



SAC

STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

2007-08 Committees
** Denotes Chairperson*
*** Denotes Advisor*

Financial Aid

*Tricia Batchelor-Gainesville State College
Ashley DesPres-North Georgia College & State University
Eddie Machum-Southern Polytechnic State University
Candi Williams-South Georgia College
Brandi Wynne-Medical College of Georgia
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Retention/Graduation

*Joshua Copeland-University of West Georgia
Shannon Albert-Georgia Highlands College
Nathan Smith-Dalton State College
Ellis Washington, III-Georgia Southwestern State University
Tony Wright-Atlanta Metropolitan College
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Follow-up

*Jonathan Stroble-Valdosta State University
Tracey Carter-Kennesaw State University
Willie Dean-Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Kaitlen Fulp-Armstrong Atlantic State University
William Johnson-Georgia Gwinnett College
Anu Parvatiyar-Georgia Institute of Technology
Todd Rice-Gainesville State College (Oconee)
Wes York-Gordon College
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Transfer Credit

*Keisha Tulley-Bainbridge College
Alex Acton-Columbus State University
Tiffani Rose Brown-Georgia State University
Heather Bryant-Fort Valley State University
Brandon Cook-Georgia Southern University
Justin Haight-Georgia College & State University
Rich Ringwald-Coastal Georgia Community College
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Connectivity

*Isaac McAdams-Augusta State University
Williams Azubike-Clayton State University
Eddie Lovett-Middle Georgia College (Cochran)
Jermaine Mullin-Darton College
Brent Wierson-University of Georgia
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Goal Setting Session I SWOT Analysis of the University System of Georgia

Strengths (S)

- HOPE Scholarship, Veteran's Programs, Teachers, 62+ years old
- Varieties of colleges, Arts & Sciences degrees
- Diversity Programs & Students
 - Open enrollment
- Prestige of the University System of Georgia Schools
- Accountability of the Board of Regents to the Student Advisory Council and the state of Georgia
- Resources
 - Information: Libraries, computers
- Retention –transfer?
- Growth of system/institutions
- Joint enrollment
- Financial resources

Weaknesses (W)

- Improve transfer credits
- Financial accountability
 - Transparency
 - Open records
- Need-based financial aid
- Health insurance
- Advisors
- Loans (lack of financial aid)
- Retention rates for all students (underrepresented populations & majority)
- Parking
- Lack of consistency of Drop/Add
- Interlibrary loan (books)

Opportunities (O)

- Over 260,000 students
- Study abroad
- Economic growth
- Innovative curriculum
- Geography (campuses)
- Transfer credits (strengths)
- Business partnerships
- Internal status

Threats (T)

- Under preparation of Georgia high school graduates
- Retention and first-year students
- Competition of interstate colleges & universities
- Out of state institutions offering in-state tuition to Georgia students
- Faculty making decisions
 - Withdrawals (numbered)
- Landlocked institutions/no room to expand
- Student voice/Board of Regents
- Transportation

Goal Setting Session II Top Five Concerns from the Student Advisory Council for the University System of Georgia of 2007-2008

1. Financial Aid (Need-based evaluation and merit-based)
2. Advisement (Knowledge of system and standardized core)
3. Global awareness (Study abroad support)
4. Transfer credits
5. Health insurance (Unified requirements)

1. Advisement
2. Transfer credits
3. Retention and graduating on time
4. Paying for school (Financial Aid, less loans, more scholarship, need-based financial aid)
5. Class availability

1. Advisement
2. Lack of college preparation in high school
3. Landlocked
4. Credits transferring within the University System of Georgia
5. Financial Aid (Need-based)/lack of resources

1. Medical insurance and financial aid eligibility
2. Technology problems (WebCT and Vista)
3. Transferring of credits-lack of communication
4. Institutional growth-not being able to accommodate the increased enrollment
5. Graduation rate

Other Concerns Brainstormed:

Underdeveloped student housing-possible funding?, Faculty involvement with the Board of Regents, Transportation between schools, Retention rate of minorities



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2007-08 SAC Goals & Objectives

Transfer Credit

Goal Statement:

To standardize the transferability of core classes into a university accepted system whereby students are guaranteed credit throughout the University System of Georgia toward completion of a degree.

Objectives:

Research the Ombudsman and appeals systems at each University System of Georgia institution.
Keep abreast of possible solutions provided by the core curriculum project currently in development (sandra.stone@usg.edu).
Research the specific problems encountered by students when attempting to transfer between University System of Georgia institutions.
Provide an awareness raising campaign to educate students about how the Ombudsman and appeals processes can be used to find solutions for transfer credit concerns.

Retention/Graduation

Goal Statement:

To foster an environment that is conducive for students to be prepared enough to successfully matriculate through their respective institutions.

Objectives:

To retrieve vital information on retention/graduation from the established Retention, Progression, Graduation initiatives each University System of Georgia institution has.
Retain open channels of communication with each SGA President or Student Advisory Council delegate informing them of changes/progress at each individual institution.
Remain in contact with the SAC Financial Aid and Follow-Up Committees (specifically in the areas of academic advising and the 18-month calendar/course availability.)

Follow-Up

Goal Statement:

To quantitatively and qualitatively follow-up on the progress of the following issues: Student Health Insurance, Academic Advising, Course Availability & 18-Month Schedule, and the Guaranteed Tuition Plan. While following up on the previously stated issues, our committee will report to the Student Advisory Council semi-annually on any findings.

Objectives:

Student Health Insurance: Identify what other university systems are doing and create an action plan to improve/expand healthcare coverage as deemed necessary.
Academic Advising: Advocate for system-wide mandatory advisements (before students can register they must be advised), after each advisement students receive a copy of course checklist

2007-08 SAC Goals & Objectives Continued

(allows for student accountability), request that the proposed advising software by the Task Force on Enhanced Advising Processes be reviewed by the Student Advisory Council and all Student Government Associations.

Course Availability and 18-Month Schedule: Survey University System of Georgia institutions to determine whether course availability is an issue and ensure that the 18-month course schedule is being implemented by all University System of Georgia institutions.

Guaranteed Tuition Plan: Find and disseminate information on the Guaranteed Tuition Plan used by the University System of Georgia to the Student Advisory Council and all University System of Georgia institutions.

Financial Aid

Goal Statement:

To identify the issues University System of Georgia colleges and universities are experiencing with financial aid and advocate changes within the system to address these concerns.

Objectives:

Identify the top five issues that concern students about financial aid within the system.

Submit the data from the survey to the Board of Regents (Tonya Lam), the Regents Advisory Committee for Financial Aid, and each institution's Vice President for Student Affairs.

Plan of Action:

Develop an electronic questionnaire that each campus will administer.

Send the questionnaire to the chairperson of the Regents Advisory Committee for Financial Aid for approval.

Contact all Student Advisory Council representatives to ask them to electronically distribute and survey a representative sample of each institution in the system.

Compile final results and report findings to Student Advisory Council representatives.

Create an action plan to resolve the issues (if any).

Board of Regents Connectivity

Goal Statement:

To enhance the line of communication between the University System of Georgia students and the Board of Regents.

Objectives:

To continue researching the feasibility of getting more students involved and invested in the Board of Regents.

To ensure that at least two Student Advisory Council members attend each Board of Regents meeting.

Explore opportunities for Student Government Presidents to meet with their respective geographic Regents.