

Academic Advisory Committee on English  
January 30, 2009

Minutes

Welcome.....Dr. Robert Kelly, Dean A&S

Announcements:

I. Robert Vaughan, BOR Liaison

**New Program Review Process:**

Two-part process:

Letter of Intent

(30-day review begins when posted)

Chair of AAC receives letter of intent

Chair of AAC notifies committee for review

Committee members submit comments to chair

Chair submits summative review of comments

Formal Proposal

(60-day review begins when posted)

More fully developed

Chair of AAC notified

Committee invited to respond

Chair submits summative review

Process will start once system office settles “mission expansion” issues in light of current budget concerns.

**New Core Curriculum:**

Survey revealed three conflicting views: shrink core, maintain core, grow core

Survey revealed strong support for current core.

Committee looked at multiple options:

Multiple cores

Reduced core

Keeping at 42 hrs but allowing degrees to mandate specific classes within the core

Allow professional programs to add courses to the core

Committee settled on third option.

May replace system-wide outcomes with goals, with institutions supply actual outcomes.

II. Dr. Leslie Caldwell, Director of Regents’ Testing Program

Memo about costs of administration—unknown motive.

Chancellor called remediation a “solution,” not a “cost.”

General discussion of RTP.

How to stay in budget—more exempt or lower rater pay.

Ted Whatley—multi-draft option  
Three topics, drafted on computer over a three-day period

Subcommittees break out

EMMA Update—Robert Cummings and Ron Balthazor  
[Cummings\\_robert1@colstate.edu](mailto:Cummings_robert1@colstate.edu)  
[rbaltha@uga.edu](mailto:rbaltha@uga.edu)

Addition of assessment function for grading portfolios by multiple faculty.  
Report of collaborative initiative:  
For the past year, dropped distributed assessment (though will work toward that).  
Looked at establishment of e-portfolio pedagogy.  
Tried to establish common assessment measures (learning outcomes).

Issues:

What outcomes?  
Student selected outcomes?  
How to maintain buy-in  
How avoid the “number” game  
How to recognize institutional differences.

### **Subcommittee reports:**

#### Freshman English:

April Gentry (Savannah State)  
Discussion of exemption methods of 1101 and 1102  
Course caps—committee proposed a max of 23 as a compromise moving toward the NCTE recommendation of 18.

#### Sophomore English:

Mark Smith (Valdosta)  
Revisited the issue of Area C in the core, stressing the need of a world literature.

#### Major Programs:

Ted Wadley (Georgia Perimeter)  
Discussion of transfer issues.  
Recommendation of opposing combining the technical colleges and the two-year colleges.

#### Testing:

Jennifer Wunder (Georgia Gwinnett)  
Discussion of changes in system-generated reports  
Discussion of impact of first-semester testing

“Carrots and Sticks” discussion

Georgia Gwinnett’s experiment of giving a Regents’ type test as a placement instrument  
403 low pass essays fall 2008 (out of approx 30,000) and about 300 “3s”

Other discussion items:

Integrating grammar instruction

RGTE and RGTR classes—no standard

How institutions are handling required “early” remediation after 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> failure

**Business Meeting:**

The academic committee on English recommends against separating the two-year colleges from the USG.

Motion: Ted

Seconded: Carmen

The Academic Committee on English affirms the NCTE standard maximum enrollment cap of 18 students for all freshman composition courses and urges all USG institutions not in compliance with this national standard to demonstrate significant progress toward it within the next five years.

Motion: April

Seconded: David Wheeler

Chair-Elect: Ted Wadley

Acknowledgement of Debra Matthews as chair and conference hostess.