

July 13, 2015
Middle Georgia University
Macon Georgia

Annual meeting of the BOR Academic Advisory Committee for Geology and Geography

Minutes:

Attending:

Dr. Sam Peavy, Georgia Southwestern University
Dr. Thomas Mote, UGA
Dr. Jim Mayer, West Georgia University
Dr. David Dorrell, Georgia Gwinnett College
Dr. Jean Johnson, Dalton State University
Dr. Doug Oetter, Georgia College and State University
Dr. Jun Tu, Kennesaw State University
Dr. Pam Gore, Georgia Perimeter College
Dr. Tina Mahaffee, Middle Georgia University
Dr. Jeffrey Underwood, Georgia Southern University

Call to order (Underwood)

Item: Remarks by committee chair (discussants: Underwood)

- BOR representative could not attend meeting
- The attendees will be charged with updating documents found on the committee website—many have not been altered since 2010
- GIS update will require more information and work this should be undertaken by each university using resources from both GIS instructors and IT office on campus
- A new chair must be elected at this meeting
- Need volunteers to work on new HS Geography Standards (contact Tabitha Press)

Item: Discussion of diversity of departments (discussants: Dorrell, Gore, Underwood)

Item: Dr. Felita Williams requires action on Area D course for Georgia College and State University by July 27. This will be passed to new committee chair ASAP. (discussants: Underwood, Mayer, Gore)

Item: Discussion of “Value Statement.” What is it? How do we approach? Will use Philosophy statement as format. . (discussants: Underwood, Gore, Peavy, Mote, Oetter)

Item: Discussion of issues related to campus mergers (discussants: Gore, Dorrell, Johnson, Underwood)

- Processes in synchronizing curriculum
- Issues for articulating courses

Item: Geology broad learning outcomes (discussants: Mote, Gore, Tu, Mahaffee)

- Geology broad learning outcomes
- Subcommittee should be appointed to review subject matter of GEOL 1121/1122
- How to ensure USG students get similar learning environments with great diversity of resource for teaching GEOL 1122

Item: BS/BA Geography update to documents (discussants: Dorrell, Mote, Mayer, Johnson, Oetter, Underwood)

- Note the diversity of programs based on resources this will require a variance within BS/BA standards from institution to institution
- Computer applications courses may be necessary for both BS and BA
- For Geography BA there needs to be simplification of major electives to allow students to understand that there are many course to choose from.

Item: Geography core outcomes (discussants: Mote, Gore, Mayer, Tu, Mahaffee)

- Need broad learning outcomes statewide
- Curriculum example GEOG 1111, 1112, 1113, 1114 at UGA and Ga State

Item: GIS impact statement (discussants: Tu, Mayer, Mote, Johnson, Peavy)

- Need up-to-date GIS licensing information
- Proposed to send GIS impact table (matrix) to each university's IT manager for most recent changes in licensing
- Create a GIS questionnaire to gather additional information

Item: Value of degree document (discussants: Underwood, Gore, Mahaffee, Johnson, Mayer)

- Produce a single document but divide into two parts: Geology, Geography (no need for two documents for each discipline)
- Form ad hoc committed to undertake this task with new chair

Item: Enrollments (discussants: Gore, Johnson, Oetter, others)

- need to graduate 10 per year difficult for small departments need to revisit USG standards
- Core requirements for BS (math) diminishes majors and therefore graduates in Geography (has always been a problem)

Item: Election of new chair

- Dr. David Schwimmer's name was offered in nomination (Underwood)
- Motion was offered (Mote)
- Motion seconded (multiple)
- Vote, unanimous in favor of resolution

Meeting adjourned and membership dismissed