

## **RACDE Meeting Minutes May 6, 2010**

The minutes from the previous meeting were approved

**Jay Lancaster:** opened the meeting by asking for approval of the previous meetings minutes. Motion was seconded and minutes were approved. Jay remarked that last year was an extremely busy year. Distance Education has made an unprecedented expansion.

**Catherine Finnegan:** Presented the latest statistics from GeorgiaONmyLine program. Discussion was frequent throughout the presentation with questions arising concerning the need to do a better job identifying online students and hybrid students and hybrid courses present immunization issues. Catherine also commented that there is only one code for online which makes it difficult to separate the varying degrees of online. What percentage of online courses does one need to take to be considered fully online? The questions was raised that would a more appropriate distinction be to categorize course by synchronous and asynchronous

### **Break**

**OIIT Update:** Dr. Curtis A. Carver Jr., Vice Chancellor and CIO

During the presentation Curt touched on a variety of areas that included, 1)Defining Strategic Priorities; 2)Examining what we can do at a system level that private companies cannot; 3)Expanding system wide contract for student support; 4)Looking for ways to empower distance education and 5)Beginning a search for a potential replacement for Blackboard Vista.

Curt also asked for ideas on how OIIT could help the institutions and received the following thoughts:

1. Suggestions for providing better support services for online students
2. Best ways to provide reference services
3. Feasibility of a military portal and the hindrance the Regents Exam is to military students
4. How to define a credit hour that can translate into the online format
5. Remarks on Ingress
6. Need for quality data reports and easier tools for campuses
7. Timeline for the phase out of Vista
8. How to manage risk
9. Recommendation of a best practice for identification practices

### **Lunch**

**Linda Noble** presented on the program approval process. During the presentation it was agreed that RACDE would be included in the review process in the following manner:

1. Marci Middleton will send to Mike Rogers any information on new online programs.
2. Mike will distribute that information to the RACDE listserv.
3. All comments will be sent back to Mike for collation.
4. Mike will forward collated comments to Marci.

**Janet Gubbins** presented on Student Retention Strategies that have been particularly effective for eCore since West Georgia has become the administrative agency for eCore.

**Evelyn Ting** from GPC presented on the current policies GPC has instituted regarding faculty teaching online.

Elections were held with the following results:

**Chair Elect:** Jon Sizemore

**Doctoral Granting:** Pam Deal

**Bachelors/Masters granting:** David Stone

**Associate Degree Granting Institution:** Evelyn Ting

A general discussion followed on the need to revise the by-laws (possibly creating a secretary), generate a mission statement for RACDE, and possibly – based on the new mission statement – issue a new call for RACDE representatives based on the mission. It was discussed that RACDE should become the recommending body for best practices, policies, and procedures to the BOR.

**Mike Rogers** – announced that the Facilitating Online Course was being significantly revised and would be available for no charge beginning in the Fall semester.

Ft. Valley offered to hold the Fall meeting at a date to be determined.

Meeting was adjourned.