

Minutes

Regents Advisory Council on Communication Program
Feb. 15, 2018, Columbus State

Present:

Andre Nicholson, Middle Georgia State University
Danna Gibson, Columbus State University
Brian Kline, University of North Georgia
Ed Panetta, University of Georgia
Keith Perry, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Steve Stuglin, Georgia Highlands College
Pam Bourland-Davis, Georgia Southern University
Pam Hayward, Augusta University
Adria Goldman, Gordon State College
Mark May, Clayton State University
Angela Criscoe, Georgia College and State University
Frank Johnson, Atlanta Metropolitan State College
Barbara Tucker, Dalton State College
Mark Borzi, Valdosta State University
Camilla Gant, University of West Georgia
Hayley Scheeser, South Georgia State College
Niaz Khan, Georgia Gwinnett College,
Rasha Ramzy, Georgia State University
Ronald Ellison, East Georgia State College

Absent: Representative from Fort Valley State University, Albany State/Darton State, Georgia Southwestern State University, Georgia Institute of Technology, College of Coastal Georgia, Kennesaw State University, Armstrong State University, Savannah State University, Bainbridge State College,

Mark Borzi began the meeting at 12:10 with informational items in anticipation of a quorum later in the hour.

1. The USG is implementing the Momentum Year. Features: All first semester students take math and English; all incoming students complete 30 hours in first year, including 9 hours in meta-major (staying in same disciplinary areas); there will be more emphasis on AP and dual enrollment. Specific implementation will be handled by the institution/department.
2. There has been some action in terms of the interpretation of the basic communication course in the University Core, coming out of merger process between Georgia Southern and Armstrong State. Going forward, the communication basic course can't be in Area C; however, exception was made for Georgia Southern.
3. In regard to the Kennesaw State proposal on the course description for COMM 1100, there were no substantive comments during the electronic vote, so the course proposal moved forward as approved.

4. Briefing statement has gone on to the University System
5. Committee membership and mergers, practice has been larger institution becomes the RACC member. Therefore, Georgia Perimeter no longer on RACC.

A Quorum was declared at 12:26

Minutes were approved unanimously, (Mark May/Brian Kline).

Old Business:

1. The survey about how each institution approaches COMM 1100 and 1110 did not get distributed. It will be sent immediately, and responses are needed by Friday, March 2.
2. The RACC held a robust discussion of Guidelines for Area F. The background to this task is that the Council on General Ed sent our original work back on the grounds that we listed too many optional courses in each of the three areas of foundations, practices, and cultural perspectives. At the October 2016 meeting we worked on learning objectives plus course areas. Several important issues were addressed in the process of completing this task: Issues regarding transferability vs. retention and completion; the Momentum Year and desire to minimize elective choices and major changes by students; the place of cultural perspectives in the Journalism/Mass Communication and Film Studies; allocations of hours (e.g. 3-6, 0-9—0-6, etc. will not make it through General Ed Council) for the three areas; the need for “restricted electives in all Area F plans for consistency in format; the fact that some courses will have to be bumped to the major core; wording of the objectives (e.g., “meaning of introductory collegiate level”); the fact that a communication course required in Area B or C cannot be in Area F;

Questions remain about whether there will be a Film RACC, i.e. its placement under communication vs. arts or by itself. Another topic brought up is that Area F cannot have practicum-type credits in it, but this is not uncommon and there may be questions about that. Additionally, the RACC was unsure that the Area F film studies layout was indicative of what was being done across the state, especially in any institutions with free-standing film programs (i.e., not under a communication major). Therefore, the RACC voted to approve the Area F schema for communication studies and journalism/mass communication but not film, and to send the film Area F schema back to those with film programs for more input (Mark May/Danna Gibson). Prior to that vote, the RACC approved the Area F options for communication studies (Mark May/Ed Paneta) and journalism/mass communication (Pamela Bourland-Davis/Danna Gibson).

Concerns remain about the two-hour 1100 version at Georgia State; their representative will take that concern back to them. Also we reiterated that the BOR does not always understand the breadth of the communication discipline and the terminology we use.

3. Election of officers: Secretary (Barbara Tucker) has one more year in rotation. RACC needs to elect chair elect and four at large members. The current chair elect has decided to retire, leaving us without a chair for next year. Pamela Bourland-Davis moved that Mark Borzi remain another year as chair. Niaz Khan seconded, vote unanimous. Mark May nominated himself as chair elect, which was approved by acclamation.

In regard to four at-large members, these are usually allocated by institution type. Steve Stuglin, state colleges; Danna Gibson, state university; Pamela Bourland-Davis, regional; R1s, Ed Panetta. These are one-year terms.

There was no other business. Collective announcements:
Barbara Tucker brought up her concerns with assessment from the Georgia Film Academy. Different institutions are using the GFA for different purposes and may not transfer in all courses from GFA. Many believed that the assessment and credentialing should be the responsibility of BOR. Student evaluations of the courses are sent, for example, to Fort Valley from the GFA.

Announcements were made about various film festivals and competitions. It was suggested that the Georgia Communication Association could put up a calendar on its website for various film festivals and other news. Mark Borzi also announced that the Crisis Communication Officer from the City of Orlando would be speaking at Valdosta on March 2.

Pamela Bourland-Davis stated that Georgia Southern was no longer accepting speech in Area C, as part of the merger negotiations.

Angela Criscoe moved to adjourn the meeting, and Niaz Khan seconded it. Meeting adjourned at 2:10.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Tucker, Secretary