



**Minutes of Annual Meeting
Regents Advisory Committee
on Business Administration, Management and Economics**

May 24, 2010
Mike Cottrell School of Business MBA Center
Cumming, GA

Those in attendance were:

Bridgett Bell, Atlanta Metropolitan
Max Burns, North Georgia College &
State University
Jane Campbell, Kennesaw State University
Mark Dawkins, University of Georgia
Irene Duhaime, Georgia State University
Jeff Gibbs, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural
College
Victoria Johnson, Georgia Gwinnett College
Bruce Jones, Georgia Highlands College
John Kooti, Georgia Southwestern College
Donna Mayo, Dalton State College
Karen McCarron, Gordon College

Faye McIntyre, University of West Georgia
Dr. Marci Middleton, Board of Regents
Marc Miller, Augusta State University
Chuck Parsons, Georgia Institute of
Technology
Wayne Plumly, Valdosta State University
Diane Prince, Clayton State University
Ronny Richardson, Southern Polytechnic
State University
Katie Simmons, Gainesville State College
Phil Smith, Georgia Perimeter College
Troy Sullivan, Middle Georgia College
Dale Young, Georgia College & State University

The meeting convened at 9:10 AM on May 24, 2010, with Dr. Max Burns, Chair, welcoming attendees and thanking them for attending. Dr. Burns reviewed the day's agenda and asked if there were any additions. Motion made and seconded to accept the agenda as presented, approved.

The minutes from the April 10, 2009, meeting were presented. The following changes were requested: Jeff Gibbs should be noted as in attendance; a name change should be made to state Dr. Marci Middleton; Nancy Gimble's institution should be corrected to Georgia Institute of Technology; Victoria Johnson should be noted as not in attendance; and Dr. Middleton's responsibilities should be changed to include study abroad and academic programs in paragraph 6. With these changes, the minutes were approved.

Dr. John Kooti, Chair of the Sub-committee on TCSG articulation, was called on to discuss the ECON 1101 Articulation Agreement with TCSG. It was determined that this course would not meet the learning outcomes for ECON 2105 or 2106. The Advisory Committee unanimously adopted the position that ECON 1101 credit should given in Area E (Social Sciences) and not as a substitute for an Area F course. This will be the committee's recommendation to the Board of Regents.

A discussion ensued concerning the TCSG. It was stated that there was some confusion on the part of students concerning what courses they were actually taking, based on the name of the course. The RAC request that TCSG advisors/faculty clearly inform TCSG students of course transfer eligibility. A limited but growing number of TCSG courses are accepted at USG institutions.

It was noted that students at technical colleges were able to receive the HOPE Grant for 3 years for a two-year program, unlike university-level students who receive it for 4 years for a 4-year program. Dr. Burns asked the group whether they would like to compose a position paper on this topic and they concurred. It was suggested that there be a clear delineation made between technical colleges and junior colleges, that there be a statement of economic issues facing the schools, and that there be some discussion of student access and successful matriculation of business students as it relates to HOPE, as well as connecting it to financial aid and advisement. Dr. Burns then requested that Faye McIntyre produce the first draft of such a paper, with

Max Burns and Mark Miller assisting with follow-up, perhaps sending the letter to the vice presidents' advisory group.

Dr. Marci Middleton, Assistant Vice-Chancellor of the Board of Regents, provided a USG update. She began with a discussion of COC accreditation for Technical Colleges by SACS and TCSG, pointing out that there are checks on re-affirmation status and accreditation status. She stated that at least one-half of the technical colleges are COC accredited. Dr. Middleton will provide a list of SACS COC accredited technical colleges.

There was also a discussion on program proposals that circulated to the RAC. Concerns that feedback from USG business programs were not heard. Dr. Middleton assured the group that when institutions/units/schools voiced concerns over program expansion that the Office of Academic Programs carefully reviewed the concerns. Dr. Middleton would provide a list of those programs held back or not approved by the Regents.

Budget: Dr. Middleton then went over the information in the BOR packed of information given to each committee member. The first item was information concerning the USG budget. Even with tuition increases, the State will only be able to address 35% of current short-falls. The austerity programs outlined by the university presidents may be put into effect, including furlough days, increased class size and increased fees. Those students who are currently under the "Fixed for Four" program will be able to remain at that rate until they graduate or complete their eligibility. The Appendices included in the folder show various allocations of appropriations.

Academic Programs: A different process is in place for new program review, according to Dr. Middleton. There will be a one stage process, beginning with the "formal proposal only." It will be given a 60-day review period unless the university President presents a compelling reason for a 30-day review. New proposals or offerings in academic programs should be sent to Dr. Middleton.

New/Revised Core Curriculum: Dr. Middleton thanked the Committee for its recommendations on the Core Curriculum. Transfer, she stated, is a key issue: How do we ensure that it is transparent? How do we begin implementation of the Core Curriculum Policy? Further information on the Core Curriculum is available on the USG's web site.

Research and Analysis: Appendices B and 2B offer information on various fees throughout the USG system. Also found on the BOR website is information on campus audits, monitoring of grants and contracts, enrollment statistics, GPA and SAT scores as well as residency and tuition status.

Announcements: There is a May 31 deadline for submitting the paperwork for various BOR awards. The Office of Faculty Affairs has all the information. As of May 12, there has been approval for a Faculty Advisory Council to provide a faculty voice on academic and educational matters such as tenure, academic freedom and academic review. There will be one voting member for each institution. There is an Academic Program Review form which can be used to collect responses, show consensus, and develop a synthesis of recommendations. The committee was told to be sure to communicate with Dr. Middleton if a program should not move forward.

The goal is to work toward inter-institutional conversation so that there is a consensus concerning over-lap.

Dr. Middleton then opened the floor for questions and answers. The first question asked how the budgets were moving forward. Again, Dr. Middleton referenced the gap between tuition increases and the budget short-fall, leaving a \$144 million gap. She reiterated that there is no moratorium on new programs. However, a new program request must include information on how the new program will be established, including a budget for it; whether the new program will be offered with the current faculty, and, if not, where will the funds come from; an explanation of how the establishment of this new program will impact the institution as a whole, and whether a grant will be used to assist in the funding of the new program.

Furlough days and program cuts are unknown at this time and will be made partially as institutional decisions. Again, it was repeated that there is no moratorium on capital projects. In response to a question concerning excess resources and whether there was anything at the State level which would cut excess programs, Dr. Middleton replied that there was an attempt being made to automate the system in order to look at this issue, and that she would develop a data base for all academic programs and productivity. She also stated that there is a two-year deactivation process, at the end of which it would be determined whether a program should be reactivated or terminated.

In terms of the BOR staff, Dr. Middleton explained some of the changes which had occurred, but the result was primarily neither a loss nor a gain in numbers. A question of the true economic advantage of using the ADP was asked. The response was that it should prove to be less expensive over time. It was stated that the "move on when ready" program does not appear to have had an impact on standards, and that generally, admission is good for the student, but garners a loss of income for the university.

The committee broke for lunch at noon.

A panel consisting of Phil Smith, Faye McIntyre, Marc Miller and Donna Mayo discussed the following issues:

Online Program/Course Development: Dr. Smith discussed his online program for which a template had been developed with common course objectives. However, it was discovered that not all of the part time instructors were following the template, and many were found to be teaching online courses at numerous institutions at the same time. His college now has the part-time instructors sign a contract to limit the number of courses taught, and classes are monitored more closely. They use both the Wells Fargo program and "Turn it In" to discourage compromise of the online work. Dr. McIntyre stated that online programs have forced students to lose the personal environment of the classroom and that they are doing a comparison assessment of on-line classes vs. the classroom. Dr. Miller added that on-line courses accommodate some students better and that his institution has adopted hybrid classes, partially in the classroom and partially on-line.

Graduate/Undergraduate Program Evolution: Some of the future program plans include international partnership collaborations and moving an MBA program to executive style. Most institutions have an emphasis on internationalization.

Budgeting in Tough Times: It was determined that the morale issue among faculty and staff is one that needs to be addressed as well as actual budget issues. Additional thanks, donated incentives, more awards of excellence, flexible schedules for staff, more external fund-raising and celebratory events were among the possibilities mentioned.

Dr. Jeff Gibbs was elected Vice-Chair and will assume the Committee Chair for 2010-2011.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:15 PM.