

Regents Academic Committee on Adult Learning (RACAL) via WebEx

October 25, 2017

Agenda

10:00 AM	Welcome	Laura Crawley
10:10 AM	Introductions	
10:20 AM	Approval of the Minutes	Danny Gourley
10:25 AM	Old Business (subcommittees)	Laura Crawley
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Adult Learner Conference</li><li>• Date and Time for Next Meeting</li><li>• CAEL</li></ul>	
10:45 AM	Discussion: ACE & ACRO	Roz Barnes Fowler
	Joint Statement on Transfer & Award of Credit	
11:00 AM	Discussion: Former Student	Roz Barnes Fowler
	USG Project & System Office assistance to Institutions	
11:20 AM	RACAL Executive Committee	Danny Gourley
11:25 AM	Matters for the Good of the Order	Laura Crawley
11:30 AM	Adjourn	

## **Welcome and Introductions**

Laura Crawley (University of Georgia) called the meeting to order at 10:00 and welcomed all participants to the meeting.

## **Approval of the Minutes**

The minutes from the March 24, 2017, meeting were approved by unanimous voice vote. Motion to approve was made by Dennis Chamberlain (Gordon State) and seconded by Laura Crawley (University of Georgia).

## **Old Business**

Rosalind Fowler (USG) discussed the upcoming RACAL meeting and Adult Learner Symposium scheduled for April 12-13 at Columbus State. She requested volunteers to create the agenda for the conference. The following agreed to serve on the committee:

Carol Adams (University of North Georgia)

Keith Waugh (Valdosta State University)

Lisa Shaw (Columbus State University)

Jesse Kane (Fort Valley State University)

Elke Leeds (Kennesaw State University)

Kokila Ravi (Atlanta Metropolitan State College)

Lisa Shaw described the venue at Columbus State, and Roz Fowler shared photographs of the meeting spaces and various configurations to suit our needs. The group agreed to charge an attendance fee with the dollar figure to be determined in the future. The goal in moving the symposium to June is to provide opportunities for faculty to participate.

New members were welcomed to the RACAL:

Jesse Kane, Katie Harrell (Bainbridge State College), Deepa Arora (Middle Georgia State University) and Keith Waugh. Jesse and Keith joined their respective institutions about 4 months prior and not only agreed to serve on the RACAL but also volunteered for the Symposium Agenda Committee.

Roz reminded the group about the upcoming CAEL Conference in San Diego, November 14-17. CAEL is the leader in Prior Learning Assessment (PLA), and several USG institutions are members. CAEL required USG to join this year at the Higher Ed System level for \$1065 which allowed institutions who registered with Roz to receive a discount. In the future, CAEL may create a tiered discount that would reduce the membership fee, if more institutions join. The current membership fee structure is based on enrollment. There will be numerous attendees at the conference from USG institutions, and Roz suggested we get together while there to discuss how CAEL can assist the RACAL.

Roz mentioned that UNG will host an economic development summit in conjunction with CAEL in the future. UNG leadership asked her about system support. Carol Adams added that more will be shared in the future as the details and focus are finalized.

Elke Leeds (Kennesaw State University) shared that in March 2018 KSU will launch the Adult Learner 360 survey, designed and supported by CAEL, to identify ways to impact adult learner enrollment, retention, progression, and graduation rates. KSU has created a leadership team representing various divisions across the university. Columbus State has conducted such surveys for several years.

### **Joint Statement on Transfer and Award of Credit**

Roz shared the Joint Statement on the Transfer and Award of Credit with the members prior to the meeting. This topic was a significant focus of the Adult Learning Consortium and was supposed to continue as one for the RACAL. Dennis Chamberlain (Gordon State) agreed that the RACAL should have this discussion. He suggested the group develop a position statement and involve our respective institutions. Roz indicated this initiative is important to Vice Chancellor Dr. Tristan Denley. Danny Gourley (University of West Georgia) agreed that we can learn from one another and share best practices to speed up the process. Roz recommended that all RACAL members address this topic. Based on recent meetings she attended in Tennessee, there is a sense that AACRAO, ACE and CHEA can work together.

### **Initiative Regarding Stop Outs**

Roz also shared that Dr. Denley requested the names of students who had stopped out in the last three years and had not enrolled at another USG institution. The list included 137,000 names. Dr. Denley will ask VPAs at the RACAA meeting (also on October 25) to design a plan to communicate with these students, get them to return and complete their degree. Some of these students have more than 200 credit hours but no degree. Examples of successful initiatives include Georgia State's sending emails to stop outs telling them they are eligible to return. There are concerns, however, such as whether the students can still log in and register; after how much time do students lose that ability? Deepa Aurora (Middle Georgia State) wondered how many have financial aid issues; have they run out of eligibility? Kimberly Burgess (College of Coastal Georgia) explained that they actually use the financial aid application as a trigger to reach out to individuals who have dropped out. Carol Adams (UNG) shared the university's initiative of contacting stop outs who have senior status and owe a marginal amount. UNG is offering emergency loans on a case-by-case basis to help these students finish. For those whose major seems no longer attainable, the BS in General Studies may be an option. Deepa (Middle Georgia) stated they offer Interdisciplinary Studies similarly and use Degree Works to identify students who could benefit from that option. Sarah Kuck (Darton) reminded the group that Organizational Leadership offered through eCampus is also an option. Particularly alarming was the example Roz cited of a student who after attending a for-profit institution had to start over with more than 200 credits. The student had exhausted financial aid and now had assumed personal loans.

### **Advertising and Adult Learners**

Roz raised the issue of a lack of advertising funds. How do we attract students back to school? She urged RACAL members to decide what support we want from the system. Danny (UWG) remarked that referrals had slowed down and connected the decrease to the lack of advertising funds and the decline of the Go Back Move Ahead initiative. Roz compared the USG advertising efforts to the successful advertising campaign of the Technical Schools. She will make advertising funds a priority.

Roz reminded all RACAL members to learn more about future initiatives such as the Momentum Year, the changes in the Co-Requisite Model for Learning Support, and the focus on students' mindset. She urged us to attend presentations to make sure to speak up for Adult Learners.

### **MOU and ALC**

Elke (KSU) raised the concern that the prior MOU with the ALC has not been renewed. Roz recommended that the RACAL review the MOU during the April meeting. Prior to that Dennis recommended that we change the dates on the current MOU and distribute it as an interim set of guidelines. When asked if the ALC is still in existence, Dennis stated it had not been dissolved. The group agreed to extend the dates and then discuss it in April. Chuck Huffman (Georgia Southwestern State) requested it be distributed electronically for review. Elke recommended that the version updated in Fall 2016 by Dennis, Elke, Roz, and John Sizemore be sent.

### **Executive Committee**

Danny (UWG) reminded the group that the bylaws state the Executive Committee must have one member from each sector. This poses a problem for our research partners who would have to serve a more often than others. Are we willing to remove that clause from the Bylaws? Carol (UNG) asked if we could still propose that representation be from more than one sector. Laura (UGA) shared that other RACs are also discussing this challenge.

Danny agreed to draft a version to RACAL Listserv for a vote. Roz agreed.

Laura may have to roll off the RACAL due to her commitments at UGA. She will let us know. She asked us to be thinking of agenda items for the April meeting.

The group thanked Roz for her work to support Adult Learners and help setting up the WebEx meeting.

Danny thanked the members for their attendance after no one raised additional business to discuss.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20.

**Attendance:**

Atlanta Metropolitan State College

Augusta University

Bainbridge State College

BOR USG Liaison

College of Coastal Georgia

Columbus State University

Fort Valley State University

Georgia College and State University

Georgia Gwinnett College

Gordon State College

Kennesaw State University

Middle Georgia State University

Savannah State University

University of Georgia

University of North Georgia

University of West Georgia

Valdosta State University

Kokila Ravi

Adam Wyatt

Katie Harrell

Roz Barnes Fowler

Kimberly Burgess

Lisa Shaw

Jesse Kane

Mike Augustine

Laura Ledford

Dennis Chamberlain

Elke Leeds

Deepa Arora

Frank Williams

Laura Crawley

Carol Adams

Danny Gourley

Keith Waugh