

Board of Regents Advisory Committee on Physics and Astronomy
Minutes of the March 24, 2006 meeting at Georgia Gwinnett College

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 by Michael Pangia.

Members present were:

Leon Jaynes (Armstrong Atlantic State University), Abe Ojo (Bainbridge College), Tatiana Krivosheev (Clayton College and State University), Ntungwa Maasha (Coastal Georgia Community College), J. B. Sharma (Gainesville College), Michael Pangia (Georgia College & State University), Mariam Dittmann (Georgia Perimeter College), H. Richard Miller (Georgia State University), Michael Torbett (Macon State College), Richard Pryor (North Georgia College and State University), Philip Patterson (Southern Polytechnic State University), F. Todd Baker (University of Georgia), Bob Powell (University of West Georgia), Chris Wozny (Waycross College).

The Chairman announced that the Chair-elect had resigned his position. Todd Baker volunteered to take minutes and the committee will address the issue of next year's chair later in the meeting.

Since a quorum was not present, attending representatives decided to discuss agenda items and make recommendations to the whole committee for action *via* email.

The first item of business was to approve a set of bylaws for the committee which it has hitherto not had. A subcommittee consisting of Michael Pangia and Michael Torbett had proposed bylaws and distributed them in preparation for this meeting. The attendees decided to make one change to the proposed bylaws: Replace:

- Each group shall elect the chair-elect in the following rotation: (1) two-year and state colleges, (2) state universities, and (3) regional and research universities.

by:

- The Chair-elect will be elected by the members present at the annual meeting.

The proposed bylaws are appended below as Appendix I.

The second item of business was that Dr. Frank Butler, of the Regents Office, has returned the system-wide AP credit policies submitted last year by this committee instructing us to resubmit with data supporting our recommendation. A subcommittee consisting of Michael Pangia, Richard Miller, Charles Johnson, and Ahmet Erbil studied the problem and submitted to the Advisory Committee the following two possibilities:

1. It has been anecdotally reported (by Frank Butler himself) that the University of Georgia has examined the success of students with AP exemption in the second semester of the course exempted and found that nearly all students were successful in that second semester. Hence, one possible model with data supporting it is that currently used by the UGA Physics and Astronomy department for AP placement; this is appended below as Appendix II.
2. The American Council on Education (ACE) has studied statistics for success of AP-placed students nationwide and supports the ratings of the College Board that a score of 3 or better on an AP physics test may be judged as "qualified". Thus, a second possible model is that suggested by the ACE and is appended below as Appendix III.

After a lengthy discussion of the item, a straw vote was taken but there was no clear consensus for either model. It was therefore decided to let the full committee vote via email to decide which model to present to the Regents.

The committee now returned to the issue of selecting next year's chair. Since there were no members from any of the research universities present who were willing (or felt sufficiently experienced) to accept this position it was decided that the issue would be tabled until such time as the new bylaws were accepted by a majority of the committee. If that happens, there will no longer be a constraint for the chair to come from any one type of institution and a chair can be selected via email. Chris Wozny agreed to serve if approved by the committee.

Regarding next year's chair-elect, Michael Torbett agreed to serve if approved by the committee. New representatives to the Executive Committee from the three groups alluded to in the bylaws below were not selected. Each group may select its representative after the approval of the bylaws.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
F. Todd Baker
University of Georgia

Appendix I: Proposed Bylaws

By-Laws of the Physics & Astronomy Academic Advisory Committee (PAAAC)

Role of the PAAAC

- To be advisory to the University System of Georgia (USG) Office in matters dealing with physics, astronomy, and physical science.

Duties of the Officers

- Chair
 - Call the annual meeting.
 - Determine the location of annual meeting.
 - Preside over annual meeting.
 - Develop the agenda for annual meeting.
 - Act as liaison to the USG office.
 - Coordinate activities with the Executive Committee of the PAAAC.
 - Appoint ad hoc committees as needed to complete the business of the PAAAC.
- Chair-elect
 - Serve as the recording secretary in the year preceding serving as chair.
 - Shall distribute the minutes of the meeting for a review and vote via e-mail no later than one month following the meeting. Minutes will be approved if more than 50% of those representatives in attendance of the meeting vote in the affirmative.
 - Upon approval of the minutes, the chair elect shall forward them to the appropriate USG office for posting on the USG's AAC web site.

Meetings

- A meeting will be called each academic year.
- A quorum shall be 40% representation of the institutions of the USG (IUSG).
- If a quorum does not exist at the meeting, business may be discussed, but votes may not be taken.
- Election of officers shall occur at the meeting.
- Voting on a motion
 - Passage of a motion shall require a majority of the votes cast.
 - Motions that cannot be voted on at the meeting may be completed via e-mail.
 - Motions voted on via e-mail shall pass only if at least 40% of the representatives of the IUSG vote and receive a majority of the votes cast.

Election Processes

- For the purpose of elections, the IUSG shall be divided into the following groups: (1) two-year and state colleges, (2) state universities, and (3) regional and research universities.
- The Chair-elect will be elected by the members present at the annual meeting.
- The current chair-elect shall serve as the chair the following year.
- Should a chair or chair-elect not be able to serve out their term, a special election, via e-mail if practical, will be held to replace any vacant offices.

- Each group (labeled 1-3 above) shall elect a representative to serve on the Executive Committee the following year, and the election will be held at the annual meeting.

Committees

- The Executive Committee of the PAAC shall consist of one member from each group (1-3) plus the chair-elect, and the past and current chairs.
- Ad hoc committees shall be appointed by the chair as needed to complete the business of the PAAAC.

By-law Changes

- More than 50% of the representatives of the IUSG voting in the affirmative is required to change the by-laws.
- Proposed changes to the by-laws must be disseminated to all members at least two weeks prior to the vote.

Appendix II: UGA Model

Physics AP Credit Recommendations

AP Physics B	
Score	Course(s) to be Credited
1, or 2	No credit
3 or 4	PHYS 1111 (4 hrs – including lab credit)
5	PHYS 1111 (4 hrs – including lab credit) and PHYS 1112 (4 hrs – including lab credit)

AP Physics C Mechanics	
Score	Course to be Credited
1, or 2	No credit
3	PHYS 1211 (4 hrs – including lab credit) if “C” or better in PHYS 1212 or PHYS 2211 (4 hrs– including lab credit), if “C” or better in PHYS 2212
4 or 5	PHYS 1211 (4 hrs– including lab credit) or PHYS 2211 (4 hrs– including lab credit)

AP Physics C Electricity and Magnetism	
Score	Course to be Credited
1, 2, or 3	No credit
4 or 5	PHYS 1212 (4 hrs– including lab credit) or PHYS 2212 (4 hrs– including lab credit)

Appendix III: ACE Model

Physics AP Credit Recommendations

AP Physics B	
Score	Course(s) to be Credited
1, or 2	No credit
3 or 4	PHYS 1111 (4 hrs – including lab credit)
5	PHYS 1111 (4 hrs – including lab credit) and PHYS 1112 (4 hrs – including lab credit)

AP Physics C Mechanics	
Score	Course to be Credited
1, or 2	No credit
3, 4 or 5	PHYS 1211 (4 hrs– including lab credit) or PHYS 2211 (4 hrs– including lab credit)

AP Physics C Electricity and Magnetism	
Score	Course to be Credited
1 or 2	No credit
3, 4 or 5	PHYS 1212 (4 hrs– including lab credit) or PHYS 2212 (4 hrs– including lab credit)