It was recommended that a chair-elect position be created to avoid the instance of having no chair when the current chair's tenure expired and to provide any needed back-up. Dede deLaughter was elected as chair-elect for 2016 and will take over as chair January 2017, when a new chair-elect will be selected.
  - In the absence of any official by-laws, Dr. Brown will send the committee a sample set of by-laws for us to amend and ratify at the next meeting.

**Treasury Update**

| Date      | Item                                       | Credit    | Debit    | Balance   |
|-----------|--|-----------|----------|-----------|
| 1/1/2016  | Beginning balance/deposit                  | \$1377.28 |          | \$1377.28 |
| 2/1/2016  | Non-member lunch payment                   | \$30.00   |          | \$1407.28 |
| 2/18/2016 | Middle Ga State Univ - Annual Meeting Cost |           | \$665.00 | \$742.28  |

- It was recommended that a permanent home for the remaining funds be located, so that a constant turn-over of funding would not be necessary each time the chair position changed. Clayton State University agreed to serve in this capacity. Once an account is set-up, E. Perkins will request the remaining funds be distributed. Clayton State's representative will work closely with the chair to ensure all expenses are paid as they relate to the business of the RACLS.

There being no further business, a motion to adjourn was entertained at 2:50 p.m.

**Attachments:**

- ForLSAdvCommMtg.xlsx
- SOATESTPriorityDocument.docx
- ChartingtheCourseV6122315.docx
- InterimGuidance122315.docx