

**Regents' Academic Advisory Committee For Foreign Languages**  
**Jekyll Island – April 7 & 8, 2003**

In attendance:

Francisco Juaréz Torres	Albany State University
Yoland Emery	Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Jana Sandarg	Augusta State University
June Legge	Clayton State College
James Edwards (Chair)	Coastal Georgia Community College
Beth Biron	Dalton State College
Martha Hughes	East Georgia College
Sheila McCoy	Floyd State College
Patty Davis	Darton College
Dale Crandall	Gainesville College
Roger Noel	Georgia College and State University
David Shook	Georgia Institute of Technology
Dina Foster	Georgia Perimeter College
Donnie Richards	Georgia Southern University
Elena Odio	Georgia Southwestern University
John Austin	Georgia State University
Thierry Léger	Kennesaw State University
Lynne B. Bryan	Macon State College
David de Posada	Macon State College
Jim Chesnut (Secretary/Treasurer)	North Georgia College & State University
Bernice Nuhfer-Halten	Southern Polytechnic State University
Joel Walz (Chair Elect)	University of Georgia
Caryl Lloyd	University of West Georgia
Elizabeth Webb	Georgia Department of Education
Rick Sutton	Board of Regents

The representatives from Armstrong Atlantic University, Atlanta Metropolitan College, Fort Valley State University, the Medical College of Georgia and Gordon College would like for the committee to know that their absence was due to their names having been automatically dropped from the FLAAC listserv by mistake, and thus they did not receive information about the meeting in time to attend. (When a listserv member's email address changes, or when a message is undeliverable over a period of time, that member's name is electronically removed by the listserv software automatically. To remain active in the listserv, members must notify the listserv manager whenever their email address changes or if they do not receive any posting for an extended period of time.)

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James Edwards called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.

The new bridge will open today at 10:00 am.

Report from Rick Sutton: Legislative and System Office Updates:

The Central Office is now called the University System Office (USO). Several key people in the USO have moved to the new governor's office, creating a period of transition in the USO. Two new members are to join the BOR, but have not yet been named. The death of Regent Hunt has left another slot on the BOR.

FY03 budget is the "good news" budget.

-Use of lottery funds. Funds have been used up until now to support Galileo. Governor Purdue does not want to use those funds for such projects. Increased pressure on HOPE will cause lottery funds to go to Pre-K as originally intended. Faculty and staff remuneration will be through benefits, such as health insurance premiums, rather than through salary increases. There are no new cuts in the amended budget.

-Next year's (FY04) budget, starting in July. If no new budget is passed by the house before the 33<sup>rd</sup> day of the current legislative session, then there will be no new budget or, else, a new session will be called. The tobacco tax was not passed. Revenue decrease will impact the budget cut.

-Fees and tuition. Students do not now know what they will pay for tuition next year. The BOR will not be able to consider tuition charges. There is also the possibility of charging additional fees in addition to tuition. Any additional fees charged by an institution must be approved by the BOR. However, a "special fee" for such things as high-cost programs does not have to go to the BOR (e.g., a fee charged international students used in tracking them). Sutton says the type of approach used by Georgia State is a good model, since the fees charged are HOPE eligible. Austin will send to the FLAAC committee information about the Georgia State University model.

Summary. Chancellor Meridith came in wanting to take USG to the top of the country. The focus now is to maintain the quality we now have, given the current economic crisis. Our institutions should get budget information in May.

Lloyd noted that cuts at the state level impacts county funding. FLES positions in her county (Douglass) have been cut. Lloyd says that because of such cuts, she will not be able to place students majoring in foreign language education (FLES, in particular) for their student teaching.

Sutton gave an update on some of the Regents' projects and efforts.

-African American Male Project. Twice as many African American females as males go to college. The solution is not a higher education problem alone and requires working with elementary school programs.

-Health-ICAAP. \$ 4.5 million is being allotted for health care and nursing.

-Regents Math Project

-Social Security Numbers Project-The USG wants to move away from using SS numbers as student identity numbers but is unable to fund such a project at this time. Webb noted that the project could extend down to K-12, with the same number used throughout a student's academic years.

Sutton said that Chancellor Meridith has identified six USG goals:

- 1) to produce a more educated workforce,
- 2) to increase accountability (clean audit reports, improved test scores, etc). The Web site (USG by the numbers) mirrors the kind of accountability wanted by the USG,
- 3) to anticipate state needs in education through strategic assessment so as to ascertain well in advance the needs of the state in future years,
- 4) to maintain quality in the face of budget cuts,
- 5) to strive to portray higher education more effectively to the public as an economic driver ,
- 6) to improve public relations and create a more positive public image of the USG.

New lectureship policy. Lectureship positions & work load.

The lectureship proposal recommends dropping the six-year cut off. Can keep a limited number of these positions may be kept for an indefinite period of time. The position entails an increased teaching load. After six years, the person goes from lecturer to senior lecturer status. A terminal degree is not required by BOR for such positions; however, the institution can require terminal degrees. The benefit is that the new policy provides some security for professors in these positions, is a way to professionalize such positions, and is not restricted to lower level courses only. Georgia State and West Georgia have already created such positions. The lectureship program legitimizes this situation. The policy extends the lectureship from universities to the four-year schools. Sutton was not sure about two year schools. Lloyd raised a concern over the possibility of creating a two-tiered faculty. Legge stated that the part-time part of our system now is one of the weakest areas of our instructional program. The BOR has held extensive conversation with AAUP concerning the new lectureship policy.

Edwards called a break at 10:15

Edwards called the meeting back to order at 10:45

Sutton continued his report.

-Sutton brought it to the attention of the FLAAC that certain members of the BOR and certain legislators, in particular, voice continuing concern that faculty is not working enough and that perceived workload continues to be an issue.

-Notice to study abroad directors: VAT is refundable. One UGA Study Abroad Program gets back \$20,000. Currently the system is saving about \$55,000 through VAT refunds. The BOR wants to implement this for the entire system. The BOR has an agreement with a company to get those taxes back for us. The company will fund a part time assistant to work with each campus. As a system, savings are estimated to be from \$200,000 to \$300,000 per year. The money comes back to the institution. It would be up to the individual Study Abroad Program Director to negotiate on the local campus to get the money back into his or her program. Air tickets are not covered. A list of countries where the VAT is refundable may be found at [www.usg.edu/oie](http://www.usg.edu/oie).

-International Briefing Book. Sutton passed out the September 2002 International Briefing Book, which is part of System accountability. Parts of the report are on the web, but not all of it. About 10 to 11% of students in USG are taking a foreign language.

-Foreign Language Enrollment Report, April 2003 -The Curriculum Inventory Report (CIR). These data drive enrollment funding. We need to contact our Registrar if the information shown is incorrect, since this is the official data upon which funding is based. We must tell our Registrar to correct the CIR, and we should also let Sutton know. The figures shown are BOT (Beginning of Term), three weeks into term and after drop/add is over. A new addition to the report is the "Declared Majors in Foreign Languages Who Study Abroad." These data are reported to Sutton's office by the Study Abroad Representative on each campus.

-Development Plan Research Project. Foreign Language Study is a P-16 issue and is being looked at as such. Questions such as the following need to be answered. What is the future economic state of this state? Which languages need to be taught? What international assets do we have to support our economic plan?

-Peach State Poll (referring to the Spring 2003 poll on Georgians' attitudes toward language study). While the Poll showed generally positive results for support for foreign languages, the question of whether a language course would be chosen over, for example, a math course was not asked.

-Funding for study abroad through a new program called "Study Abroad Financial Aid" is based on state dollars. Up to now there has been a privately funded scholarship to support about \$80,000-\$90,000 for students to study abroad with matching funds from campuses. Now that the goal is to send 4% per year of USG students abroad rather than 2%, more funding is required. The BOR has recently created new state funded opportunities for students to earn money to go abroad. In FY04 the goal is to fund \$160,000 if possible. We should contact the System International Council Representative contact on our campus about this source of funding for students wanting to study abroad. The amount is \$500/semester, and students can get the \$500 for more than one semester. The following types of assistance are available in this program:

- special service learning activities. Recipients are eligible for a travel grant. Guidelines are in the materials sent out. Student has to engage with the host community and culture.
- on-campus student assistants to help with the program
- assistants to help on a study-abroad program on site
- International Students Exchange Program (ISEP)

Institutions will make their priority requests by this April 15 for all funding for FY04.

We do not have to name the student now. But we have to commit our matching funds.

Thirty days after the end of the fiscal year, we have to report to Sutton who the student was, where he/she went, and how the money was spent.

Sutton noted that the International Students Exchange Program (ISEP) is the cheapest way for a student to go abroad, and students get a grant from the BOR that does not require matching funds from the institution.

Meeting broke for lunch at 11:45.

Meeting reconvened at 1:30

Committee business conducted:

Edwards called for approval of the 2002 minutes and for any committee business discussion. Sheila McCoy seconded the motion by James Edwards to approve the minutes from the 2002 meeting. The minutes were approved.

Joel Walz suggested that we do something about the administrative structure of our committee. He noted the tradition of alternating between larger and smaller schools when selecting a chairperson. Edwards called for nominations for the position of secretary of the 2003-2004 FLAAC meeting. David Shook (GA Tech) was nominated and voted on to be secretary for 2003-2004 academic year. As the committee operates now, Shook will be chair during 2005-2006.

Meeting dates for 2004 meeting. Dates for the meeting will be Monday & Tuesday, April 19 & 20. Place: Jekyll Island Day's Inn. Carmen Tesser will speak on National Standards if funding is made available from the Board of Regents. Elizabeth Webb will order a copy of the national standards for each FLAAC member. She will not, however, be able to mail each FLAAC member his or her copy. Instead, copies will be available for distribution at the FLAG Conference in Athens.

Rick Sutton continued his report to the Committee:

Sutton talked about the creation of new types of language degree programs. Kennesaw has created a new degree that will come up for approval soon. Fort Valley proposed a new Spanish Degree program and has been advised by the BOR to develop a more multi-disciplined approach. Sutton stated that what students get out of one or two years of language study is being questioned. These types of discussions are going on at the state level. We in languages need a proactive approach to convince people outside of the profession on the value of foreign language study. In response to the question (raised by Cathy Henson at the DOE Public Hearing in October) about why students should take foreign language in high school if they are not required in the USG for graduation, Sutton stated that we need to point out to her, and others, that since language is required for entry to the USG, in effect it is required for graduation from the USG.

INSEP Language Program. On-line language courses in less commonly taught languages are still being developed. The host institution for all three less-commonly-taught languages is Georgia Tech. Registration is by transient registration. The tuition differential is covered by HOPE or from Dr. Sutton's office. The student pays home institution tuition rate. Next year there will be a single portal for students to register for on-line courses. Students who finish all four courses will be eligible for scholarships for intensive study in the country. A minimum of one semester of on-line work is required.

The BOR is committed to on-line teaching and is reviewing a software product called CAMPIAZA, which allows for IP voice-over. CAMPIAZA has been piloted in the

California State System. It works in text and audio for languages such as Chinese and Japanese. Tandberg is the vendor and will do a demonstration in Atlanta. This product can be used in some of our other on-line courses. If we have students interested, we should refer them to Susan Leisure in Dr. Sutton's office or with Misada at Ga Tech. The enrollment will count as Georgia Tech enrollment. That will change with the on-line registration process in Fall 2004. A low intermediate level of proficiency is expected out of the courses, but fluency is expected to increase dramatically with the in-country stay. Odio asked if national standards had been looked considered. Sutton responded affirmatively, but also said that not as closely as they would have liked.

Area F. Our Committee has the charge of discussing Area F recommendations.

Elizabeth Webb's (DOE) report:

- The budget crisis and "no child left behind" have negatively impacted foreign language study, since any required remedial work would take up periods that would otherwise be open for foreign language classes.
- If standardized testing is not used for assessment, then the question remains as to how to show accountability. Perhaps as in South Carolina, foreign languages will be added to the report card for schools.
- Research has shown that SAT scores improve as students go beyond the required two years.
- The DOE will approve policy that is based on research finding.
- The Georgia Learning Connections website is a resource for us to use. Webb said that she would put a link on the website to each of our language department. We should email Webb with our link address.
- Standards. 7-12 Modern Languages 2002 Curriculum Revision (Adopted December 12, 2002). FLAAC Committee went over the standards with Webb, who emphasized that the standards are those that all students should be able to achieve. Thus far, standards have been written for levels up to level 9.
- Students who are not college-bound also need foreign language skills. The new standards address the pedagogy needed to achieve this goal.
- Forsyth County continues to support FLES instruction.
- Webb discussed the efforts of FLAG (Foreign Language Association) and the GCLL (Georgia Coalition For Language Learning) in supporting foreign language.
- FLAP is not in the national budget for 2004. The national lobbying organizations for foreign languages, the JNCL-NCLIS, are working to get FLAP reinstated.
- The need for a variety of languages. 58% of Georgia's Total Foreign Investment comes from European Union countries.
- Invitation from Webb to members of FLAAC to attend the Foreign Language Coordinators' Meeting, which meets twice each year. We should contact her if interested.
- This is the year for recommendations for new textbooks for K-12.
- Middle school law requires that students who are not on grade level in reading and math do remediation during regular academic block, thus leaving foreign language as an exploratory subject. Also, only a certain percentage of elementary school students are permitted to continue into middle school language courses. The way the law is

written/interpreted makes it difficult to have an extended foreign language sequence. Expanding foreign language from high school into the middle school is much more doable for many school systems than are elementary school foreign language programs.

A discussion from the FLAAC Committee ensued over the possible negative effect of “no child left behind act.” Cobb County has cut its 7<sup>th</sup> grade foreign language program because administrators want to put all students in reading classes to raise the pass rate. The danger is that this will become a trend and thus a threat to foreign languages. Remediation must be done within the academic block, which can squeeze language into the exploratory block in the middle school, as noted above.

After Webb’s DOE report, Edwards asked the Committee for agenda items for Tuesday morning’s session.

Edwards proposed that the Committee draft a resolution concerning foreign languages requirements in high school and FLES.

June Legge said that she is retiring and will no longer maintain the Web site for the FLAAC. She will transfer the materials to another designated member of the Committee. James Edwards (CGCC) will continue the web page. Legge offered to put up any historical documents Committee members might have.

Chesnut suggested that FLAAC monitor the AREA F Recommendations from other disciplines to see if those recommendations negatively impact foreign languages.

Tuesday, April 8

Meeting called to order at 9:00 by James Edwards.

McCoy requested the Committee to draft a “Resolution of Thanks” to June Legge (Clayton State): “Whereas Dr. June Legge has served long and well on the Foreign Language Academic Advisory Committee and has been an energetic and effective advocate for languages in the University System of Georgia and in K-12 throughout the state, the FLAAC wishes to recognize her efforts and thank her for her years of meritorious service.” The statement was approved. Chesnut will have a certificate containing the resolution printed and send it to Legge.

Webb asked the Committee to consider drafting an official position to address and perhaps influence possible changes to the foreign language requirements in K-12. Webb said that a 3-year requirement in high school would give students the chance to really begin to use the language and develop more positive attitudes toward foreign language study. Instead of having a three-year requirement, it might be better to have a proficiency-based requirement.

CPC deficiencies. Sutton offer a clarification on CPC deficiencies in the USG in response to Cathy Henson’s statement (at the DOE Public Hearing in Oct. 2002) that USG institutions often waved the foreign language requirement for admission to college.

Sutton clarified that when students are admitted with a CPC deficiency, those students do not receive a waiver and must make up the deficiency, often by taking 1001 for no credit toward the college diploma. Per BOR policy, a separate remedial course cannot be created to fill the CPC deficiency.

Webb noted that Texas has required all students in high school to take foreign language, regardless of whether they are on the college or tech track. Two years are required for all students and three years for graduation with distinction (college track). Walz pointed out that our Committee does not have the authority to make a recommendation to the BOR concerning high school requirements. The FLAAC can, however, make a resolution that can be quoted.

Crandall noted that in two-year schools, students do not think they will have a foreign language requirement for their major when they move on to a four-year school; they then find out too late that they do. Three years in high school might give them enough background to be more successful in college with foreign languages after a lapse of two to three years.

P-12 Resolution proposed. McCoy moved that the FLACC Committee draft a resolution advocating a continuous sequence of courses P-12. Seconded by Walz. The statement will be polished on the listserv and will have a list of supporting items included. McCoy will draft a statement and send it to Walz, who will post it. Debate ensued over the desirability of including a statement to the effect that foreign language study “promotes a democratic way of life.”

Webb said that the Committee might do better to support a realizable goal of continuous sequence of study beginning in middle school (7<sup>th</sup> grade) or even 4<sup>th</sup> grade. A K-12 sequence throughout the state is not likely any time soon, she said. Crandall followed by saying that before the Committee addresses K-12 issues of foreign language study, the Committee needs to work on sequenced study and requirement at the post-secondary level.

Chesnut represented FLAG and spoke about FLAG’s advocacy efforts and its collaboration with the GCLL. He urged FLAAC members to join FLAG and the GCLL and to encourage others in their departments to join also. The annual FLAG conference will be in Athens at the end of February 2004.

Webb suggested that we talk directly to fire fighter and police organizations about their need for people with foreign language skills. Odio noted that many education programs do not require any foreign language because of the number of education courses required. Lloyd said that her department had been able to negotiate with the education folks to integrate foreign language courses within the education degree program. Bryan suggested that some notation be made on the Certificates (European Union Certificate, for example) giving merit to those who do advanced language study.



Edwards read the charge from the BOR asking our Committee to review Area F. Sutton clarified that five years ago during semester conversion there were guidelines for each major in Area F, and that we are now to review those guidelines. We are also to look at what our own institution does and see if we are following the guidelines set in 1997.

The incoming FLAAC chair (2003-2004) Joel Walz will post the guidelines adopted in 1997 on the listserv for the Committee to review.

Chesnut moved that the FLAAC help the chair of our Committee draft a letter to the chair of the Nursing Advisory Committee asking that Committee to consider placing foreign language as an option in area C or F, given the need in the medical community for nurses who have proficiency in another language, Spanish in particular. Walz seconded the motion, and it was passed. The letter will be posted on the listserv for approval by the entire Committee before it is sent.

Bryan made a presentation on “Technology for Promotion of Foreign Languages” in the University System. She proposed that a series of videos be produced to promote foreign language study. The videos will contain clips of “success stories” of USG students who have studied foreign languages and are now successfully employed.

Walz announced that the 2004 FLAAC meeting will be April 19 and 20 and that rooms will be at the same price: \$66 Island side, \$77 Ocean side, \$124 for suites. Our meeting room is included at no additional charge. The reduced price is also good for Saturday night, and a continental breakfast is included. Walz will announce the release date.

Walz reported on Georgia Systemic Teacher Education Program (GSTEP). UGA, Albany State, and Valdosta State University have collaborated to improve teacher education. A survey was conducted by the Foreign Language Committee at UGA, and teachers identified three needs in teacher education:

- 1) more hands-on experiences via student teaching is needed..
- 2) a higher level of proficiency in the target language is needed,
- 3) more experience is needed in class room management.

The project has created a website intended to help beginning teachers especially. The URL is <http://www.gstepfl.uga.edu>.

Walz brought up issues raised in other language departments on the UGA campus. Dr. Fallows (Chair, Romance Languages, UGA) would like to know how other departments in foreign language deal with overwhelming student demand for Spanish. Committee suggestions included:

- Talk with advisors to urge students to take a language other than Spanish
  - Stress that departments are not responsible for providing a specific language nearly so much as for providing courses that will meet graduation requirements.
  - Require language majors to take lower level courses in a second language
- How do we recruit and keep minority students? Normally departments are not in the role of recruiting students. Done by the recruiting office.

Walz also wanted ideas on how to recruit graduate students. A recruitment table at the FLAG conference to attract teachers into the MA/Ph.D. program was suggested.

Walz noted that the USG's not providing health insurance to graduate teaching assistants, while many other universities do, makes it hard to recruit. Sutton said that providing such coverage was not economically feasible.

Lloyd moved that the Committee officially recognize the work that Rick Sutton has done over the past year. The Committee unanimously agreed.

Our acclamation to Elizabeth Webb for her work in foreign languages in the state and for her contribution to the FLAAC.

Yolanda Emery (ABAC) announced to the Committee that she would be leaving Georgia and returning to California. She said that she had enjoyed very much the collegiality she experienced in working with the Committee.

Edwards declared the 2003 Annual Meeting of the FLAAC adjourned at 11:30.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Chesnut, Secretary-Treasurer  
April 19, 2004