



**Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Fall Conference Minutes
Wednesday, September 13-Thursday, September 14, 2006
Clayton State University**



**Student Advisory Council (SAC) Fall Conference Minutes
Wednesday, September 13-Thursday, September 14, 6:00-10:00pm; 8:00-3:00pm
Clayton State University**

USG Campuses and Representatives in Attendance

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College- Jason Chapman, SGA President
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College -Brittaney Burley, SGA Parliamentarian
Albany State University- Rubin Pusha, SGA President
Armstrong Atlantic State University- Erik Reid, SGA President
Atlanta Metropolitan College- Sonya Ingram, SGA President
Augusta State University- Isaac McAdams, SGA President
Clayton State University- Toke Adetayo, SGA President
Coastal Georgia Community College- Ashley Frye, SGA President
Columbus State University- Nicole de Vries, SGA President
Darton College- Laquata Sumter, SGA President
Georgia Highlands College, Cassie Taylor- Representative
Georgia Institute of Technology- Paul Byrne, SGA Executive Vice President
Georgia State University- Joan Collier, SGA President
Gordon State College- Gilda Moss-Adderley, SGA President
Macon State College- William Archer, SGA President
Medical College of Georgia, Emil Bailey, SGA President
Middle Georgia College- Darcy Racoff, SGA President
North Georgia College and State University- Bernex Richardson, SGA President
Savannah State University- Donna Jenkins, SGA President
South Georgia College, Candi Williams, SGA Vice President
Southern Polytechnic State University, Carolina Daza, SGA President
University of West Georgia, Riean Norman, SGA President
Valdosta State University, Jeremy Baker, SGA President

Armstrong Atlantic State University- Al Harris, Director of Student Activities
Atlanta Metropolitan College- Iris Shanklin, Director of Student Activities
Augusta State University- Eddie Howard, Director of Student Activities
Clayton State University- Jeff Jacobs, Associate Dean of Students
University of Georgia- Lauren Fields, Advocating Safe Alternatives for Peers President
University System Office- Tonya Lam, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs
University System Office- Jenny Greyerbiehl, Graduate Assistant

USG Campuses and Representatives Registered but Not In Attendance

Dalton State College- Nathan Smith, SGA President
Georgia Southern University- Lindsey Dickson, VP of Finance
Georgia Southern University- Kelsey Grubbs, VP of Academic Affairs

Wednesday, September 13

Information packets were given to each representative consisting of the agenda for the meeting an evaluation and the University System Points of Pride handout.



**Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Fall Conference Minutes
Wednesday, September 13-Thursday, September 14, 2006
Clayton State University**



6:00 p.m. Registration

6:30 p.m. Welcome & Dinner-Tonya Lam, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs, University System Office & Toke Adetayo, SGA President, Clayton State University

Ms. Lam welcomed the students and thanked them for being so flexible as she acknowledged this meeting date was not the date we originally planned. She also expressed to the students what their role was for the Board of Regents and how important their voices are. Ms. Lam initiated introductions of the group once she was finished speaking.

Ms. Adetayo announced they would be providing tours of campus after the SAC Conference on Thursday. She also acknowledged the rushed registration and thanked the students for registering to attend. She also expressed her appreciation of being able to host the SAC Conference on their campus,

7:30 p.m. Team Builder-Al Harris, Director of Student Activities, Armstrong Atlantic State University & Iris Shanklin, Director of Student Activities, Atlanta Metropolitan College

8:00 p.m. Review of Goals & Objectives set at May Retreat-Al Harris, Director of Student Activities, Armstrong Atlantic State University

4 topics of interest SAC wanted to address in the next year were formulated at the May 2006 summer retreat (Board of Regents Connectivity, the HOPE scholarship, Academic Advisement and Course Availability/Academic Scheduling). Students broke up into the 4 topics listed above to discuss a plan of action and then presented the following back to the group:

Board of Regents Connectivity

Objective: To create an environment that enhances connectivity between the Board of Regents, University System of Georgia Institutions and its constituents; to create a concrete system of representation and accountability; and to promote a more comprehensive interaction that will unify the University System of Georgia. The ultimate goal of connectivity is to have a student as a formal voice and vote on the Board of Regents.

Action Items: 2 SAC students will attend each Board of Regents meeting; SAC students will work to build relationships with Board members in their local areas; SAC will work to increase awareness of the Board of Regents and the University System of Georgia; extensively explore the benefits and efficiency of a voting SAC member on the Board of Regents; review the process the state of Texas and other possible states went through to accomplish this goal; write a resolution to the Board of Regents to allocate funding to allow SAC members to attend Board of Regent meetings; brainstorm and visit other funding ideas such as asking each SGA to donate \$50 to the cause as an immediate way



**Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Fall Conference Minutes
Wednesday, September 13-Thursday, September 14, 2006
Clayton State University**



to solve the funding problem; inform SAC members of where each Regent is located in the state of Georgia.

Committee Members

William Archer, Macon State College-Chair
Laquata Sumter, Darton College & Riean Norman, University of West Georgia-Research Directors
Paul Byrne, Georgia Institute of Technology-Director of Relations
Carolina Daza, Southern Polytechnic State University-Committee Member
Jason Chapman, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College & Janessa Hartmann, Georgia College & State University-Finance Directors

HOPE Scholarship

Issue: Incoming 1st year students frequently lose their HOPE scholarship

Objective: to increase retention and enrollment

Action Items: Do a pilot study to test the feasibility of the proposed plan: High school students with 2.9 to 3.2 would be given ½ of the HOPE scholarship when they arrive on campus in the fall and if they receive a 3.0 in their first semester of college they will be reimbursed for the ½ not originally covered when they first arrived on campus. If you received a 3.3 GPA or higher in high school you would receive the HOPE scholarship as it currently exists. The ideal pilot school is a medium/large size institution, with a mix of commuter and non-commuter students, with low retention rates. If more than one school is willing to do this, ideally one of the schools would be a 2 year institution and the other school would be a 4 year institution.

Committee Members

Issac McAdams, Augusta State University
Toke Adetayo, Clayton State University
Nicole de Vries, Columbus State University
Ashley Frye, Coastal Georgia Community College
Cassie Taylor, Georgia Highlands College

Academic Advisement

Issue: Academic advisement is not effective and/or consistent which causes students a lot of frustration.

Objective: Create an academic advisement center or department that deals with advisement regardless of major. This center/department will know all Board of Regents information and changes, know graduation requirements, academic scheduling, etc. This center/department should work to complement the university advisement mission. This center/department will train all faculty in how to advise students about multiple issues such as balance, etc. as well as logistical changes in graduation requirements, course



**Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Fall Conference Minutes
Wednesday, September 13-Thursday, September 14, 2006
Clayton State University**



catalog changes, etc. every year. Students will be required to see their academic advisor every semester and will have a hold on their ability to register for classes each semester if they do not fulfill this requirement. Once a student visits their advisor, the hold will be lifted. This requirement would not apply to students in a cohort or program that allows for no flexibility in scheduling.

Note: At some institutions, departments/schools are currently responsible for advisement of their students.

Committee Members

Erik Reid, Armstrong Atlantic State University
Gilda Moss-Adderley, Gordon College
Bernex Richardson, North Georgia College & State University
Emil Bailey, Medical College of Georgia
Sonya Ingram, Atlanta Metropolitan College
Jeremy Baker, Valdosta State University

Course Availability/Academic Schedule

Objectives: To promote student retention by offering an 18th month academic schedule for course offerings; to support the primary initiatives of fixed tuition; to support a successful transition of transfer and transient students, to update Banner Web or utilize a system to support the 18 month schedule; to create a better/greater frequency of the total number of courses offered each semester; to aid administration/registrar in planning, providing, and preparing a schedule that mirrors the needs of the students.

Classes offered, time of day class will be held (morning, afternoon, night)

Action Items: Research institutions that are and are not providing a schedule beyond the next semester; research actual initiatives of fixed tuition and its correlation to providing an 18 month schedule; measure the success of or the feelings of students toward an 18 month schedule; identify Banner Web capabilities to support this system; pull statistics from institutions that already offer a 18 month schedule to see what their graduation/retention rates are and if you can accredit an increase in graduation/retention rates to having an 18 month schedule available to students.

Committee Members

Rubin Pusha, Albany State University
Donna Jenkins, Savannah State University
Darcy Racoff, Middle Georgia College
Candi Williams, South Georgia College
Joan Collier, Georgia State University



**Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Fall Conference Minutes
Wednesday, September 13-Thursday, September 14, 2006
Clayton State University**



Thursday, September 14

8:00 a.m. Breakfast-President of Clayton State University, Dr. Thomas K. Harden
President Harden welcomed everyone to Clayton State.

9:00 a.m. Energizer-Eddie Howard, Director of Student Activities, Augusta State University

9:30 a.m. What is Your Institution Doing?-Bernex Richardson, SGA President, North Georgia College & State University

This session was to provide a place for institutions to share what was happening on their campuses.

North Georgia College and State University- Parking and intramural issues, new deck and recreation center-passed a fee for these buildings last spring. Both of these buildings are breaking ground in late October and early November. The buildings are scheduled to open in fall of 2008. They are opening a new library technology center and are renovating a large academic building on campus. They have 5 administrative teams on their SGA working with: #1. Complementing the BOR comprehensive customer service program #2. Early intervention systems-1st and 2nd year students meet with student resources: career services, math labs, etc. Also, working on providing better advisement-more accountability, faculty are mandated to contact students #3. Student engagement within learning communities #4. Academic advising system-creating a North Georgia College and State University advising philosophy #5. Course availability

Southern Polytechnic State University- working on connections with the President of the institution; changing the food service, have a new Starbucks area; recycling project proposal in the works; service committee-working to unite the community and the institution; foreign exchange account-SGA will allocate funding for them; health programs-SGA is promoting exercise; want more student participation; programming more so they are not just allocating money

Atlanta Metropolitan College- initiative for weekend classes offered; library open on weekend; during registration SGA students volunteer in administrative offices; Catch Me at My Best Award-for administrative offices; open meetings (twice a semester); customer service goal; book loan program (students loan books to other students for free).

Gordon State College- customer service (should be our watch bird)-we are here to provide service, open a door, smile, give students what you would want, pick up litter, etc. Each club president has to come to meet with her once a month; working on a plan for walk for AIDS day.

Armstrong Atlantic State- working on motivating other members of their team and working with the union board programming board to create a good team; do some



Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Fall Conference Minutes
Wednesday, September 13-Thursday, September 14, 2006
Clayton State University



creative community service (not just blood drives); mandatory meal plans for all students who live on campus-working on improving food service; opened up a new recreation center- faculty & staff have to pay \$120/year; advisement policy-wants a mandatory workshop, currently have workshops but are not mandatory; meet with all organizations once a semester-Organizations Presidents Council; gives advisors a "That A Girl/Boy" nomination... encourages org pres to attend other orgs activities

Darton College- nursing online programs (associate in nursing)-50 students have begun the program this summer; parking lots started this summer-1st of October parking lot should be complete; new academic building still being constructed; getting more students involved-mailed letters to faculty, staff, 30 active members at 1st meeting; recycle percussion-trash cans, ladders, etc.-sold 150 tickets plus 150 free students; having a national soccer tournament on campus-SGA assist in sponsorship; voting drive-250 applications; enrollment went from 3,800 to 5,000 students in one semester; 25 international students; new wrestling club has 40 members; advisement program-college orientation class for 1st year and transfer students-meet with advisor every month

Savannah State University- safety on campus-fully gated; creating policies for visitation; housing-expanding by fall of 07; campus service committee-campus wide survey going out in spring 07; SGA painting paws on campus (tigers mascot); SGA visits classes and gives campus tours and passes out info about SGA; homecoming planning; working on coordinating schedules for campus organization programs; let students shadow students all day

Valdosta State University- have done a lot of ribbon cutting; Sodexo taking over food, working on time availability & bringing more restaurants; Student Success Center-pilot program-do advising and tutoring; meeting with BOR-getting new student union (3 or 4 years); parking deck-4% increase in enrollment this year; SGA senators sit in mall where students can voice their concerns to senators-let them know who we are; senators attend fall and spring training-mandatory, diversity training-used for teambuilding (125 international students, lots of minority students on campus)

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College- alumni & faculty meetings representation-SGA president attendance; new president (Dr. Bridges); got state status-4 year degrees (fall 07)-2 programs agriculture and nursing; Greek students on campus; SGA, RHA, Campus Activities Board merged with SGA; weekly senator meeting with club presidents-attending as reps also; 1st year only residence hall breaking ground soon; new student center (ground breaking stage); created student web addresses for all students; implemented most of campus wireless; faculty/administration appreciation banquet; working on getting more online classes; have parking issues; retention rates need to increase-international students (what they need help with and are open to suggestions)

Medical College of Georgia- gave some information about their curriculum & advisement; major happenings: building a new dental school-working on funding;



Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Fall Conference Minutes
Wednesday, September 13-Thursday, September 14, 2006
Clayton State University



axiUm-puts all patient records on computer; built a new cancer research center and new nursing school; increase in class sizes. SGA is supporting and donating money to clubs on campus; there is a humanitarian on campus-clinic at local flea market; dance marathon; try to do a mixer with ASU this year-battle of the bands. Issues SGA are faced with: students busy on campus with school work; not a lot of interaction between schools and professions--drag those students out to monthly TGIF's such as: med war (wilderness adventure race), battle of the bands

Columbus State University- 1st year learning community (pilot program in 2nd year); bridging downtown with their main campus; getting new student life center and parking deck; Cunningham center for events-student currently pay; campus wireless; quality enhancement program-faculty take concerns from students. SGA meets bi-weekly with 40 org reps, if reps miss more than 2 meetings they no longer have a vote, every Thursday at 12:30pm-SGA is the ONLY thing meeting; 1st year forum created (special committees); information booths during the 1st few weeks of the semester. Committees: budget; special events-working to build traditions, working on awareness of SGA issues, articles in school newspaper-interview of someone from SGA-Student Government name change; radio committee; knowledge and history committee; high school involvement committee

South Georgia College- centennial; new president; new residence halls; new union; new recreation center-finished fall 2007; book loan with student support services; involvement in SGA-must be a rep from each club coming to SGA meeting; food service issues/meal plan instituted recently

Macon State College- working well with administrators; exec connect-get to know each other event this summer; September 11th memorial was their 1st program of the year; club fair; need to re-energize for SGA-senate races next week; voter registration drive with Georgia College and State University. Their spring semester focus will be to build support for forward momentum. What's happening: conference center-expansion approved by BOR; experiencing growth in enrollment in non-traditional students (28 years old is the median age of students); offering new math and biology degree programs

Georgia Highlands College- Offer 4 year programs now; have 5 campuses; advising day once or twice a semester-in student life center, skills shops; club roundup day-one new organization; bookstore owned by Barnes & Noble-order textbooks at any B&N; highlands email account is the official email and where you will get all of your information

Coastal Georgia Community College- wi-fi in student center; pre-advising orientation workshop changed the orientation program-more interactive and allows students to meet each other; changed how you get your financial aid check-after you attend 6 hours of class you can go get financial aid; get students involved for events (smaller turnouts).



Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Fall Conference Minutes
Wednesday, September 13-Thursday, September 14, 2006
Clayton State University



Events they are currently hosting: all clubs must attend Habitat for Humanity project; leadership weekend-there must be a representative from every club.

Middle Georgia College- new student center this year; new café in downtown and owner got wi-fi there, it has turned into the new hangout downtown; SGA goals: day where you can buy, sell and trade books with other students; monthly meetings with president open to students, staff, and faculty; SGA newsletter; checking school email encouragement-asking instructors to send homework through that; working on food plan improvements. Current Events: fall festival where proceeds are donated to charity; homecoming; college recess-on registration day

Clayton State University- masters of liberal arts, science, nursing and health administration; new student convocation for 1st year students and faculty and staff members; working on new recreation center/union-university center currently has classes and administrators working in it; working on student housing; new food service (Sodexo); smart start for 1st year students (pilot program this year) encouraging involvement. SGA is working on recruitment; getting the word out; training its members; and working with the Council of Clubs (club presidents).

Georgia Institute of Technology- encouraging diversity dialogue with all campus leaders; \$4 million for SGA to allocate money to 160 student orgs-looking for ways to stretch their money; currently rewriting fiscal policies; tax free textbooks-student lobby board (lobby at the state capitol); working on a student life endowment to help pay for large campus events; promoting student involvement

Augusta State University- new student center; revamping constitution and by-laws; parking issues-ways to fix this; 5 day add/drop; committee initiative: faculty/student committees-added alternates so if people don't show student voices are still heard; focus on judicial board-increase the number of cases-awareness about appeals

University of West Georgia- centennial gala in new campus center; working on funds for continuing education and community center-link with community; football stadium (fall of 08); university working on going paperless-West Georgia one cards (direct deposit); voter registration drives; local elected official forums; blood drive competition against Valdosta State; sending reps to SGA AIDS walk; Carrollton walk-money raised goes to students at West GA; safety campaign-evaluation; homecoming pep rally; memory lane (seniors who have completed graduation papers can get a brick with their name on it put on the walk); surveying students about class interests; voting on 1st year senators-interviews prior. Long-term goals: foreign affairs campus coordinators-disseminate information given in Washington D.C.; no cars for 1st year students next year; SGA commercials over university broadcast; monthly briefing with president or vice president via SGA.



**Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Fall Conference Minutes
Wednesday, September 13-Thursday, September 14, 2006
Clayton State University**



Discussion on Textbook Taxes Ensued

History: letter signed by SAC and sent to the Board of Regents, Governor, and all Legislatures last October. Worked on figuring out how much eliminating taxes on textbooks would cost-\$19.6 million in taxes every year. Contact the chairman of higher education to see what they needed to do, found out they needed someone to sponsor the bill. 8 days before cross-over the bill was introduced. Suggestion was made to come back next year after elections in November. Things that need to happen now: Board of Regents has to give an informal heads up, the Governors budget needs to be reevaluated--(places in the state budget that can be adjusted), need higher education chairman sponsorship again. Ideally the bill will be reintroduced in early January or February and will continue to be reintroduced in the next few years, because it is not likely to pass now. The average student in Georgia will save \$100/year... the problem is finding a way. The state of Missouri currently has no tax on textbooks. A plus side to this is this would be less money HOPE has to pay for students who have the scholarship.

12:00pm Institutional Round Tables & Lunch-Jeff Jacobs, Associate Dean of Students, Clayton State University

Broke up into institutional sizes.

The following was discussed in each group:

Smaller than 5,000 students-issue of turnouts for sports; getting school pride and spirit--create traditions on campus, give freebies to 1st year students, etc.; participation on campus--get out on campus and be friendly, find replacements for yourselves (SGA Presidents)--start recruiting people know and groom them; funding

5,000-10,000 students- power of SGA and the student activities fee-50/50 faculty & students--talked about ways they liked the set up and didn't like it; communication with President--brainstormed on how everyone does it.

10,000 + students- SGA's that are or aren't influential--how to work with admin to get more autonomy, how to structure SGA, funding policies, etc.--how to make SGA's stronger for schools with large student bodies.

1:00 p.m. Georgia Peer Education Network-Lauren Fields, Advocating Safe Alternatives for Peers President, University of Georgia

See PowerPoint Presentation online.

1:30 p.m. Future Dates & Meeting Locations-Jenny Greyerbiehl, Graduate Assistant, University System Office

Discussed future meeting dates and locations. The following was decided upon:

Spring 2007 SAC Conference: February 23rd and 24th at Macon State College.

Spring 2007 SAC Transition Meeting: April 20th and 21st with both the current (past) and newly elected SGA Presidents at Coastal Georgia Community College.

2:00 p.m. What can the Student Affairs Office do for you?-Jenny Greyerbiehl, Graduate Assistant, University System Office



**Student Advisory Council (SAC)
Fall Conference Minutes
Wednesday, September 13-Thursday, September 14, 2006
Clayton State University**



Discussions about the SAC website ensued. Changes to the Student Government Association Information page will take place:

http://www.usg.edu/sac/about/sga_reps.phtml as well as work on being able to pay for the SAC Conference with a credit card and creating a SAC Conference heading on the webpage instead of putting the registration under the Meeting/Minutes link. Also, put up information about locations and dates on the SAC Conference page when registration is not up. Include a drafted agenda on the page when ready. Work on creating an interface for online chats to take place.

2:30 p.m. Wrap-up-Jenny Greyerbiehl, Graduate Assistant, University System Office

A few reminders about future SAC conferences were discussed: attendance at SAC is limited to one representative from each institution. The registration deadline for future SAC Conferences will end at least one week prior AND payment will be required to be submitted before the conference.

A sign-up sheet was passed around to update the RACSGA-PRES listserv with email addresses.

A handout of the webpage http://www.usg.edu/sac/about/sga_reps.phtml was passed around to correct any incorrect information.

A big thank you went out to Clayton State for hosting the conference, especially to Jeff and Toke for all of their hard work! Also, thank you's went to Iris, Al, & Eddie for helping with the conference.

Evaluations were completed and tours of campus were given to those who we interested.