



**Student Advisory Council (SAC)  
Transition Conference Minutes  
Friday, April 20-Saturday, April 21, 2007  
Coastal Georgia Community College**



**Student Advisory Council (SAC) Transition Conference Minutes  
Friday, April 20-Saturday, April 21, 6:30-10:00pm; 9:00am-4:00pm  
Coastal Georgia Community College**

**USG Campuses and Representatives in Attendance**

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College- Jason Chapman, 2006-2007 SGA President  
Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College - Willie Dean, 2007-2008 SGA President  
Armstrong Atlantic State University- Kaitlen Fulp, 2007-2008 SGA President  
Armstrong Atlantic State University- Erik Reid, 2006-2007 SGA President  
Atlanta Metropolitan College- Sonya Ingram, 2006-2007 SGA President  
Atlanta Metropolitan College- Herschele Brooks, 2007-2008 SGA President  
Augusta State University- Isaac McAdams, 2006-2007 & 2007-2008 SGA President  
Clayton State University- Toke Adetayo, 2006-2007 SGA President  
Clayton State University-Williams Azubike, 2007-2008 SGA President  
Coastal Georgia Community College- Ashley Frye, 2006-2007 SGA President  
Coastal Georgia Community College- Rich Ringwald, 2006-2007 SGA Representative  
Coastal Georgia Community College- Heather Ringwald, 2006-2007 SGA Representative  
Coastal Georgia Community College- Leigh Anne Crosby, 2006-2007 SGA Representative  
Dalton State College- Valarie Garlet, SGA Representative  
Fort Valley State University- Constance Collier, 2006-2007 SGA President  
Fort Valley State University- Heather Bryant, 2007-2008 SGA President  
Georgia College & State University- Janessa Hartmann, 2006-2007 SGA President  
Georgia College & State University- Ryan Greene, 2007-2008 SGA President  
Georgia Southern University- Christopher Ford, 2006-2007 SGA President  
Georgia Southern University- Jonathan Simpson, 2007-2008 SGA President  
Gordon College- Gilda Moss-Adderley, 2006-2007 SGA President  
Gordon College- Wes York, 2007-2008 SGA President  
Macon State College- Janelle Love, 2006-2007 SGA President  
Macon State College- Benjamin Bonner, 2007-2008 SGA President  
Middle Georgia College-Cochran, Travis Horsley, 2006-2007 SGA President  
North Georgia College & State University- Sarah Witherington, 2007-2008 SGA President  
University of Georgia- Brent Wierson, 2007-2008 SGA Representative  
University of West Georgia- Riean Norman, 2006-2007 SGA President  
University of West Georgia- Rob Kelly, 2007-2008 SGA President  
Valdosta State University- Jonathan Stroble, 2007-2008 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  
Coastal Georgia Community College- Dave Leenhouts, Director of Student Life  
North Georgia College & State University- Wes Thomas, Director of Student Activities  
University System Office- Chancellor Davis  
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**

Albany State University- Rubin Pusha, 2006-2007 SGA President  
Albany State University- Jazzman Randall, 2007-2008 SGA President

**Friday, April 20**



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Information packets were given to each attendee consisting of the agenda and evaluation for the conference, minutes from Spring SAC Conference, and a list of conference participants and their contact information.

6:30 p.m. Registration

7:00 p.m. Welcome-Ashley Frye, SGA President, Coastal Georgia Community College & Dr. Dorothy L. Lord, President, Coastal Georgia Community College

Ashley asked SAC to observe a moment of silence to remember the tragedy that occurred at Virginia Tech this week.

After the moment of silence, Ashley welcomed SAC and introduced the SGA members from Coastal Georgia Community College who are in attendance. She encouraged SAC members to ask any Coastal Georgia Community College representative for assistance if they needed something during their time at the conference. Ashley also introduced the President of Coastal Georgia Community College, Ms. Dorothy Lord.

Ms. Lord welcomed the SAC group to the beautiful golden isles of Georgia as well as to Brunswick. She provided SAC with several fun facts about Brunswick. Ms. Lord then introduced the Chancellor Erroll B. Davis.

7:20 p.m. Chancellor Welcome and Remarks-Chancellor Erroll B. Davis, Jr., Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia

Chancellor Davis acknowledged the importance of meeting with students and how much he appreciates meeting with the USG's "most important customers." Chancellor Davis also acknowledged the difficulty and important job of being SAC members and thanked them.

Chancellor Davis then spent time focusing on three things he wanted to present to the SAC group. The first point was to share what the USG is doing, what the USG has been doing, and what the USG will be doing for the system that is focused directly on students. Several things were identified including: the guaranteed tuition plan, health insurance/health plan revisions, revision of the core curriculum, safety of the USG campuses and emergency preparedness plans, and system-wide academic advisement improvements.

The second point Chancellor Davis made was the importance the role of leadership plays and he explained that he is trying to achieve a leadership culture. Chancellor Davis explained three attributes he believes are the most important attributes in creating a leadership culture which included trust, vision and communication.

The third point Chancellor Davis spoke about was his goal to be responsive to SAC's concerns as well as student's concerns in the USG. He explained ways the USG is attempting to listen and hear student's needs.

Finally, Chancellor Davis thanked the SAC students for their efforts on behalf of their fellow students as well as the USG. He also thanked Ms. Loyd for her hospitality and explained that he has been at Coastal Georgia Community College for the past two days before attending the SAC meeting and had a great time at the campus.



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After Chancellor Davis addressed the SAC body, he opened up the floor for questions and the following topics were addressed: Sonya Ingram-safety training, Erik Reid-student fees, Isaac McAdams-competency based curriculum, Travis Horsley-SMS/Text messaging systems, Gilda Moss-Adderley-academic transitions for international students or students outside of the state of GA, Valarie Garlet-course transferability throughout the USG, Herschele Brooks-guaranteed tuition rates, Jon Simpson-popular class availability times/ranges (10am-2pm-residential campuses) and price signaling, Ryan Greene-fall break guidelines for the USG, Kaitlen Fulp-task force for advisement report.

8:30 p.m. Break

8:45 p.m. Icebreaker-Iris Shanklin, Director of Student Activities, Atlanta Metropolitan College

9:15 p.m. Your Role as a Member of SAC-Al Harris, Director of Student Activities, Armstrong Atlantic State University

Al Harris assisted in dialogue about student's roles and the expectations of SAC. The SAC students received a handout containing information that is listed below of brainstormed expectations from the February SAC Conference.

- As the official delegate of my campus as well as a representative of the 260,000 students attending institutions of the University System of Georgia, I will conduct myself professionally and will work diligently to improve my campus and the University System of Georgia.
- I will respond in a timely fashion to the communication sent to me by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.
- I will keep in contact with other SGA Presidents between meetings and will provide any requested information to other schools.
- I will follow through with any commitments I make to the SAC or to any SAC Committee.
- I will keep my campus SGA informed on what SAC is doing and collect any concerns from students on my campus that need to be relayed to SAC.
- I, as the designated representative to SAC at my respective institution, must attend all SAC meetings; however, due to extenuating circumstances if I am unable to attend a meeting I will select a representative to take my place and will make sure that they are briefed on what to expect, updated on any ongoing SAC business, and prepared to make any necessary reports.
- Upon leaving office on my campus, I will fully inform my successor about SAC and pass along any information or materials to assist them take my place on SAC. Furthermore, I will inform the System Office of the change and will provide contact information for the new SGA President.
- At all SAC meetings I agree to be candid, participative, and respectful to all parties present.



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**Saturday, April 21**

9:00 a.m. Review of SAC Goals for the 2006-2007 Year & Committee Updates- Wes Thomas, Director of Student Activities, North Georgia College & State University

Students from each of the four committees (below) provided SAC with a brief review of their committee goals and then discussed the progress they have made on their goals so far this year.

**Board of Regents Connectivity (Objective and Action Items created in September)**

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

**UPDATE (February):** Over the next month--gather research from the states that have a student regent (creating a questionnaire form), need to collect more thoughts on the issue of having a student VOTING regent, want to get SAC involved in connecting with local regents-recommendation to make requirement for communication once/twice a semester, committee still planning to attend BOR meetings.

See PowerPoint titled "Board of Regents Connectivity Presentation" on SAC website for more information.

**UPDATE (April):** See "Board of Regents Connectivity Committee Presentation" on SAC website for more information. Presented research on each of the states that the committee received information from after their initial inquiry to those states that has a student regent (voting or non-voting). Information was shared about the following states: New Hampshire, Maryland, Illinois, Arizona, and South Dakota.

Brent Wierson from the University of Georgia presented and facilitated a brainstorm of ideas for the creation of a website to encourage more communication in and between the 35 SGA's in the state.



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**Committee Members**-Jeff Jacobs, Advisor

Travis Horsley-Middle Georgia College-Chair

Jason Chapman, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College- Finance Directors

Janessa Hartmann, Georgia College & State University-Finance Directors

Janelle Love, Macon State College

Brent Wierson, University of Georgia

Laquata Sumter, Darton College-Research Directors (February)

Riean Norman, University of West Georgia-Research Directors (February)

**HOPE Scholarship (Objective and Action Items created in September)**

**Issue:** Incoming 1<sup>st</sup> 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 3.0 to 3.3 (\*Note change from original proposal of 2.9 to 3.2 via Fall SAC Conference) 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.

**UPDATE (February):** Action Items--Gather data from GSFC such as how many students lose HOPE freshman year, etc., compile data, write a position paper for the April SAC meeting. Notes learned from the GSFC Presentation--Transcript Exchange GSFC is going to do will help standardize grades for high school students, possibly help with the debate about whether or not the GPA standards for “at risk” students is valid or would work. Still a lot of debate about the committee and what recommendations should be made from SAC to the BOR.

**UPDATE (April):** New action item: Continue to communicate with the Georgia Student Finance Commission to receive the data that was requested in February via email to the GSFC. The information they are seeking is below:

1. At the SAC Conference presentation you gave on February 24<sup>th</sup>, you informed us that 65% of entering freshmen lose HOPE within their first year. Can you provide us with a more detailed breakdown showing the HOPE loss percentage within 0.1 windows of High School GPA? For instance, what percentages of students with a HS GPA of 3.0-3.1 lose the scholarship within their first year?



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- What about 3.1-3.2? 3.2-3.3? Etcetera. If it is not too much work, I would appreciate data on this as far back as is applicable.
2. What does the HS GPA profile of HOPE recipients look like in a similar breakdown? For example, how many and what percentage of HOPE recipients had a HS GPA between 3.0-3.1; 3.1-3.2...etcetera. Please also provide this data as far back as is applicable.
  3. What percentage of students within these windows could be or are classified as “low income” and what classifies someone as low income? Again, data as far back as possible would be helpful.
  4. Please provide the data on all of the previous three questions for the University System as a whole and broken down by schools within the system.

Another future item will be to have more contact with those sponsoring HOPE legislation changes so that those proposing these pieces have student input.

**Committee Members-Dave Leenhouts, Advisor**

Issac McAdams, Augusta State University  
Ashley Frye, Coastal Georgia Community College  
Christopher Ford, Georgia Southern University  
Nicole de Vries, Columbus State University (February)  
Allison Graab, Georgia Institute of Technology (February)  
Kenny Hughes, Middle Georgia College (February)

**Academic Advisement (Objective and Action Items created in September)**

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 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.

**UPDATE (February):** Met with USG Enhanced Advising Processes Team prior to SAC conference. Gave USG Team “Academic Advisement Committee Handout” PDF on SAC



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website. Asked SAC students for ideas and suggestions. Plan to follow-up with students and faculty from the Georgia Institute of Technology because of their current advisement system.

**UPDATE (April):** Looking for report from the USG Enhanced Advising Processes Team at a future BOR meeting. Once that report is given information will be provided to SAC.

**Committee Members-Wes Thomas, Advisor**

Erik Reid, Armstrong Atlantic State University

Gilda Moss-Adderley, Gordon College

Sonya Ingram, Atlanta Metropolitan College

Sarah Richardson, North Georgia College & State University

Kaitlen Fulp, Armstrong Atlantic State University- 2007-2008 New Chair

Bernex Richardson, North Georgia College & State University- 2006-2007 Chair  
(February)

Rubin Pusha, Albany State University (February)

Nathan Smith, Dalton State College (February)

Jeremy Baker, Valdosta State University (February)

Brainstormed new committee ideas: Competency based curriculum model shared by the Chancellor Friday evening, research the 10 goals the Chancellor identified when he began his position-(incorporated into the strategic plan that will be presented to the BOR in the June meeting), guaranteed tuition plans issues-possible tie into class offerings, international students support and study abroad (funding), course transferability throughout the entire USG, transfer of current BOR connectivity committee to focus less on student regent and more on making SAC a more viable and loudly heard voice, statement that some of these ideas may fall into a larger retention committee.

**11:00 a.m. Committee/Goals Work**

**BOR Connectivity Committee**

Brent Wierson, University of Georgia

Jason Chapman, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College

Travis Horsely, Middle Georgia College

Janelle Love, Macon State College

Benjamin Bonner, Macon State College

Janessa Hartmann, Georgia College & State University

Rob Kelley, University of West Georgia

Ryan Greene, Georgia College & State University

Resolution was presented and passed regarding funding for travel expenses to attend BOR meetings for SAC students. See "SAC Resolution- Funding to Attend BOR Meetings" PDF on the SAC website.



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**HOPE Scholarship**

Isaac McAdams, Augusta State University  
Willie Dean, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College  
Christopher Ford, Georgia Southern University  
Jonathan Simpson, Georgia Southern University  
Constance Collier, Fort Valley State University  
Heather Bryant, Fort Valley State University  
Ashley Frey, Coastal Georgia Community College  
Heather Ringwald, Coastal Georgia Community College  
Leigh Anne Crosby, Coastal Georgia Community College

**International Students Support**

Erik Reid, Armstrong Atlantic State University  
Toke Adetayo, Clayton State University  
Williams Azubike, Clayton State University  
Sonya Ingram, Atlanta Metropolitan College  
Gilda Moss-Adderley, Gordon College

**Academic Advisement**

Sarah Witherington, North Georgia College & State University  
Kaitlen Fulp, Armstrong Atlantic State University  
Valarie Garlet, Dalton State College.  
Wes York, Gordon College  
Herschelle Brooks, Atlanta Metropolitan College  
Riean Norman, University of West Georgia  
Jonathan Stroble, Valdosta State University

Information that was brainstormed from each committee was written down and will be shared with the SAC students attending the Summer SAC Retreat when goals and committees are created for the 2007-2008 Academic Year.

*12:00 p.m. Institutional Round Tables during Lunch- Eddie Howard, Director of Student Activities, Augusta State University*

Broke up into institutional sizes and discussed issues common to their campus to make students aware of the issues faced by each institution size.

*1:00 p.m. What is Your Institution Doing?-Al Harris, Director of Student Activities, Armstrong Atlantic State University*

This session was to provide a place for institutions to share what was happening on their campuses. If you want more information, please email SAC students directly.

**Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College- HUB Program**





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**Armstrong Atlantic State-** Servicing Strategic Planning Committee & One-stop shop of Registrars Office and Financial Aid Office

**North Georgia College and State University-** Residency Issue

**Gordon College-** Change It

**Middle Georgia College (Travis)-** Smoking now partially banned, STD Awareness Day, Virginia Tech Memorial

**Clayton State University-** Two buildings approved, group senators so they are responsible for schools

**Atlanta Metropolitan College-** Implemented the governor's customer service initiative thru surveys and open sessions, 24 month advising calendar, addition of increased faculty members which will include online class facilitators, increased enrollment

**Georgia Southern University-** Take students home from the bars (not to the bars) in an effort to make the community safer

**Georgia College & State University-** Shuttle service from residence hall to mall/shopping centers.

*2:00 p.m. Wrap-up-Jenny Greyerbiehl, Graduate Assistant, Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia*

A big thank you went out to Coastal Georgia Community College for hosting the conference, especially to Dave and Ashley for all of their hard work! Also, thank you's went to the other SAC Team Advisor's for assisting with the conference.

Evaluations were completed.

Information about the SAC Retreat taking place on August 1-3, 2007 at Brasstown Valley Resort was given. Registration for the retreat can be found at:

[http://www.usg.edu/sac/conf\\_news/retreat/](http://www.usg.edu/sac/conf_news/retreat/). A reminder was given that students must be registered by July 1, 2007.

A reminder that when SGA elections take place on campus this spring it is an expectation of current SGA presidents to contact Jenny and let her know who has been elected (if that hasn't already happen).

Institutions were assigned schools to contact to encourage them to attend the Summer SAC Retreat.



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*2:30 p.m. Tours of Coastal Georgia Community College-Ashley Frye,  
SGA President, Coastal Georgia Community College*  
Tours of campus were given to those who were interested.