

Georgia Board of Regents Transfer Officers Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Date: November 19, 2019

Time: 2:00 – 3:00 PM

Opening: The meeting was called to order online via GoToMeeting at 2:00 PM.

RAC Members Present (in alphabetical order): Barbara Brown (BOR University System Office Liaison), Emily Cheek, Jill Drake (RAC Chair), Jason Emond, Melissa Frederick, Rebecca Gmeiner, Jeremy Gray, Sheri Gravett, Kristi Hayes, Jennifer Lee, Lisa Lesseig, Fiona Liken, Christine Ludowise, Pat McHenry, Dian Mitchell, Edward Rosser, Katie Taylor, Ame Wilkerson, Amy P. Willis, Rob Wingfield. There were six unidentified participants.

RAC Members Absent: (in alphabetical order): Jerry Baker, David Barron, Carol Cohen, Bryan Davis, Carolyn Denard, Jacqueline Duca, Nancy Grattan, Timothy Howard, Kristi Jones, Jennifer Jordan, Tarrah Mirus, George Norton, Kathy Platt, Reta Pikowsky, Lynette Saulsberry, Brenda Stopher, and Steven Stubbs.

New Business:

1. Verification of Current Transfer Officers Advisory Committee Members

The Committee members reviewed the list of Transfer Officers posted on the Board of Regents' website and contained in the meeting's PowerPoint. The question was asked if other relevant individuals heavily involved in transfer matters could also be added to the list serve. Dr. Brown confirmed that anyone could be added to the Transfer Officers RAC's list serve. However, only USG appointing officials (President or Provost) could add names to the Transfer Officers list posted and maintained by the USG/BOR. The question was asked as to whom the additional list serve names should be sent. Dr. Jill Drake shared that the names should be sent to her at jdrake@westga.edu. Dr. Brown affirmed that names should be sent to Jill Drake.

2. Thoughts on the Development of Common USG Policy

The question was posed to the Committee as to whether there was a desire to facilitate the development of common USG transfer policies. The Committee members did not voice a desired to do so at this time. It was suggested that the RAC members could pose this question to the transfer teams at each institution and ideas may arise out of those interactions. Jill Drake stated that any additional ideas generated from post-conference call meetings could be sent to her.

A specific question was asked about articulating courses in SHATAEQ, specifically as to the extent to which the Equivalent Repeat button in SHATAEQ was being utilized. The majority of those that commented indicated that did not. It was noted that Banner Workflow solutions exists. A follow-up question was asked about the manner in which repeat courses are handled. The response to this question varied. Some institutions count the last attempt when repeating a course (Columbus, UGA), others count the highest attempt and others count everything in the GPA calculation to attempt to make Academic and Financial Aid GPA as close to same as possible (ABAC).

3. System-Wide Questions for Committee Members

The first question posed to the RAC Committee was as follows: Does the official Final Transfer GPA have to be a 2.0 or is this only for admission purposes? All that responded indicated that the Final Transfer GPA is used for admission purposes only.

The next question posed to the RAC Committee was as follows: How many institutions are performing official transcript evaluations prior to admitting the student? The response to this question was mixed. Some institutions do (ABAC), but most of the institutions on the call do not.

The next question posed to the RAC Committee was as follows: How are institutions handling courses that are not from regionally accredited institution? Are the courses keyed into Banner? Most do not articulate courses from institutions that are not regionally accredited. Some institutions enter and mark as "No Credit" (e.g., ABAC). Some institutions have an unaccredited Banner attribute code. Some don't enter in Banner at all (e.g., UGA). Many indicated that there is a process in place for departments to complete a final review with respect to awarding credit, if they chose to do so. However, this process is rarely used. It was mentioned that TCGS course are entered in Banner and that Federal Aid is not limited by accreditation. This comment was not formally confirmed during the call. A Committee member noted that several institutions had to start keying non-regionally accredited institutions into Banner due to CHECS. Previously, this coursework was not entered. This a difficult process and has created additional workloads for courses that 95% of the time will not transfer.

Please note that at this point in the meeting several additional individuals logged on. Dr. Brown sent out a new link.

The next question posed to the RAC Committee was as follows: Does anyone take Straighter-Line credit? All that responded indicated that they do not take Straighter-Line.

The next question posed to the RAC Committee was as follows: Are system-wide cut scores being established for AP/CLEP? Dr. Brown answered this question. Dr. Brown indicated that the Regents' Advisory Committees were asked last year to establish recommended cut scores for Advanced Placement Exams. This process is still underway. This academic year, the Advisory Committees are being asked to establish recommended CLEP cut scores. Next academic year, the Advisory Committees are being asked to establish recommended DANTES cut score. Dr. Brown made the point that the RACs establishing recommended cut scores does not translate to

USG requiring institutions to adopt specific cut scores. Dr. Brown indicated that such decision would involve a much different process and that was not the intent of establishing these recommendations. Dr. Brown shared that the USG may be questioned by Georgia legislators about USG institutions' policies pertaining to Credit by Exam and Credit for Prior Learning policies. Dr. Brown indicated that our policies should be defensible to the legislature. It was also noted that the USG has agreements with the TCSG, other agreements as well regarding transfer course credit, and that these existing agreements could cause legislators to scrutinize the transfer credit policies. Dr. Brown shared that the College Board is lobbying with the legislature.

4. Interest in a Face-to-Face Conference

The majority of the Committee members who responded to the question as regarding an interest in holding a face-to-face meeting expressed an interest in attending a face-to-face meeting. Several expressed the benefits of a face-to-face over a conference call. One member did express a preference for a second webinar as opposed to a face-to-face meeting. Given the sentiment of the majority to hold a meeting the discussion moved to deciding which site would be best. Several locations were discussed. It was pointed out that the Hatcher Conference Center at Middle Georgia College is more convenient for those traveling from the southern parts of the state. It was also pointed out that Middle Georgia would handle food arrangements and registration as a part of hosting the event. With there being some agreement about Middle Georgia, the discussion moved to a desired time in the spring to hold the meeting. The date of the Momentum Summit was noted as well as the NISTS conference which is put on by ASTS in early to mid-February. It was noted that spring breaks occur every week in March. Jill Drake stated that perhaps the end of February would be an opportune time. The discussion then moved to who might be invited to present at the conference. Penny Overcash and Lisa Baldwin from GATRACS were mentioned. Jill Drake mentioned a group that presented at the TS3 Conference. The format of the conference was discussed next. Suggestions included having time to meet with peers through an extended lunch/work sessions, having one or two transfer articulators present on some of the common challenges that they face on a day to day basis and for the group to come up with best practices and having breakout sessions where members could meet in small groups. Jill Drake thanked the group for all the feedback given and welcomed all other group members to email additional feedback to her as desired.

Adjournment:

Jill Drake adjourned the meeting at 3:00 PM