



USG Psychology Regents' Advisory Committee

February 20, 2014

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order

A. Meeting was called to order by Dr. Jane Wong, Committee Chairperson, at 11:00 A.M. Members were welcomed and introduced and the minutes from the spring, 2013 meeting were reviewed.

B. Representatives Present:

Jane Wong, Chairperson	Armstrong Atlantic State University
Marci Middleton	USG Office
Donna W. McCarty	Clayton State University
Vickie Williams	Georgia Gwinnett College
LaJuana Cochran	Southern Polytechnic State University
Sharon Pearcey	Kennesaw State University
Lee Gillis	Georgia College & State University
James Collins	Middle Georgia State College
Michael Hoff	Dalton State College
Mark Griffin	Georgia Perimeter College
Tori Kearns	East Georgia State College
Elizabeth Dose	Georgia Highlands College
Marci Culley	College of Coastal Georgia
Jennifer Wallin-Ruschman	Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Michael Stefanek	GA Regents University
Kalisha Smith	Gordon State College

2. Undergraduate Psychology Student Learning Outcomes

A. Dr. Wong presented a summary of the APA Guidelines for the Undergraduate Psychology Major: Version 2.0. The members present were in agreement that the five learning goals and associated outcomes are in fact detailed and comprehensive.

- B. For reference, Armstrong University is assessing Goals 1, 2 and 5 through Psychology classes and Goals 3 and 4 through classes in other areas as well.
 - C. It was suggested that the goals and outcomes be tailored to the faculty syllabi.
 - D. The pros and cons of an APA accreditation option at the undergraduate level were assessed. The potential value would include leverage in teaching load, salary, and to attract students. The possible downside may include competitive resources, time for faculty and chairs, the review process, and APA's own requirements. The committee will follow up with the ideas presented at the SETOP presentation, scheduled for Friday, February 21, 2014.
 - E. It is the goal of this committee to increase communication and visibility by posting hyperlinks on its USG website to each institution's webpage with information about specific SLO components being implemented. This committee also proposes to add a link on the USG Academic Planning Committee's webpage to the APA documentation page.
- 3. Dr. Marci Middleton, USG—Present for Legislative Update, Q/A, and Comments.**
- A. The inherent value in changing the CIP codes to account for learning goals and outcomes was presented. It was brought to our attention that the Department of Psychology at Edinboro University (PA) revised its curriculum to include a research and experimental component, thereby changing the program's CIP code. CIP Codes were further explained to decipher the subfields at the baccalaureate level, to include STEM majors.
 - B. Dr. Middleton explained the difference in CIP codes at the State and Federal levels within the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS). State System: 8 digits; Federal System: 6 digits.
 - C. The pros/cons of changing the CIP code from a General Psychology degree CIP code (42.0101) to a more specific degree code were discussed. The consensus of the attendees was that those departments that might wish to pursue a change to CIP code 42.2799 (Research and Experimental Psychology, Other) were free to do so through their own institution's Academic Affairs Office working with the USG Office. However, there might be potential problems with faculty credentials at some institutions (i.e., unforeseen consequences) that would need to be thoroughly thought through before moving in this direction.
 - D. In that it was not known what those institutions that were not represented at this meeting might think about possible changes to CIP codes, Dr. Wong suggested conducting a survey to further analyze the possible pros/cons of a change in CIP code designation.
 - E. As part of the group's reflection on program change and development, it was observed that faculty credentials may not mirror new course offerings. This could potentially create a problem with SACS accreditation. Dr. Middleton broadly suggested software programs which are available to help prepare faculty and administration for the SACS visits.

- F. The Legislative Budget was presented by Dr. Middleton. Follow up for pay raises and budget decisions will be released on or about March 1st, 2014.
 - G. Highlighted points: system enrollment is down 1.6 percent; enrollment is up 5% at 13 institutions.
- 4. Transfer Degrees (2+2 USG)**
- A. Credit transfers were discussed. The Degree Works Program and advising challenges were presented.
 - B. The goal of accepting transfer courses was stressed as a primary advising goal.
 - C. Area F transferability was discussed. The proper procedures for revision was outlined, which include approvals through the institution's Academic Affairs Office, then RAC Committee approval, and, lastly, the revisions must be implemented within every institution. Dr. Middleton advised that factors including: core objectives, curriculum delivery, format, teaching methodology, etc., will be assessed during the proposal process.
- 5. Campus Consolidations**
- A. The cultural climate of campus consolidation was discussed. The potential for the consolidation of additional colleges in the state was examined. Strategies for reducing transitional issues including proactive planning, consistent tenure processes for established faculty, and the protection of each college's philosophical views were discussed.
 - B. The consolidation of Kennesaw State and Southern Polytechnic State University raised the question of how to ease the transition of merging a "teaching" institution with a "research/teaching" institution.
- 6. Recommendations:**
- A. Dr. Donna McCarty, AHDP Chair, recommended membership with the Association of Heads of Department in Psychology. The value of membership and fees of \$10.00 were discussed.
 - B. AHDP open to Chairpersons and persons of leadership.
 - C. Website: <http://ahdp.us/>
- 7. Plans for the 2014 Psychology RAC Meeting**
- A. The committee agreed to meet once next spring and consider an online meeting for the fall.
 - B. Elections:
 - . Dr. Jane Wong was nominated and agreed to serve as Chairperson for 2014-2015.
 - . Dr. Donna McCarty was nominated and agreed to serve as Meeting Coordinator and Chair Elect for 2014-2015.
 - . Dr. Elizabeth Dose agreed to serve as the Secretary for 2014-2015.

Adjournment: 4:20 P.M.