

Arts & Sciences Academic Advisory Committee
University System of Georgia
January 9, 2007
Macon State College

Present: Bobby Robinson (ABAC), Leroy Bynum (Albany), Ed Wheeler (AASU), Robert Parham (Augusta), Ray Wallace (Clayton), Glenn Stokes (Columbus), Karen Hambright and Keith Belcher (CGCC), Randall Griffus (Dalton), Robert Wynegar (Darton), Penny Mills (Gainseville), Beth Rushing (GCSU), Rob Page (GHC), Alan Jackson (GPC), Bret Danilowicz and Curtis Ricker (Ga Southern), MaryAnn Romski (GSU), Thierry Leger (KSU), Martha Wilson (Macon), Chris Jespersen (NGCSU), Johnnie Myers (SSU), Alan Gabrielli (SPSU), Hugh Ruppensburg (UGa), Dick Larkin (UWG), Dorothy Zinsmeister (USG), Linda Calendrillo (VSU)

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Alan Gabrielli. The list of members of the Committee was distributed for updates and as a record for attendance.

1. MAT degrees from Arts & Sciences units. Dick Larkin, representing the University of West Georgia, reported that a proposal for an MAT degree was turned down at the System office because the degree was to be from the College of Arts & Sciences. The information received was that only Colleges of Education would be approved to deliver MAT degrees. Representatives from other institutions (UGA, Kennesaw, North Georgia) reported that they have MAT degrees housed in their Arts & Sciences units. After general discussion, we agreed that Linda Calendrillo would raise this issue at the Educator Preparation meeting the following day (January 10, 2007).

Later in the meeting, Dorothy Zinsmeister offered some background on the issues. We also discussed the agenda item for the January 10 EPAAC agenda which would define MAT degrees as initial certification degrees for students without education degrees. After quite extensive discussion, we agreed to propose that a subcommittee of EPAAC, with representation from both A&S and Education, meet to work out a mutually agreeable solution, and to bring the revision to EPAAC at its next meeting. This motion was unanimously approved.

2. Area F requirements for early childhood majors. Several issues were raised about these requirements.
 - a. At last year's meeting, this body drafted a resolution requesting that the new Area F requirements for early childhood majors were not to be an unfunded mandate. This resolution was approved at the next day's EPAAC meeting, and should have gone on to the VPAA meetings after that. There is no record of the resolution having been addressed with the VPAA's.
 - b. The campus representatives discussed concerns with offering the new science courses in Area F. Among these concerns are lack of faculty, lack of space, questions about the extent to which the lecture and lab can be

- integrated (as the course design originally intended), timing of faculty development for the courses (the training is scheduled for spring, but several campuses are hiring new faculty to offer the courses and the new hires will not be in place until fall).
- c. There has been a question on some campuses about who would teach these Area F science courses – education faculty or science faculty. Dorothy Zinsmeister reminded the group that A&S deans have the responsibility for approving faculty to teach these science courses (since they are taught as A&S courses).
 - d. The consensus of the group was that the new Area F science course mandate has had and will have a significant effect on our science programs. It has forced some campuses to push back crucial hires in sciences to make the necessary hires for the Area F courses.
 - e. We agreed that Beth Rushing would raise these concerns with the assembled EPAAC group the next day – to keep the issues on the table.
3. Reimbursement of travel expenses. Earlier this academic year, campuses received notice from the USG office that state funds could not be used to reimburse job candidates' travel expenses. There was general discussion about how campuses were managing this. We agreed to follow up with more information as it comes available.
 4. Middle grades certification. One representative raised the question about the lack of alignment between the course requirements (upper level courses in science, for instance) for the middle grades concentrator and the new GACE exam (which defines science very broadly). There is concern that the curriculum does not adequately prepare students for success on the GACE exam.
 5. Secondary certification. As more education programs move toward post baccalaureate and graduate certification for secondary teachers, some academic departments are concerned that the numbers in their majors might decrease. Campuses who have already transitioned to this model offered evidence that the lack of undergraduate secondary certification does not harm the number of majors in arts & sciences, and in fact may be a benefit to enrollments.
 6. System office update. Dorothy Zinsmeister offered a presentation on various initiatives and programs in the system office.
 7. Election of officers. The new officers for this body are as follows:
 - a. Robert Parham (from Vice Chair to Chair)
 - b. Ray Wallace (new Vice Chair)
 - c. Executive Committee:
 - i. Bob Wynegar (Darton)
 - ii. Kent Barefield (Georgia Tech)
 - iii. Chris Jespersion (North Georgia)

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.