

Minutes

Regents' Academic Advisory Committee on History

Columbus, GA

February 1, 2019

Attending: Tammy Byron, Dalton State College; Mary Wallkes, East Georgia State College; James H. Galt-Brown, ABAC; Patrizia Stahle, College of Coastal Georgia; Lisa Denmark, Georgia Southern University; Craig Pascoe, Georgia College; Carla Gerona, Georgia Tech, Michael Gunther, Georgia Gwinnett College, Scott McDermott, Albany State University; Andrew Goss, Augusta University; Alice Pate, Kennesaw State University; Kenja McCrae, Atlanta Metropolitan State College; Bronson Long, Georgia Highlands College; Adam Tate, Clayton State University; Doug Tompson, Columbus State University; Robert Burnham, Middle Georgia State University; Dixie Ray Haggard, Valdosta State University; Mark Vickrey, GAH Liaison, Kennesaw State University

Minutes: Carla Gerona, Chair-elect

Meeting was called to order at 9:05 AM

Chair: Kenja McCrae, Presiding

Welcome and Introductions.

Approval of Minutes from 2018. The motion to approve last year's RAACH meeting minutes was called and carried with some minor corrections (will be revised by McCrae - Stahl, CCGA and Tristan Denley misspelled)

Report from RAACH McCrae attended the meeting for RAACH chairs. The main discussion was about PSTs. McCrae contacted Jon Sizemore to attend the meeting, but did not hear back.

Credit by Examination

McCrae distributed a chart with the AP information collected previously via email. 4 schools reporting were awarding 3 credits for scores of 4s and 5s for either European, World, and US AP examinations. Two schools also gave credit for a 3 AP score. Two schools gave 3 credits for a score of 4 and 6 for a score of 5. One school gave 3 credits, but only for a 5 score. She also distributed a more detailed analysis of the email discussions.

However, some people were inadvertently left off the email list so while these findings allowed McCrae to send in a report, they did not represent the complete sample.

McCrae also introduced a Board request to get a recommendation about two other "Credits by Exam": CLEP and Dante. There was some discussion about the different tests and how they worked, and whether any schools were currently accepting these scores – the schools and numbers at any of the schools were very small.

The group discussed whether to form a committee to send a recommendation, with further thoughts about APs and CLEP and Dante. We agreed to form a sub-committee if needed -- or to revisit the question if we had time (we ended up having time to discuss further and vote on recommendations).

Discussion of College of Coastal Georgia's query about foreign language requirements in Area F for history majors

The group discussed Area F "Guidelines: History and whether to change sections A "REQUIRED: Foreign Language sequence (if not required in institutional options), 0-6 hours." After discussing the needs and capacities at different institutions, and different BA vs. BS requirements, the group decided that the current language works best. The group voted to leave the language as is.

Committee reports.

Goss announced the findings of the committee charged with writing up a "value of a history degree." Goss and the committee looked at the materials and essays, and decided that the best approach would be to have a brief synopsis with a link to the AHA website that covers the question from many angles and in great detail. Goss and the committee will take this up.

There was no other official business.

There was some brief and informal discussion that touched on various subjects: Competence and Assessment Reviews, SACs and Adjuncts, Chair terms, and declining enrollments in some cases, especially summer courses. Ecore may be getting pushed in some institutions despite its lack of quality.

The committee took a short break and returned at about 10:30

Credit by Exam: Continuation of Discussion

When the committee returned we resumed the questions around credit for exams.

There was a wide -ranging discussion in which we discussed merits and issues with "credit by exams" – starting with the AP exam. Credit by exam, some said, allows students who take rigorous AP courses to have the opportunity to advance their studies and skip introductory sequences that may be repetitive. Most of the attendees felt that any such AP credits should be limited to the highest performers, because unless students showed mastery (defined as a 4 or even 5 – for some), students would benefit from taking college core history classes in their various institutions. It was also pointed out that the "credit by exam" system helps with retention of students, which is especially important for access institutions, and that for this reason, and at a few institutions, a score of 3 could be acceptable. Nonetheless, a straw pole and the discussions suggested that most of the group felt that history was a significant part of the core, and that only the students who excelled should be allowed to substitute AP exams for college-level history classes – so we voted on making the following recommendation.

The Regents Academic Advisory Committee on History recommends that a student who earned a score of four or five on AP exams may receive three credit hours of history.

The vote was 14 in favor, and 3 against. The motion passed.

Further discussion revealed that there was virtually no support for awarding credit for CLEP or DSST. Members of the advisory committee noted that unlike most AP or IB exams, DSST and CLEP do not require any course work and thus should not transfer as a class in history. The skills and knowledge that students obtain in history courses extend far beyond content knowledge and these are important components of the core curriculum. Such knowledge cannot be imparted or tested with a multiple choice test. One person supported credit for such tests because the numbers were so minor and most

of these students didn't pass. There was also some discussion about whether DSST might be allowable as 1000 or 2000 lower electives, if not the core. However, a straw poll and discussions suggested that most members of the committee felt that even in such cases course work of some kind was essential and credit by exam without a course should not be considered.

The committee therefore voted on the following recommendation:

The Regents Academic Advisory Committee on History recommends against awarding any history credit for DSST or CLEP or any other "credit by exam" that is not associated with coursework.

Fifteen voted in favor, 2 against, and one abstention. The motion passed.

Proposal for a History Major at College of Coastal Georgia

Stahle informed the group that the process is moving forward, and is hopeful that the new major will get approved. She thanked the committee for their work and support.

Committee Assignments and Elections

Carla Gerona is Chair elect and will begin her term on July 1, 2019

Michael Gunther of Georgia Gwinnett College was unanimously chosen as chair-elect, for 2020-21

The following sub-committees will serve in 2019-20 to assist in the following capacities:

At large:

- Alice Pate (Kennesaw State University)
- Jon Bryant (Georgia Southern University)

Graduate:

- Craig Pascoe (Georgia College)
- Lisa Denmark (Georgia Southern University)

US:

- Craig Pascoe (Georgia College)
- Adam Tate (Clayton State University)

World:

- Patricia Stahl (College of Coastal Georgia)
- James H. Galt-Brown (ABAC)

Major Programs

- Andrew Goss (Augusta University)
- Adam Tate (Clayton State University)

There was some confusion about constructing the committees and it was determined that we should keep careful track or place on a web page.

The meeting convened for lunch and to participate in the rest of the Georgia Association of Historians Conference program.