

Minutes

Regents Advisory Council on Communication

October 7, 2016

Middle Georgia State University

10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Attendance:

Mark May, Clayton State University, presiding

Jeff Marker, University of North Georgia

Shani Clark, Darton College

Ed Panetta, University of Georgia

Keith Perry, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College

Barbara Tucker, Dalton State College (electronically)

Danna Gibson, Columbus State University

Linda Bowen, Georgia State Perimeter College

Mary Jean Land, Georgia College and State University

Rasha Ramzy, Georgia State University (proxy for Gregory Lisby)

Mark Borzi, Valdosta State University

Steve Stuglin, Georgia Highlands College

Adria Goldman, Gordon State College

Andre Nicholson, Middle Georgia State University (proxy for Lavette Burnette)

Alfonso Moises, Albany State University

Joseph Watson, Georgia Southwestern State University

Niaz Khan, Georgia Gwinnett College

Frank Johnson, Atlanta Metropolitan State College

Jeff Delaney, BOR Liaison

A quorum was present.

Not present:

Rebecca Burnett, Georgia Institute of Technology

Camilla Gant, University of West Georgia

Hayley Scheeser, South Georgia State College

Brian Dawsey, Savannah State University

Pam Bourland-Davis, Georgia Southern University

Bobby Dickey, Fort Valley State University

Ronald Ellison, East Georgia State College

Rick Kenney, Augusta University

Tammy Hinson, Bainbridge State College

Tyler Bagwell, College of Coastal Georgia

Elizabeth Desnoyes-Colas, Armstrong Atlantic State University

Mark May called the meeting to order at 10:08 a.m.

Minutes

Mark May distributed the minutes from the February 18, 2016, RAC-Communication meeting. He asked for any corrections or additions to the minutes. There were none. Ed Panetta made a motion to approve. Dana Gibson seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Agenda

Mark May distributed the agenda for the Fall 2016 meeting. No changes were proposed.

History/Purpose of RAC-Communication

Mark May gave a brief explanation of the history/purpose of the RAC on Communication. He expressed disappointment that the RAC Chairs meeting that was to take place prior to this meeting was cancelled. He distributed a "Value of Communication Degree" handout that the committee has been editing. He opened the floor to additions or edits to the handout.

There was discussion over addition of literacy and critical thinking, civil society, the need for comm graduates to have skills to adapt to fluid technological environment. Jeff Marker suggested starting with a definition. Following a lively discussion, the following two phrases were suggested to be added to the document

"unique emphasis on the communication skills that contribute to a critically discerning and engaged citizenry"

"the economic climate of the 21st century demands employees who can adapt up to seven vocations through their careers"

Mark May suggested tabling the discussion and revisiting it after lunch. Jeff Marker offered to edit the handout, based on the suggestions from the discussion.

Small Group Discussion

Mark May opened the floor to suggestions for small group breakout discussions. None were suggested.

Officer Elections

Next item: Mark May reminded the committee that officer elections will take place in Spring 2017 for president elect, to start in Fall 2017. Barbara Tucker will serve another year and end as secretary/treasurer in Spring 2018.

LaVette Burnette would like to be relieved of ED position.

There will be a call for nominations prior to the spring meeting.

Mark May mentioned the GCA/joint RACC and stated that there was still time for proposals for GCA. Starting at and including lunch paid for as “registration” at the February meeting is desired because of travel rules of BOR.

After a break, Shani Clark brought up the issue of online public speaking classes. This led to discussion of the eCore course in 1100. Georgia Perimeter/Georgia State has a large cohort taking online public speaking.

Issues about the transferability of 1100 and 1110 were addressed. It is vital that institutions use the same number for these courses and the same number of hours per course. A related discussion was the content of minors and the need for minors as feeders to upper division courses and possible majors.

Keith Perry asked which institutions offer Interpersonal at the 3000 level, and most do not. Mark May said that Clayton State was planning to change it to a 2000-level course.

Several questions and discussion ensued over the agreements on transferability and area F, including credentialing for film courses.

Break for lunch.

Jeff Marker presented the Defense of Communication as a Discipline document for discussion. It will be distributed by email for minor tweaks and an electronic vote.

Next items: Area F and other issues from Barbara Brown and from Council on General Ed.

Further clarification is needed for the reason Area F guidelines must be essentially the same; it might be so that a student with an AA from one institution can easily transfer to a B.A. program at another. Keith Perry noted that ABAC is the special case. They aren't allowed to have any “degrees or even pathway” and put all students in B.S. or B.A. We had done this work before for the area F guidelines for each one. Jeff Marker noted that a big problem seems to be the question of why there are four areas.

Mark suggested three groups, film, mass comm/journalism, comm studies split into groups to work on this, which transpired.

The meeting adjourned about 2:45.

Respectfully submitted,
Keith Perry and Barbara Tucker