

**Regents Advisory Committee on Political Science
Annual Meeting
November 15th, 2007
The Doubletree Inn
2:00-4:00 p.m.
(Cobalt Room)
Savannah, Georgia**

Institutions present: Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Bainbridge College, Clayton State University, Coastal Georgia Community College, Columbus State University, Dalton State College, Darton College, Gainesville State College, Georgia College and State University, Georgia Gwinnett College, Georgia Institute of Technology, Georgia Perimeter College, Gordon College, Middle Georgia College, North Georgia College and State University, South Georgia College, Southern Polytechnic State University, University of West Georgia, Valdosta State University, Georgia Board of Regents Liaison.

Call to order: Dr. Njoroge called the meeting to order at 2:00pm.

Approval of minutes: The minutes from the November 16, 2006 meeting were approved with minor revisions.

Old Business:

- Report from Joe Trachtenberg concerning the POLS RAC recommendation to BOR to require that all students within USG take POLS 1101 in Area E of the System's Core.
 - Dr. Trachtenberg clarified some confusion that existed within the committee's proposal and updated the committee on the progress related to the issue.
 - He reported that on July 25th he received notice that the request was denied. The decision was based on the need to maintain institutional flexibility in implementing the state legislative requirements.
 - Dr. Cline suggested pursuing it further and noted the purpose of the legislative requirement and the importance of the course.
 - Dr. Trachtenberg made the following motion:
 - We recommend that POLS 1101 American Government be a required course in the core curriculum. As much as English Composition and U.S. History are required, so should a course that familiarizes USG students with

American Government also be required. An understanding of U.S. Government is essential to civic engagement. POLS 1101 is an effective means of satisfying the Georgia legislative requirement that is currently in place. Regardless of how an institution complies with the Georgia government and constitution legislative requirements, we recommend that POLS 1101 be a required part of the core curriculum.*

* Georgia Institute of Technology's role in the university system is acknowledged to possibly afford them additional flexibility in this regard.

- The motion was seconded by Dr. Rotnem and passed without objection.

New Business:

- Update of the developments/changes within BOR by POLS RAC Liaison, Dr. Felita Williams.
 - Dr. Williams explained that curriculum updates were currently underway and that progress was being made.
 - Dr. Trachtenberg asked if there was any significant involvement by political science faculty in the system. Dr. Williams noted that all USG institutions are being represented, but the selection process for delegates is determined by each institution.
 - Dr. Williams also addressed advisement issues across the USG.
 - The committee expressed their thanks to Dr. Williams and the BOR for their time and attention at this year's POLS RAC meeting.
- Report of the Executive Committee meeting on September 27, 2007.
 - Dr. Njoroge gave an update on the recent RAC executive meeting including thoughts on RAC effectiveness.
 - Dr. Stewart expressed a desire for a formal response process within the RAC network.
 - Dr. Cline noted the need for a prompt posting of the POLS RAC minutes. Dr. Marietta expressed a desire for more electronic communication among committee members.
- Charge to the Academic Advisory Committee.

- Not discussed.
- The new “Learning Outcomes” imposed by SACS.
 - Item withdrawn.
- Other new business.
 - Dr. Marietta revisited the POLS representation on the curriculum committees now being established and made a motion desiring that each committee have a political science faculty member.
 - The motion was seconded and passed with one opposing vote.

Announcements: None

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn and 4:00pm.

Submitted by:
Mark Milewicz
Gordon College