

Minutes of Psychology Academic Advisory Committee of
Board of Regents of University System of Georgia
25 January 2007

Nina Lamson, Gainesville State, Oconee (Athens), chair nlamson@gsc.edu
John Murray, GSU, Statesboro – chair-elect
Norm Presse, Dalton State
Barbara Brown, Georgia Perimeter, Dunwoody
Greg Corso, Georgia Tech
Eugenia Dixon, Bainbridge
Pam Terry, Gordon College
James Collins, Middle Georgia College
Alberta Johnson, Georgia Highlands
Keith Douglas, Armstrong State (Jane Wong stand-in)
Karen Hambright, Coastal Georgia CC
Bob Bauer, Valdosta State
Jerry Brenner, Fort Valley State (working on forensic psychology program)
Deborah Richardson, Augusta State University
Lee Gillis, Georgia College and State University
LuJuana Cochrane, Southern Polytechnic State University (Marietta); working on engineering psychology program)
Etta Lee, ABAC

- Nina distributed contact list. Will ask membership to put in correct information.
- Welcome to Georgia Southern University from chair-elect, John Murray
 - GSU is an exciting place. With 16,500 students, the university is largest in southern part of state. ‘Second favorite place for Hope scholars’. Carnegie classification: doctoral intensive institution. 12% graduate students, and aiming for increase to 20% in effort to boost graduate profile.
 - Psychology Dept is close to largest major on campus: 450-500. The program offers both BA and BS degrees. The BA has more of a liberal arts focus, with a minor and foreign language requirement. The BS is more research oriented, including classes on advanced statistics and a research capstone. Students who are aiming for graduate school are encouraged to pursue the BS. The department of 15 faculty emphasizes undergraduate research.
 - The graduate program was recently changed, with BOR approval for a PsyD degree beginning fall ’07. This is the first doctorate at GSU outside the College of Education. The department also offers a Master’s degree in general experimental but no longer offers a clinical master’s. The new Psy.D. program is intended to serve the region by providing clinicians in rural areas of the state; training will include rural-based practicum, courses. The department is hoping for APA accreditation in 2012.
 - Regent’s Center for Learning Disorders (RCLD): purpose is to diagnose and suggest accommodations for students with learning disabilities in university system of Georgia. 13 schools in catchment area. 2 days of testing (\$500). Now administratively under Psych Dept at GSU; great lab for PsyD stus.

- Karen Hambright distributed minutes for review
 - AP only for 1101; agreed on 3 as level
 - discussion re connection to BOR
 - how to get information on website
 - learning outcomes
 - Nina will try to make contact

- Get BOR office to post everything (Nina)

- Barbara Brown made a proposal designed to allow more courses in Area F
 - review of the BOR website revealed an error in format: need to clarify that indented three items at bottom are not subsets of “development of behavior”
 - remove “0-6 hours” on last of list
 - discussion of effect of Area F changes
 - what transfers? 4-year college will take credits from any Area F although student may have to take some prerequisites that would be included in 4-year school program. – as long as not more than 20 hours
 - 2- year schools may not have enough courses outside psychology to fill in Area F
 - add Biology as a guided elective
 - problem with transferring 2000-level RM and QM courses at community vs. 4-year colleges
 - discussion of requiring 6 hours beyond intro
 - at least 3, up to 9? at least 6?
 - try to give the stus something meaningful if they stop with an associate’s degree

 - ***Barbara Brown moved that the wording in the description of Area F be changed to say “and up to 9 hours selected from following areas”, and changing statement at bottom to read 6 to 15 hours”***
 - Collins seconded; Corso changed; BB agreed.
 - 2 opposed; 15 in favor → passed
 - ***DON’T DO THIS ONE Motion: move three bottom items to be clear that they are not part of development of behavior and omit 0-6 from the end of that section***
 - BB motion
 - second from Norm
 - unanimous
 - Barbara Brown moved that ***biological sciences be added to the areas that are encouraged among guided electives in Area F***
 - Bob Bauer seconded
 - unanimous approval
 - James Collins proposed that we add a biological psychology or brain and behavior course at 2000-level in the up-to-9 list
 - ***Motion: “change options in Area F for psychology to read “and up to 9 additonal hours in psychology” and remove the list of specific areas that follows”*** from Keith Douglas
 - Greg and Barbara seconded

- unanimous
- Pam Terry proposed a motion that the description be modified to *add “and 6 to 15 hours of “ before Guided Electives in the Area F Guidelines for Psychology*
 - LJ second
 - 17 approve
- Action: Nina will forward original and new Area F guideline page with motions to entire group. See Appendix at end of minutes.

- Announcements
 - John Murray: superstar student received support from Psi Chi for an undergraduate research conference at GSU. April 21. Submissions due 4 Apr. Scott Lillienfeld will do keynote “Scientific vs. nonscientific reasoning in everyday life and clinical practice.”
 - Bob Bauer
 - international education: Regents sent RFP looking for program from underrepresented disciplines and geographic areas. Czech Republic program through Valdosta State for psychology and education majors. 21 psych majors going this year. Accept students from other colleges and universities. \$2100 including airfare and housing (does not include food or tuition) for 25 days in Europe; 3 days in Prague; Vienna for day trip; Auschwitz and Cracow in Poland. Senior seminar offered next summer. May 8 to June 1. Can go as transient student. All classes have excursions. Not in class everyday.
 - Georgia Psychological Society conference: second conference at Macon State; 7 institutions from Georgia will be presenting papers. Dr. Janie Wilson will be keynote speaker. April 14.
- Status of bylaws
 - The version of the bylaws we have says “draft” on the form although we believe it has been approved by the Committee
 - editorial changes to bylaws
 - remove “the” from Article II, second bullet, before “curriculum”
- Barbara Brown agreed to organize meeting next year and serve as Chair-Elect
- Discussion about Area F motions. According to our Bylaws, vote of those present at this meeting holds → we can modify wording for new webpage

Plans to contact people who are not present at this meeting by 28 February. Send information gathered from contacts to Nina who will distribute list to group

- Albany State – John Murray
- Atlanta Metropolitan: Barbara
- Clayton State: Nina
- Darton College: John
- East Georgia: John
- Georgia Gwinnett: Nina
- Georgia Southwestern: John
- Georgia State: Greg

- Kennesaw State: Deborah
- Macon State: Karen
- North Georgia: John
- Savannah State: John
- South Georgia: Bob
- University of Georgia: John
- University of West Georgia: John
- Waycross College: John

Return from subgroups

Bylaws

- Proposed revisions on attached document. (Nina to send forward for vote)
 - Bauer moved; Corso seconded
 - 16 yes, 1 absent → approve that bylaws are sent forward to email list
- Bauer proposed that we no longer need listserv but that Chair of Advisory Committee will hold official email list.

Reports from subgroups

Accountability

- suggestion that we share information about objectives and outcomes
- Barbara Brown suggested that it would be good to know what people would like a sophomore psychology major to be able to do -- topic for next meeting
- Recommendation that we hold this meeting “near” the Kennesaw Measuring Up conference.

Retention

- Concern that we are being forced to use invalid measures and we have no power to change the situation
- The group proposed a recommendation to send forward to the USG after review by members of the committee:
 - As psychologists who are trained and expert in issues of measurement, we feel a responsibility and have an ethical obligation to inform you of problems with retention data being used for policy decisions. We are concerned that the current retention initiative uses a convenience rather than representative sample to measure retention. In addition, there are significant differences across institutions that render those convenience samples not comparable to one another.
- Collins: what we are assessing may not be real student success. Criteria (e.g, graduation and retention rates) used for RPG may not be valid measures of student success.
- Action item: Deborah edited; Nina will send

Barbara Brown asked for clarification about AA vs. AS degrees. Only difference is foreign language requirement. It may be confusing to students to have two programs. If student does AS with foreign language option, does receiving institution care if student got AA or AS?

Response: No, all we care is that the core is covered; type of associate’s degree is not critical

Next meeting? Barbara will organize; campus or hotel?

- Nina and John will generate guidelines for meeting organization
- agreement to meet in hotel in late January

Appendix: Area F Guidelines: Psychology

Area F in Psychology consists of 18 hours in lower-division (1000- and 2000-level) courses related to the program study and/or prerequisite to higher level courses required in the major:

REQUIRED: Introductory Psychology 3 hours

And up to ~~six (6)~~ nine (9) hours selected from the following areas in psychology:

- Additional hours in Introductory Psychology
- Personality or personal relations or adjustment
- Survey of classes of abnormal behavior
- Applications of psychology to the workplace
- Development of behavior
- Behavior in a social context
- Research methodology in the behavioral sciences
- Careers and professional issues in psychology 0-6 hours

Comment [GC1]: Delete all these bullet points.

And up to 6-15 hours of Guided Electives (Non-psychology courses) to be determined by institution. Courses in the following areas are encouraged: foreign language, sociology, anthropology, philosophy, statistics, biological science. 9-15 hours