

# Meeting Minutes: Committee on Biological Sciences

**Academic Advisory Committee  
for the Biological Sciences**

**March 19, 1999**

**Georgia Perimeter College, Clarkston Campus, Room L4190**

## **Attendees:**

Regents	Dorothy Zinsmeister
Ga. Tech	Thomas Tornabene
Georgia State	No representative
MCG	No representative
UGA	William Barstow
Ga. Southern	John Averett
Valdosta	David Bechler
Albany	No representative
Armstrong Atl	Ron Beumer (Substitute for Kenneth Relyea)
Augusta	Emil Urbanm
Clayton	Rebecca Halyard
Columbus	George Stanton
Fort Valley	Clinton Dixon
Georgia Coll/St U	No representative
Georgia Southwestern	Elizabeth Elder
Kennesaw	Ralph Rascati
North Georgia	Joseph Biesbrock
Savannah	Harpal Singh
Southern Polytech	Bill Burnett
State U of West GA	Greg Stewart
ABAC	Ray Barber
Atlanta Metro	No representative

Bainbridge	Nancy Goodyear
Coastal Georgia	Eugene Keferl
Dalton	John Lugthart
Darton	Jeffery Hill
East Georgia	No representative
Floyd	Michael Windelspecht
Gainesville	Caywood Chapman
Georgia Perimeter	Betty Molloy
Gordon	Steve Greenwald
Macon	Eric Sun
Middle Georgia	John Pasto
South Georgia	Terry Harrington
Waycross	No representative

The meeting was called to order at 12:45 p.m. by Betty Molloy and introductions were made. Materials related to degree requirements and Area F were distributed prior to the meeting.

**Transfer Issues:**

Dorothy Zinsmeister spoke about issues related to transfer credits. She noted in particular that all Departments should be in compliance with provisions made by the Advisory Committee. She also noted that for each campus there is an Ombudsperson who should be the final authority on transfers and that we should be in contact with that person about special issues related to biology.

Elizabeth Molloy spoke of other problems related to Area F. The question was raised about whether it would be better to have Physics or Organic Chemistry in the first two years. Valdosta State and Augusta State expressed no preference. The remainder preferred Organic. No institution preferred Physics to Organic Chemistry.

Discussion followed about the level of Organic Chemistry. It is taught at the 3000 level in 8 institutions and at the 2000 level in 6. Greg Stewart, West Georgia, suggested that students planning to transfer there should check with them about specific requirements related to Organic Chemistry and Cell Biology.

Further comments related to Physics requirements are as follows:

Institutions requiring Calculus based Physics:

University of Georgia

Georgia Tech  
Savannah State

Institutions accepting Geology as an alternative to Physics:

Georgia Southern  
Georgia Southwestern  
West Georgia

Armstrong Atlantic has no Physics requirement and Kennesaw requires only one semester.

Transfer of General Biology: The University of Georgia requires a course for biology majors. Biology 1107 and 1108 are generally transferable.

**CPC deficiencies:**

Most institutions recommend students make up deficiencies in areas by requiring students to take a one semester course in the area in which they are deficient. The course should be one not required for their major. Some institutions, e.g., Brunswick, encourage the students into Chemistry.

**New teacher preparation guides:**

Broad field certification presents a problem in that it can't be done in the allotted hours. Greg Stewart, West Georgia, distributed a possible curriculum of 25 hours that might serve as an alternative. A general option seems to be a two-field certification with first-field in the major and second-field in the minor (12-15 hours).

**Elections:**

Ralph Rascati, Kennesaw State Univ., Chair-Elect.

*Executive Council members were as follows*

Caywood Chapman, 2-year institutions

Elizabeth Elder, 4-year institutions

David Bechler, Universities

**Online and Distance Learning:**

Each institution noted its activity and interest in online and other courses. Interest was mixed, but everyone agreed that they were difficult to do well and required a heavy investment of time. The need for assessment of these courses was mentioned. The question was raised as to whether this is a better way of teaching and whether we are really reaching more people? The University System is moving toward Web-CT based courses and away from GSAMS.

### **Request for Proposals:**

Dorothy Zinsmeister noted that there would be a request for proposals for initiatives by Academic Advisory Committees. We should start to act now. A committee was formed to consider ideas. Members are:

Rebecca Halyard  
Greg Stewart  
Jeff Hill  
George Stanton  
Bill Barstow

### **SOTAB:**

The meeting remains strong. The poster session was a success and will likely continue. The meeting next year will be on 21 and 22 January 2000. The organizing committee would welcome ideas for topics.

### **Future Meetings:**

It was proposed that next year's meeting be held at a State park or a similar facility.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

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