

## **RACSA Spring 2018 Minutes**

March 29, 2018

Valdosta State University

The meeting was called to order at 1pm by Scot Lingrell, Chair. Dr. Lingrell extended a special thank you to Dr. Vince Miller and the staff at Valdosta State for hosting the spring meeting.

The minutes for the fall meeting were presented for approval. Todd Jones made a motion to approve. John Stein seconded his motion. As there was no discussion, all approved the minutes and the motion passed. It was also agreed that changes to the campus issues section of the agenda would be made in order to meet the needs of the group.

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Each person in attendance introduced themselves. The following were in attendance at the spring RACSA meeting: Scot Lingrell – UWG; Joyce Jones – USG; Gloria Laureano – KSU; Christopher Bennett – Atlanta Metro; Tristen Aldridge – GSW; Greg Tanner – South GA State; Carl Walton – Savannah State; Bruce Harshbarger – Georgia College; Tomas Jimenez – Georgia Gwinnett; Wallace Keyes – Fort Valley; Michelle Brown – North Georgia; Jodi Johnson – Dalton; Bernice Hughes – ABAC; Jerry Baker – ABAC; Victor Wilson – UGA; Todd Jones – Georgia Highlands; Gina Sheeks – Columbus State; John Stein- Georgia Tech; Susan Davies – Augusta; Vince Miller – Valdosta; Jason Umfrees – Coast Georgia; Georj Lewis – Georgia Southern; Chip Reese – Albany State; Doug Covey – Georgia State.

Dr. Vince Miller introduced Dr. Richard Cavajal, president of Valdosta State University, who welcomed the group to Valdosta. He advised the group to train up our staff because what we do matters and we need to keep doing it better and better. Dr. Joyce Jones shared that Dr. Carvajal wrote a chapter in a NASPA book entitled Transformational Encounters. She shared that it is a good book.

### **Valdosta State Student Affairs Data**

Vince Miller and Brian Haugabrook (CIO) shared their presentation on student affairs data on what data can tell us about student engagement. Their system uses partnerships with IT and Student Affairs to focus on student success; develop metrics, and leverage technology to integrate systems to collect data. They shared how they make data actionable, how they communicate with students, and how they target those communications and engagements. They shared the technology platform associated with their mobile friendly app. They were determined to use the app to determine the reach and attendance at events; to understand analytics and participation, space utilization, and return on investment in fee allocations. They wanted to take the data and tell the story.

### **CAR Update**

John Fuchko presented via Skype on the Comprehensive Administrative Review or CAR. CAR's purpose is to support greater efficiencies, affordability, and degree attainment. He shared the

first six institutions had completed the review; a new cohort was just beginning; and a third cohort would begin in the fall. All 26 institutions plus the system office will be completed by the end of the year. Besides the individual institution reports, there will be a system wide report and recommendations. The CAR website can be found at [www.usg.edu](http://www.usg.edu), click on About Us and click on CAR. The website has all the details, including FAQs.

### **Student Affairs Survey**

Ron Lunk, intern for Dr. Jones, presented and previewed a Qualtric survey to collect USG information for a system Student Affairs Annual Report. Following discussion, Mr. Lunk was going to discuss the project, data points, and timeline further with Dr. Jones.

### **Campus Issues Discussion**

- Free Speech – Brooke Bowen shared the free speech training was successful and additional training will be available soon. She shared that on-campus training can be arranged. She said understanding the difference between activism vs advocacy is necessary for new professionals and faculty.
- Overtly racist statements by students - How to respond if this happens on campus
  - Hate speech is protected - Response from president, trainings, or etc. - make statements to educate campus to ensure the environment is not hostile. Purdue provides good education on hate speech. Reminder that with hate speech through vandalism, the vandalism is punished not the hate speech.
  - Harassment is not protected under the 1<sup>st</sup> amendment and is aimed at an individual person.
  - First amendment violations needs to be discussed/decided by president and chancellor to determine the best course of action.
- Managing controversial speakers – policy has to be consistently applied. UGA shared that student groups have to sponsor speakers. GA State shared that they didn't make a big deal of their speaker and it didn't become much of an issue. Speakers can still come to outside space as a public institution. The big issue is keeping people on campus safe. Dr. Jones passed out a handout regarding court case for charging security fees for controversial speakers. Scot Lingrel promised to send an EAB article on campus activism to the list serve.
- Taxable fringe benefits for uniforms – The value of the shirt is taxable if you require them to wear it. Payroll and business office can provide clarification.
- Mental health needs and staffing – group is seeing more hospitalizations for mental health reasons. Counseling center group is looking at online assistance for emergency work.
- Merging of AA & SA – NC state and UK have done this. This may add increased collaboration and communication when reporting to the provost. Relationships with provosts is more important now either way the institution is structured. Each should hold each other accountable, informed, and supported.
- SA Grad Pep Programs - Concerns were shared over creating practitioners or activists. Discussion about professional standards of practice from NASPA: the job of the

professional prep programs; building practitioners; understanding foundations; getting the internal understanding within the institution; what does the first year as a professional look like.

- SA Fundraising and Development – was not covered.

### **Upcoming meetings:**

Summer – Lake Oconee

Fall – Middle Georgia State

Spring – Georgia Highlands

Meeting adjourned for the day.

### **Friday, March 30**

At 8:45, the meeting resumed.

### **VP meetings by Sector**

- State Colleges
  - Challenges with dual enrollment with books and technical college and high school instructors.
  - Issues with faculty in regards to their sensitivity toward students – disruptive vs. danger and classroom management.
  - Salary studies and addressing challenges to get staff paid to the minimum level.
  - Tuition is low and they are not able to afford more expansion of degrees.
  - New co-req model is challenging to cover sections, space and faculty.
- State Universities
  - Career expansion at Georgia College and the increased opportunities that have come from that expansion.
  - Tele-counseling
  - Special education students, who in the past would have gotten high school certifications, are now getting diplomas and are not prepared in structured classrooms. This is becoming a challenge for counseling staff.
  - Stipends for student employees using payroll code for stipends will not have to clock in and out. Student will have to go through HR to be hired in but payroll can use stipend code for payment.
  - CAR was discussed
- Comprehensive Universities
  - Mental health and counseling centers. Discussed serving full time vs part time students because of staffing availability.
  - Student health services outsourcing to local hospitals. The issues is difficulty hiring physicians. Is this the time to USG to look at major health systems contract to provide services of primary care and or urgent care?

- Use of facilities – student use vs institution use sometimes has the perception student use gets bumped for institutional use. The structure is auxiliary vs student affairs. Be able to show purpose of student fee funding.
- Research Universities
  - Impact of changes of system policies and legislative changes and the challenges that go along with those changes.
  - Praised the response time regarding calls to Kimberly Ballard- Washington’s “bat phone.” That number is 404-520-3907.

### **Momentum Year / College 2025**

Dr. Tristen Denley, Executive Vice Chancellor of Academic Affairs, met with the group via Skype and shared we had received a Start to Finish grant from the Gates Foundation.

- Momentum Year - He asked for feedback on the Momentum Year events that have been taking place. He wanted to make sure SA and AA were working together and that SA is a partner in the Momentum Year plans. He discussed the 2 important elements in this initiative were the system wide efforts on high impact practices and use that work to create system wide data of high impact practices. The data piece included Banner attributes and other information in Banner so we can investigate equity of opportunity and equity of participation.
- Nexus Degree – campuses are exploring options for this new degree that could be super minors, associate degrees, or stand-alone credentials. Continuing Ed teams are looking at non-credit nexus degrees too.
- Mindset data is being analyzed to determine how we can use this to improve academic success. More information will be shared at the summit in May.
- Free Speech issues – He shared that we needed to make sure front line people understand free speech and that the understanding of free speech is front and center for everyone on our teams. Make sure policies and procedures are all aligned.

Jonathan Hull then spoke about Momentum Year and Mindset. He talked about high impact practices and engagement, part-time students, and how Momentum Year is supposed to pull all of these initiatives together. He shared that summer webinars will be available for 1. Co-curricular suite of opportunities for undecided students to help them refine their choices, and 2. Learning communities. He said they define co-curricular programs broader than just career exploration, and he stated that we needed to look at broadest examples for the greatest exposure to opportunities.

### **Summer Meeting Discussion**

We will be at Lake Oconee for the RACSA/ RACAA meeting and discussed getting together Sunday night and Monday night. More details will follow.

The meeting was adjourned.