



**Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Winter Meeting Minutes
Friday Feb. 3- Saturday Feb 4th 2006
Kennesaw State University**



**Student Advisory Council (SAC) Winter Meeting Minutes
Friday February 3rd - Saturday February 4th, 7:00-10:00pm; 8:00-3:00pm
Kennesaw State University**

USG Campuses and Representatives in Attendance

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College- Ellis Washington III, SGA President
Atlanta Metropolitan College- Chenelle Marshall, SGA President
Armstrong Atlantic State University- Phillip Pope, SGA President
Augusta State University- Jerry Bautista, SGA President
Clayton College and State University- Ben Hopkins, SGA President
Dalton
Darton College- Brian Polson, SGA Representative
Gainesville College, Whitney Crumley, SGA President
Georgia College and State University- Sara Johnson, SGA Vice President
Georgia Institute of Technology- Patrick Cook, SGA Representative
Georgia Southern University- Lauren Markle, SGA President
Gordon College- Gilda Moss-Adderley, SGA President
Kennesaw State University- James Touchton, SGA Vice President
Macon State College- Robert Akins, SGA Representative
Middle Georgia College- Kenny Higues, SGA Representative
Middle Georgia College- Darcy Racoff, SGA Representative
North Georgia College and State University- Bernex Richardson, SGA President
University of Georgia-Arthur Tripp, SGA Chief of Staff
Waycross College, Allen Rountree, SGA President
University of West Georgia, Blake Lord, SGA President
Armstrong Atlantic State University- Al Harris, Director of Student Activities
Clayton College and State University- Jeff Jacobs, Director of Student Life and Orientation
Kennesaw State University- Kathy Alday, Director of Student Life Center
Macon State College, Carlie Strong, Student Life Program Coordinator
North Georgia College & State University- Wesley Thomas, Director of Student Center & Activities
University System Office- Tonya Lam, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
University System Office- Heather Eberly, Graduate Assistant

USG Campuses and Representatives Registered but Not In Attendance

Columbus State University- Jamie Williams, SGA Vice President



**Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Winter Meeting Minutes
Friday Feb. 3- Saturday Feb 4th 2006
Kennesaw State University**



Information packets were given to each representative consisting of minutes from the October 21st, 2006 meeting at Georgia College and State University, the agenda for the meeting, and University system publications were distributed. Introductions took place from 7:00-7:30pm.

7:30:p.m. Welcome: Kathy Alday, Director of the Student Life Center, Kennesaw State University

Ms. Alday expressed her gratitude to the group for attending this SAC meeting and introduced Kennesaw State University Student Government President, Thomas Cotton and Vice President, James Touchton who would oversee the meeting.

7:45p.m. Textbook Up-date, Phillip Pope, SGA President Armstrong Atlantic State University

Phillip informed that group that a letter had been sent to Mr. Tom Daniel concerning the textbook issues and certain members of SAC held a phone conversation with him recently. They were informed that this is a great endeavor and encouraged to do more research on what others states have done to eliminate sales tax on textbooks. Mr. Tom Daniel will be present at this meeting and will address the issue further.

8:00 p.m. Goals & Objective, Al Harris, Director of Student Activities, Armstrong Atlantic State University.

Goals and Objectives were formulated from the Summer Retreat and assigned at the fall conference were discussed and reported. Student discussed goals and objectives and what they thought were important topics.

The students began their discussion talking about the plus/minus grading system. The students expressed some concerns with this issue. Some believe this could have a negative impact on students' grades especially at certain institutions such as Georgia Tech. The students were encouraged to speak with their student bodies about this topic to find out what other concerns may be out there.

Students also discussed WebCT/Vista. They spoke of the connections being slow and problems with the system that different institutions have been facing.

Other topics disused were student health insurance, the 10% bill, and financial aid.

Students were encouraged to generate these ideas and speak with different committees about these issues along with others.

Students ended conversations and dispersed to speak further.



**Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Winter Meeting Minutes
Friday Feb. 3- Saturday Feb 4th 2006
Kennesaw State University**



Saturday February 4th

Breakfast was Available from 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

9:00a.m.-10:00a.m. Institutional Round Tables

The group separated according to type of institution and discussed issues.

Topics discussed included textbooks, communication among students, and relationships with administrators.

10:00a.am.-11:30a.m. Goals and Objective Reports

Textbooks was a topic covered again in which it was mentioned that they should streamline the textbook agenda.

A student representative on the Board of Regents was discussed. The students that having a representative on the BOR will help to provide comfort to the students within the system. Some SAC members believe this should be something taken on by SAC and encouraged by SAC; others thought this should be addressed outside of the SAC group. Students all felt as if this should be something discussed and done in a manner to ensure that something can happen knowing it might take a while. A proposal is in the planning stages on this issue. Those institutions looking into it are The University of Georgia, Armstrong Atlantic State University, University of West GA, Georgia College and State University and Kennesaw State University.

11:30 p.m. Galileo Feedback, Merryll Penson, Executive Director of Galileo

Ms. Penson starts by asking the students “how many are happy library users” and “how many are not”. Most individuals seemed to like their library experiences. Library directors have some together and are making resources more available for all students. There are many electronic resources available to everyone. She asks the students what they think of these resources and opens the floor for discussion. Ms. Penson is asked why they use password protection. She speaks about the importance of password protection and that these resources should not be open for everyone to view. Funding is questioned and she informs the students that institutions do some funding on their own, but that the state provides most of the funding. Many positive comments were made by the students about Galileo and it was asked of them that they be Galileo Ambassadors on their campuses and report their findings as ambassadors.

12:00p.m.-12:30p.m. Lunch was provided



**Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Winter Meeting Minutes
Friday Feb. 3- Saturday Feb 4th 2006
Kennesaw State University**



12:30p.m.- 1:15p.m. Conversation with Mr. Tom Daniel, Senior Vice Chancellor for External Activities and Facilities

Mr. Daniel informed the students that he was speaking only for himself and not for the Chancellor or the Board of Regents. He stated that this is the single best time for you to be students in the University System of Georgia. He talked about how this is an exciting time and a time of humble beginnings. The student population is at 250,000 and as a system is regarded on the same level with Wisconsin, Texas, and California. He also mentioned that today's students are having a very different experience than students in the past with technology and transportation at the forefront.

The students who are currently in the system are some of the best ever with the highest SAT scores, retention and graduation rates up, and the most honored students with awards in national and international competitions.

Mr. Daniel was asked how we are showing excellence across the system from meeting with legislators. He states that we are off to a good start. The governor took 55 million dollars to increase our allocation by that much to handle the growth of the system and a 4% salary increase for faculty and administrators. He also mentioned that there is 225 million dollars in new activities and facilities throughout the system. He next spoke about the system working with governor on major new initiatives involving customer service. The Governor wants to make sure that all service is done faster, friendlier, and easier. Most of the focus of the focus group on customer service was on the business side of universities, not on faculty/academic side.

Mr. Daniel mentions that the Chancellor's first day on the job is Monday February 6th and we have 3 new regents: Bob Hatcher, Felton Jenkins, Ben Tarbutton and we are expecting another appointment. He also thanked the students for their support of Corlis Cummings during her term as interim chancellor. The students were also thanked for their attendance at this SAC meeting and that he has a high degree of confidence that those individuals sitting in this room are the future leaders of the state. The session was then opened for questions.

1:30p.m.-2:00p.m. Discussion with Vice Chancellor, Mr. Bill Bowes, Vice Chancellor for Fiscal and Academic Affairs.

Mr. Bowes thanked the students for the invitation to this conference. He spoke with the students about Retention, Progression, Graduation initiative. You can find his presentation below.

2:15p.m.-2:45p.m. Student Information Technology Survey, Dr. Catherine Finnegan, Director, Assessment & Public Information Advanced Learning Technologies

Dr. Finnegan spoke with the students about the Student Information Technology Survey. She wanted to know how students found out about technology. It is expected that students have an opportunity to complete an on-line survey with the belief that the results



**Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Winter Meeting Minutes
Friday Feb. 3- Saturday Feb 4th 2006
Kennesaw State University**



will help campuses identify services they need to offer to their students. These surveys will also help institutions know how students are using technology and what they think about the access they currently have. The study will be voluntary and anonymous.

SAC can help by endorsing it on their campuses once results are compiled it will be reported by to SAC. Any question students may have could be answered on this survey because there are open-ended questions to allow room for questioning.

The survey can be found below.

http://psurv6.usg.edu/users/002alt/usg_student_2005_120105.htm

3:00p.m. Wrap-Up

Al Harris, Armstrong Atlantic State University challenged the students for the April meeting to bring something that they feel is a best practice on your campus to share with the other campuses. We'll take time during the spring conference to talk about these. Ms. Lam is trying to set a format much like what the BOR does with the institutions to compete for Best Practice awards.

The next SAC meeting will be a joint meeting with outgoing and incoming reps attending to help establish a smooth transition between the groups. This will also be a time to help new folks get to know each other before the summer conference.

Discussion followed about the issue of a representative on the Board of Regents. It was decided that the group needs to be respectful of one another and work together on issues such as this.

Ellis Washington III extended his invitation to ABAC for the spring conference on April 21-22nd. He brought greetings from his president in welcoming us to the campus. Reminded group that whatever the issue, in the end, we are to decide what is best for the University system.. SGA@abac.edu.