

**Fall SAC Retreat
Georgia Southern University
October 17 -18, 2008**

MINUTES

Leadership, Service and Commitment

Friday, October 17- Leadership		Location
5:30p.m	Meet at Admissions Office to get registration materials	Lewis Hall
5:45p.m.	Reception Begins Introduction of Georgia Southern student ambassadors and leaders	
6:00p.m.	Welcome from Brandon Cook, GSU SGA President and Georj Lewis, Dean of Students, GSU Introduction of student participants	
6:30p.m.	Introduction Icebreaker – Mr. David Dial, GA, Student Affairs, USG Linked in – what we have in common Reception Continues	
6:45p.m.	Ambassadors take students on tour	Walking Tour
7:30 p.m.	Campus “Shout Outs” - What is going on? Challenges and Opportunities KEY= Challenges are in Red Opportunities are in Blue	Russell Student Union
Minutes:	ABAC Getting a bachelors in Forestry and Wildlife Albany State Parking—not enough Communication between SGA and administrators Growing Armstrong Atlantic University Parking—taking away faculty spots for new student center President is resigning at end of year Financial Aid—banks withholding loan money at start of year Groundbreaking of new student center in middle of campus New ID card system Starting campus radio station	

Atlanta Metropolitan College

Book loan program—huge increase in requests

Financial Aid

Largest enrollment in history

4 new student organizations (up to 25)

New president inaugurated

Political forum on campus this past week

Augusta State University

Retention—students come for only couple of classes and then leave

Financial Aid

Using new amphitheater that was built this year

More buildings planned

Bainbridge College

3000 freshmen this past year—not enough parking/faculty

Started a B-term for employees recently laid off in Bainbridge

College of Coastal Georgia

Moving to 4-year state school (challenge and opportunity)

Approval for 4 bachelor's degrees

Dalton State College

Implementing new smoke-free and tobacco free survey

Campus construction

Approval for housing and parking deck

3 new bachelor's degrees

Just finished capital campaign for 22 million

East Georgia College

Smoke free campus but people are smoking in cars—Butts campaign

Working on creating housing and athletics

Approval for 4-year business program

Gainesville State College

Parking—commuter campus

2nd fastest growing institution in the system

New student center—everything in just one place!

“Right Choice” options in vending machines

Georgia College & State University

Discussion to go smoke free—50/50 split on campus

Recreation Center student fee

Creating fight song

Flat screen campuses around campus for announcements—communication!

Georgia Highlands College

Parking

Good speaker series

Video conferencing system

Georgia Institute of Technology

State budget cuts

One of largest freshmen enrollments (22:1 student faculty ratio)

Construction on campus

New president search (March?)

New ticketing system for football

Provost is reviewing undergrad education long-term planning

Georgia Southern University

Parking and transit system

State budget cuts

Publicity of SGA

Freshmen live-on requirement starts next year

New residence hall (challenge and opportunity)

Getting involved in Statesboro community

SGA members sitting in on city council meetings

Library—book retrieval system

Carnegie research doctoral institution as of last year

Georgia State University

Building freshmen exclusive housing complex

White population representation is lacking in student organization representation (13%)

Gordon College

Parking

Increased residential student numbers

Safety—campus lighting

Campus forum to address parking and safety

Voter registration drive-180 students registered

Campus recycling bins

SGA has voice in picking VP-Academic Affairs

New student center addition

Kennesaw State University

Budget cuts—GIL express and lack of investment in KSU library over time

Financial Aid

Mandatory meal plan—all undergrads in Fall 2009, but SGA worked to come up with new options to phase plan in over time

New parking deck, dining hall, wellness building

Publicity for SGA b/c of meal plan issue

Voter registration drive

Macon State College

Budget crisis

Debate night had low turnout—student apathy and difficulty building community

New building on Warner Robbins campus

School of business planning an MBA

Medical College of Georgia

Split the VP role into 2 new people (opportunity and challenge)

New residence hall (opportunity and challenge)

Getting students involved outside of their academic discipline

Voter registration and absentee drive

Middle Georgia College—Cochran campus

Communication/SGA publicity

Change mascot from Warriors (Native American)

Readership programs with newspapers

New president is involved

New residence hall

Middle Georgia College—Eastman campus

Budget cuts considering they need \$500,000 planes for students to learn on
Only campuses with fully student run flight system

North Georgia College & State University

Tobacco and/or smoke free

USA Today readership programs

New recreation center

New library

May be creating Greek housing on campus (challenge and opportunity)

Savannah State University

Publicity about SGA and other services in student center

VPSA is retiring

Parking—faculty members and spots in front of student center

Budget cuts—loss of rewrite center

Student activity fees can't support student demands

Limitation on which regalia can be worn at graduation

Enrollment increase on campus

New president

Rides to polls

South Georgia College

Organization—administration does not give students anything

Students don't want to get involved

Student apathy—no one wants to do anything to improve campus

New residence halls in 2010

New student activities coordinator

Going green—sustainability and recycling

Campus safety—new cameras in parking lots

Interim president is helping a lot

Southern Polytechnic State University

GIL Express which is helpful for smaller schools

Starting to charge for printing on campus

SafeRides on campus

Extending library hours during exams

Sustainability

University of Georgia

Campus sustainability at such a large campus

Not enough faculty in some majors—Poly Sci

Student ticketing—not enough seats

State budget cuts—cut hours on SLC

Student arrest disclosure policy

Partnership with Medical College of Georgia

Freshmen class is best in UGA history

Enrollment topped 34,000

Tate II

Valdosta State University

Location of parking even though they just built two new decks

Increase in student fees to pay for construction

New residence hall

SGA publicity and student involvement is high
New president wants to be very student involved

9-10:00p.m.

Discussion about gun legislature

Russell Student
Union

PRO's:

- Protection of students in case of emergency
- Deterrent
- Privilege to carry one rather than a rule to break
- Transient bus drivers will feel safer
- Self defense
- Second amendment
- With knowledge of students carrying guns, one will be less likely to “act the fool”

CON's:

- High stress among college students which could lead to anger and impulse driven behavior
- Paranoia
- Accidents can and will happen
- One step closer to being able to pull it on someone (as opposed to having to go get it, register it etc...)
- Two wrongs don't make a right
- Immaturity of population
- Dorm Room behavior which usually has people in fights and a gun could be used in self-defense
- Anybody could lose it and shoot it
- A lot of people on campus and in close quarters which would make it unsafe to have guns around
- Can't focus in class if guns are present
- People will be scared
- Takes power away from police
- BIG RISK
- Conflicts between students
- Alcohol related incidents and accidents could lead to fatal situations
- Sets a negative tone
- No training required for concealed guns
- Will have to retrain officers
- Makes it harder to identify “bad guys”
- Higher suicide rate
- Faculty/student recruitment deterrent
- Could make professors uncomfortable around students
- Paranoia among people on campus
- Minor conflicts that could grow

Saturday, October 18 – Service

8:30a.m. Continental Breakfast Recreational Student Activities Center

9:00a.m. Ice breaker to Wake Up – Mr. Eddie Howard, Director of Student Activities
Augusta State University

Eddie Howard took students to the basketball court to do an early morning icebreaker

9:30a.m. **System Level Report – Tonya R. Lam, Associate Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs**

Introduction of Tonya Lam

- Strategic Plan:
 - Enrollment Projections
 - New staff on board
 - Usha Ramashandrum is chief financial officer
 - Announcements of new Presidents – soon to be announced at Georgia State
 - New President at Atlanta Metro
 - Vacancies at Dalton and Valdosta
 - Waived activity fee for veterans
 - Nursing Education Initiative
 - Georgia on MYonline – Teacher Shortage
 - Medical Education advances
 - IB curriculum is official college credit
 - Economize and become more efficient
 - Evaluation of access institutions

- Budget Update

- Usha's Budget Presentation on revenues from Jul-Sept.
- Challenge to campuses to make cuts
- Core mission is instruction
- Budget Reduction Plan for FY 09 and 10

Hot topics:

- Tonya announced the department of audit and performance would be auditing student fees this year. Discussion revealed that P-card audit has resulted in campuses taking different approaches to how student fees are managed. There is concern that this audit will result in a set of regulations that will make it even more difficult for some institutions to work with students. One size does not fit all and it is possible to have multiple right ways, depending on the institution. Questions regarding spending student fees were asked to Tonya Lam. She explained how things have changed. Student fees will be audited by

outside state auditors. This information will be communicated back to the institution.

- Eddie Howard, one of the Student Life Advisor/Facilitators stated that it is unclear on what is “right” when spending student fees. Each institution has interpreted it different and if we are audited, then it will get tighter yet more consistent.
- Conversation occurred about a four day work week – pros/cons – is it for time off or to save money.
- Changes did occur in financial aid this year, primarily due to bank loans promised to students. Students had problems getting loans and banks held loans for a period of time (and students didn’t get them at the start of school.) It took a toll on customer service but the school has done some preventive measures. Financial aid was perceived by some students to be a mess at many institutions. Students reported that waits at financial aid offices were as high as four hours.

STUDENT FEES ARE NO LONGER “NOT” STATE FEES.

10:00a.m.

Topic: Fundraising in times of budget cutbacks

Facilitated by Jessica Ramirez and Katie Taylor

Talking about different ways to raise money

Ideas for fundraising

Disc Golf

Golf Tournament

Dating Auction

Charitable Poker Tournaments

Souvenir Seedling

Balls – invite people from community

Krispy Kreme Bake Sales

American Idol night/talent show

Competitions with intramural

Dunking Tank

Beat up Car and sledge hammers

Kissing Booths (Not legal)

Basketball and game tournaments

Kiss the pig

Adopt a goat

Basketball Tournament

Breusters came out to their school and half of what they made, they gave to school

Student commission has taken on running concessions for organizations

Name on a brick

Purple toilet – 5 to move, 10 to go somewhere else

Lobbying

Student Ambassadors to alumni who could donate to school

Pass the hat (money sent to United Way)

Students a discount card

Parents’ funds

Selling graduation sashes

11:00 Break (Water and Snacks)

11:15 a.m. Technology Talks...
Degreeworks – Academic Advising Tool Rec. Center
Ryan Greene, Georgia College and State University

It serves as a tool for academic advising.
Institutions were given money to start Degreeworks.
Six months to implement at North Georgia College and State University.
This system has more accountability.
Students can see what requirements are left and what is required.
Very popular program that students and advisors have found to be an asset to their process.
Contact information to get info to show their institutions. Need demo. Want to have a concept of proof. Need website.

11:40a.m. Veterans Website review on USG Rec. Center

12:00p.m. Future SAC meetings and possible Rec. Center
ideas for meeting via the web or videoconferencing –
showcase WIMBA. The group felt strongly that the transition meeting needed to be face to face and not via a technology connection.
UGA Graduate Student Team Assessment

12:30p.m. Lunch

1:30p.m. Leadership Wrap-up/Group Picture - Wes Thomas, Facilitator
Wes shared a tool for evaluating their student governments and asked questions to keep everyone thinking as they moved forward this year

2:00p.m. Evaluations/Group Picture