



**RACEA Executive Committee
Conference Call
Thursday, February 11, 2021
9:00 AM
MINUTES**

Attending: Mary McLaughlin, Michael Black, Sabrina Thompson, Loraine Phillips, Allan Aycock, Catherine Jenks, Bryan Davis, Barbara Brown, Danielle Buehrer, Jill Lane, Darby Sewell, Sabrina Thompson

Absent:

Guests: John Fuchko, Ed Rugg, and Jon Sizemore

1. Cooperative Academic Arrangements Discussion:

Welcome to Ed Rugg, John Fuchko, and Jon Sizemore of the USG who will discuss eCore and other cooperative academic agreements and MOU Revisions—

SACSCOC revised their Substantive Change policy. This revision affected Savannah State University. Savannah State entered into the eCore agreement at some point between 2014 and 2019. After the new SACSCOC policy was in place Jan. 1, 2021, SACSCOC requested a referral report from Savannah State based on their earlier submission of the eCore agreement.

One issue is that the new SACSCOC Substantive Change Policy includes identifying non-Title IV entities as partners. This caused some issues for Savannah State. The USG plan is to refocus the message that eCore courses are “owned” by the 21 participating institutions that are Title IV entities, not the USG, thus avoiding the non-Title IV entity identification as it relates to eCore. In this case, the USG would have an administrative and student support role, not an academic role. Therefore, the USG would provide administrative support services to students and schools. Further, it was stated that administrative and student support services provided through the USG would need to be assessed as per SACSCOC standards.

The eCore agreement will be rewritten to clarify institutional ownership of the academic courses. Though eCore agreements would generally be reported to SACSCOC as a notification, since the number of courses offered is under 50% of a B.A./B.S. degree, the signed agreement itself must be provided in a notification and must be sound in accordance with the new Substantive Change Policy. The new language being developed and reviewed at the USG will be implemented in eCore once passed by the Regents Advisory Committee on eCore. However, it will also serve as a model to be placed appropriately in other agreements, such as the Georgia Film Academy and FinTech. The same level of review is true for faculty credentials. These issues must be carefully clarified in the agreements.

So far, FinTech, Georgia Film Academy, and other similar agreements have been well received by SACSCOC and meets their expectations prior to January 1, 2021. RACEA hopes to hear of an approval post January 1, 2021. In the meantime, the agreements will still be rewritten by the USG with more careful language.

2. Approved minutes from the January 14, 2021 (Regular Executive Committee Meeting): Loraine Phillips presented the minutes from January 14, 2021. The executive committee approved.



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3. **Treasurer's Report—Michael Black**

Treasurer's Balance for RACEA is \$8,641.39 No transactions since March 25, 2020.

4. **Committee Updates:**

- **Program Review Committee:** Lane— N/A
- **Update Accreditation Intelligence (AI) Committee:** Buehrer— N/A
- **Update BOR Initiatives Committee:** Aycock— N/A

5. **Spring Meeting Webinar Update:** Terri Flateby will present a Webinar for RACEA this spring. Darby will send two dates to us as options for the Webinar. We will provide feedback on the dates electronically.

6. **Election Plan for Executive Committee positions— N/A**

7. **Other Business:** Next meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, March 11, 2021 at 9:00.**

8. Meeting adjourned at 10:15 a.m.