



## Regents Advisory Committee on Academic Affairs February 18, 2015 Meeting Notes

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Dr. Risa Palm. Attendees were asked to stand and do self-introductions. The minutes of the Fall 2014 meeting were approved without corrections or additions. There were 3 ELI participants and 1 ACE Fellow present shadowing 4 Vice Presidents. (The list of attendees is included at the end of the meeting minutes.) Dr. Palm asked the State College sector to elect a representative to replace Dr. Margaret Venerable who is currently serving as interim President at Dalton State College.

Dr. Myk Garn presented a New Learning Models 2030 Taskforce update. (PowerPoint available in related documents [http://www.usg.edu/academic\\_planning/committees/view/academic\\_affairs](http://www.usg.edu/academic_planning/committees/view/academic_affairs)). The Taskforce is working on two issues: "What factors will be critical to the success of the University System and its stakeholders over the next 15 years?" And "What practices and business models will best guide and support learners, faculty and institutions in and to 2030?" The Taskforce has found a way through the use of technology to include over 500 participants in this conversation; 23% students and 42% faculty. The next webcast is March 24, 2015. The next committee meeting is April 22, 2015 and a summer symposium is being planned for 2015. For more information contact Dr. Garn at [myk.garn@usg.edu](mailto:myk.garn@usg.edu).

Dr. Barbara Brown presented recommendations from the General Education Committee for approval by RACAA. The recommendations by the General Education Council were all approved:

- Change to ASAH 2.4.5 Rules Regarding Inclusion in Areas A – F
- Change to ASAH 2.4.6 Approval Procedures
- Change to ASAH 2.4.7 Prerequisites and Exceptions
- Changes to Area F Course Guidelines
  - General Studies/Interdisciplinary Studies
- Changes to Area F Learning Objectives
  - Music
  - Physics
  - Teacher Education (includes small change to Course Guidelines)
  - Theatre
  - Visual Arts

For additional detail on the approved recommendations refer to Dr. Brown's presentation ([http://www.usg.edu/academic\\_planning/committees/view/academic\\_affairs](http://www.usg.edu/academic_planning/committees/view/academic_affairs)).

Dr. Gretchen Caughman, Dr. Marti Venn, Dr. Rob Page and Dr. Ken Harmon participated in a panel discussion on consolidation. Below are the take-a-ways from that conversation.

Dr. Caughman (Medical College of Georgia & Augusta State University merger),

- 1) as soon as possible begin reviewing institutional business operations – the merging of this area can be very challenging;
- 2) when addressing policies, committees were instructed to evaluate the policies and select the best practice, not just merge for the sake of merging;

- 3) document policies that impact faculty and students in an effort to protect them from changes;
- 4) recommends the use of a project management tool to assist in work production.

Dr. Marti Venn (Macon State College and Middle Georgia College merger),

- 1) push idea of 'new' institution, not just the sum of the parts
- 2) develop and adopt guiding principles with Deans and allow them to handle the work as much as possible
- 3) lesson learned – have a list of trained mediators to handle issues that might arise
- 4) tap each other (other institutions that have merged in the past) as resources

Dr. Robert Page (South Georgia College & Waycross College merger),

- 1) remember the importance of culture, culture matters
- 2) communicate change and the rationale for the change
- 3) special emphasis on data merge to meeting IPEDS requests and System request for information
- 4) coordination of SACSCOC assessment cycles

Dr. Ken Harmon (Kennesaw State University & Southern Polytechnic State University merger),

- 1) inform anyone who will not be a part of the new university as soon as possible, if something works out within the new university that's great but don't delay notification on the hopes that something will develop
- 2) academic program communication with students very important – should also have a mechanism developed to deal with unexpected, unanticipated issues quickly and effectively
- 3) keep Shelley (Shelley Nickel, Vice Chancellor for Strategic Planning) on speed dial
- 4) cannot start merging of institutional budgets soon enough (issues impacted tenure, promotion, curriculum, admissions, etc.)
- 5) Banner can be a real issue as institutions merge

Dr. Patricia Donat, (North Georgia College & State University & Gainesville State College merger) was not able to participate on the panel as planned. See her PowerPoint

([http://www.usg.edu/academic\\_planning/committees/view/academic\\_affairs](http://www.usg.edu/academic_planning/committees/view/academic_affairs)).

The P3 Housing presentation was presented by Ms. Susan Ridley, Mr. Jon Lucia, Mr. Marty Nance and Ms. Jennifer Dilley of the Corvias Group. See the PowerPoint

([http://www.usg.edu/academic\\_planning/committees/view/academic\\_affairs](http://www.usg.edu/academic_planning/committees/view/academic_affairs)).

Several USG institutions are working with Corvias Group to create campus housing that serves students as campus residence as well as creating learning spaces within the residence. Corvias Group has a standard of listening to what students want while also providing those environments that have proven successful in student retention. The reason for this presentation was to make VPAA's more aware of what's happening on the campuses and to encourage VPAA's to take a more active role in the development of campus housing.

Sector Reports:

Comprehensive – Dr. Kelli Brown stated that the following topics were discussed – Academic taskforce, graduate tracking.

State Colleges – Dr. Marti Venn shared that Dr. Robert Page was elected by the group to represent State Colleges on the RACAA Executive Committee.

Dr. John Gardner, President of President, Gardner Institute for Excellence in Undergraduate Education ([www.ingi.org](http://www.ingi.org)), provided an overview of the work he has done in the State of Georgia with USG institutions and highlighted the current work being done.

The focus of his work is focusing on student success in the gateway courses. Gateway courses are defined as those typically taken the first year of college. His research shows that those institutions that intentionally create and execute a strategic plan that includes retention are much more successful at retention than those who do not make retention a priority. Kennesaw State University's participation in the latest study was interrupted with consolidation. Dr. Gardner is open to working with USG institutions to share lessons learned and to help improve student success in gateway courses.

Around the Horn with Dr. Houston Davis:

- Extended an invitation to the group to work with Dr. Gardner if they were interested. This work intersects CCG and other initiatives already in progress like RPG. More information about this opportunity later.
- Encouraged institutions to submit their proposed out-of-state waiver policy (due May/June 2015) early. USG willing to look at drafts to provide guidance prior to final submission.
- SARA – USG is working with the Postsecondary Commission to expand/maintain the System wide agreement for the State of Georgia. (This was also mentioned by Dr. Mike Rogers).
- Funding formula will be discussed at the upcoming Presidents' Meeting (Friday 20, 2015). This bill is being intentionally delayed by the Georgia Legislature as they attempt to determine an appropriate base funding level.
- Proposal in legislature to rename the Technical College System of Georgia the Career College System
- Internships/coop opportunities/service learning– businesses are eager to engage students with these opportunities across all disciplines. This effort fits nicely with CCG.
- Soft skills acquisition – expect this issue to be part of a presidential charge – to identify how the institutions' students acquire/improve soft skills as a result of attending/graduating from college. Rob Anderson is working to gain a better understanding of how campuses are handling this issue. Attempting to ask the business community what soft skills are critical and use that information to inform institutions. This will be an ongoing conversation this year requiring a report out at the end of the year. On the Presidents' meeting agenda for Friday, February 20, 2015.
- Affordable Learning Georgia – all institutions participating develop an inventory for the top 50 courses, next goal the top 100 courses. Working to see if there is an affordable option to purchasing textbooks. College Algebra is a good example – little has changed through the years in this course.

- Reminded VPAAAs that when faculty attend BOR meetings, etc. the expectation is that the institution will pay for registration and reimburse for reasonable mileage and hotel expenses. RAC Faculty will meet on March 21, 2015.

Question/Answer

- Dr. Crafton asked about the ability to use course fee funds to pay student tutors. Pending changes to BOR policy seem to prohibit this practice. Will seek clarification from John Brown
- Dr. McCoy asked how eCore addresses the three overlays. eCore has already matched the overlays. Drs. Joyce, Noble and Rogers plan to do further analysis on this issue Monday (February 23, 2015)
- Dr. Teresa Joyce announced that the USG Retiree Council has been established with representation from most USG institutions. Their next meeting is March 6, 2015, 10am – noon.
- Dr. Venn asks if PE is a mandated requirement by the BOR. PEHER RAC meeting on Saturday – this request is coming from that committee, Dr. Ginger Durham will meet with them.

There was no new business.

Meeting was adjourned.

Meeting attendees:

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	INSTITUTION	
ANDERSON	ROBERT	UNIVERSTIY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA	
BAILEY	JESSICA	FORT VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY	
BARTELS	JEAN	GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY	
BROWN	KELLI	GEORGIA COLLEGE & STATE UNIVERSITY	
BROWN	BARBARA	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA	
BUTCHER	TINA	COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY	
CAUGHMAN	GRETCHEN	GEORGIA REGENTS UNIVERSITY	
CRAFTON	JOHN MICHAEL	UNIVERSITY OF WEST GEORGIA	
DARDEN	JOAN	DARTON STATE COLLEGE	
DAVIS	HOUSTON	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA	

DEMMITT	KEVIN	CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY	
DILLARD	GAIL	ABRAHAM BALDWIN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE	
DILLEY	JENNIFER	CORVIAS GROUP	
EISENACHER	GEOFF	CORVIAS GROUP	
FORD	WANDA	GEORGIA GWINNETT COLLEGE	ACE
GARDNER	JOHN	GARDNER INSTITUTE FOR EXCELLENCE IN UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION	
GARN	MYK	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA	
GOODMAN	TIM	EAST GEORGIA STATE COLLEGE	
HAMPTON	KAY	COLLEGE OF COASTAL GEORGIA	
HARMON	KEN	KENNESAW STATE UNIVERSITY	
HEARD	MICHAEL	ATLANTA METROPOLITAN STATE COLLEGE	
HOLMES	KIMBERLY	SAVANNAH STATE UNIVERSITY	
JOHNSON	CECIL	GEORGIA GWINNETT COLLEGE	ELI
JOYCE	TERESA	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA	
KNIGHTON	JEFFERY	GORDON STATE COLLEGE	
LUCIA	JONATHAN	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA	
MEYER	ANDREW	DALTON STATE COLLEGE	
McCOY	KELLY	GEORGIA SOUTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY	
MUMPER	RUSSELL	UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA	
NANCE	MARTY	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA	
NOBLE	LINDA	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA	
OJEMAKINDE	ABIODUN	ALBANY STATE UNIVERSITY	
PALM	RISA	GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY	
PERÉZ	ISABEL	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA	
PITTS	BERLETHIA	FORT VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY	ELI

POTTS	COLIN	GEORGIA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY	
RADFORD	DEANNA	DARTON STATE COLLEGE	ELI
RENICK	TIMOTHY	GEORGIA SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY	
RICHARDSON	LOIS	GEORGIA GWINNETT COLLEGE	
RIDLEY	SUSAN	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA	
ROBERTS	ELLA	COLUMBUS STATE UNIVERSITY	
ROGERS	MIKE	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA	
ROGERS	HUDSON	VALDOSTA STATE UNIVERSITY	
RYCHLY	CAROL	GEORGIA REGENTS UNIVERSITY	
SIZEMORE	JON	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA	
STRICKLAND	TONYA	BAINBRIDGE STATE COLLEGE	
THOMPSON-SELLERS	INGRID	GEORGIA PERIMETER COLLEGE	
VENN	MARTHA	MIDDLE GEORGIA STATE COLLEGE	
WATTERSON	REVA	GEORGIA HIGHLANDS COLLEGE	
WILLIAMS	FELITA	UNIVERSITY SYSTEM OF GEORGIA	