

MINUTES
BOR ACADEMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR PSYCHOLOGY
FEBRUARY 21, 2002
GEORGIA COLLEGE & STATE UNIVERSITY
MILLEDGEVILLE, GA

Members Present: Dr. Sheree Barron, Georgia College & State University, Dr. Robert Bauer, Valdosta State University, Dr. Barbara Brown, Georgia Perimeter College, Dr. Tom Caldwell, Middle Georgia College, Mr. Roddrick Chatmon, Fort Valley State University, Dr. Diane Cook, Gainesville College, Dr. Eugenia Dixon, Bainbridge College, Dr. Keith Douglass, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Dr. Jim Dunton, Georgia Institute of Technology, Dr. Karen Hambright, Coastal GA Community College, Dr. Alberta Johnson, Floyd College, Dr. Chester Karwoski, University of Georgia, Dr. Patricia Leary, East Georgia College, Dr. Etta Lee, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College, Dr. Donna McCarty, Clayton College & State University, Dr. Jody Monsaas, Georgia Board of Regents, Dr. Deborah Richardson, Augusta State University, Dr. Richard Rogers, Georgia Southern University, Dr. Pam Terry, Gordon College, and Dr. Valerie Whittlesey, Kennesaw State University.

The meeting opened with registration and a continental breakfast at 9:30 in Chappell Hall on the Georgia College & State University campus in Milledgeville, Ga. The meeting was called to order by Dr. Sheree Barron at 10:20 and at 10:30 Dr. Anne Gormly, Vice President & Dean of Faculties at GC&SU, formally welcomed the group to campus.

Dr. Karen Hambright, Coastal Georgia Community College, gave a report on the Executive Committee meeting held in Macon last year.

Dr. Valerie Whittlesey, Kennesaw State University, discussed Program Assessment and the Best Practices Conference to be held in September. She distributed registration information on the conference. In the discussion on program assessment all agreed that the first thing departments need to do is to establish clear departmental learning outcomes. The kinds of measures currently being used by some departments includes Senior Exit Interviews, Alumni surveys, Student Research Proposals, and ETS Exams. At Kennesaw the ETS Test has been incorporated as part of their Senior Capstone Course Requirement. The discussion also led to the consensus that assessment requirements are different at the 2 year, 4 year, and research institutions.

At the conclusion of the above discussion, Dr. Donna McCarty, Clayton College & State University, agreed to develop a Web Site where she would collect, post, and make available to all members of this committee, copies of our senior exit interview surveys, departmental learning outcomes, and assessment strategies. She further agreed to include links to other useful web sites related to assessment on the web site. It was recommended that all members of this committee send this information to Donna before the end of this academic term so that she can make this web site available. It was further recommended that this committee request the BOR to establish a web site for posting this information. (A formal recommendation form will be sent to Dr. Judy Monsaas.)

During the lunch break we heard from Dr. Don Harris, Chief of Psychology Service, at Central

State Hospital. He discussed job opportunities for students at the BS, MS, and Ph.D. levels. After his talk many of the group participated in a walking tour of the GC&SU campus and the psychology department laboratories.

Dr. Donna McCarty, Clayton College & State University, led a discussion on Senior Exit Exams. As part of her discussion she shared some information available on the web and some useful web sites. The sites mentioned were: www.planning.iupui.edu/prac/Psy.g.htm, www.csuchico.edu/bss/assessment/handout/psychology.html, www.tiu.edu/psychologyx/Guidelines.htm. We also discussed what each of us currently uses and the pros and cons of each. There was no consensus on any one test or assessment that works for all schools.

Dr. Alberta Johnson, Floyd College, lead a discussion on the issue of Transfer of Credits between institutions. It was the general consensus that a course taken at a 2 year school at the 2000 level will in most cases only transfer at the same level and will not satisfy major requirements at the 3000/4000 level. These are institution policies and not BOR policy.

Dr. Judy Monsaas, the Regents Liaison to the Psychology Academic Advisory Committee, gave us an update from the BOR. There have been some changes in the office with the new Chancellor and a new Vice Chancellor, Frank Butler. Budget cuts are being felt at all levels. The good news was a 3.5% pay raise being proposed for teachers. She also reported that policy manuals are being revised and that institutions will be asked to revisit their sick leave policy for faculty. All of this is being driven by the issue of accountability and the fact that sick leave can now be accumulated and used towards retirement. There have been reported cases where faculty have had major surgeries and never used any sick leave. She made it clear that the BOR is not dictating policy, but rather having each institution determine their own policy.

Other issues discussed by Dr. Monsaas included the transfer agreements with technical schools including English and Math courses. She also talked about the Office of Education Accountability and that for higher education the following indicators have been identified and report cards will be forth coming. These issues are Regents Test Score Pass Rates, Regents Math Test (under development) pass rates, retention rates, graduation rates, license pass rates (where appropriate), and exit exam pass rates.

Judy also discussed two special initiatives by the BOR which are 1) Access to higher education, targeting black males, and 2) A Math initiative, driven by the data which suggest that student achievement is low and we are not producing enough teachers of math. Lastly, Judy discussed QUE, Quality Undergraduate Education, which is the development of a set of standards and outcomes for disciplines. This could be expanded to Psychology and would be a good opportunity for faculty development. Please let Judy know if you or your faculty are interested.

Dr. Sheree Barron, GC&SU, led a brief discussion on the technology requirement for those who teach Human Growth and Development courses. The determination was that this is an individual institution requirement and not a system requirement.

Dr. Barbara Brown, Georgia Perimeter College, gave a brief report from GPA. All were

encouraged to participate in the GPA annual meeting and especially the poster session and to consider becoming a member of GPA.

In our wrap-up and discussion it was decided to request all committee members to send a copy of their departmental requirements for graduation (i.e., major check sheets) to Dr. Sheree Barron, GC&SU, Psychology Department, CBX090, Milledgeville, GA, or a disk copy or an email attachment to sbarron@gcsu.edu and she would see that copies are distributed to all members.

The final item on the agenda was our business meeting. We decided unanimously that the Executive Committee from Psychology would be the Past Chair, Current Chair, and Chair Elect. This information will be passed on to Judy Monsaas. In addition, Dr. Donna McCarty, Clayton College & State University, was nominated and elected as our new chair elect. The meeting for next year is scheduled to be held in Jekyll Island, hosted by our new chair, Dr. Karen Hambright, Coastal Georgia Community College. The date for this meeting will not be on the same weekend as SETOP next year and will most likely be scheduled for a Friday. The executive committee will confer and set the date for this meeting.

With no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:05pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Sheree Barron
Georgia College & State University