

Minutes of the annual meeting of the University System of Georgia  
Foreign Language Academic Advisory Committee

April 7, 2014, Middle Georgia State College, Macon, Georgia

In Attendance

Chair: Lisa NOETZEL, College of Coastal Georgia

Chair-elect: Kristina WATKINS MORMINO, Georgia Gwinnett College

Secretary: Trino J. PRADOS, Middle Georgia State College

Joe JOHNSON, Clayton State University

Mamadou KEITA, Fort Valley State University

David SHOOK, Georgia Institute of Technology

Rick ROBINSON, Georgia Perimeter College

Nancy MASON, Dalton State College

Viki SOADY, Valdosta State University

Darren BROOME, Gordon State College

Pedro MALIGO, Columbus State University

David DE POSADA, Georgia College and State University

Kelly DAVIDSON DEVALL, Valdosta State University

Dorothee MERTZ-WEIGEL, Armstrong Atlantic State University

Eric KARTCHNER, Georgia Southern University

Ellen FRIEDRICH, Valdosta State University

Mark GREGER, Georgia Highlands College

Guest: Greg BARFIELD, Georgia Department of Education

Doug PODOLL, Board Of Regents, University System of Georgia

Minutes:

9:13 Meeting was started without a quorum. There was no approval of last year's minutes. Members introduced the

9:20 Doug Podoll is the new BOR Liaison replacing Linda Noble. He comes from the Board of International Education. Doug passed around a hand out with these notes:

- Chancellor recognized that a vacuum exists and thus formed the System Committee of International Education. The committee completed a study for vice chancellor Houston Davis. The conclusion was to continue what was done and to get study abroad moving at a better pace. An example would be to get the website going again. The website has been down for the past three years.
- Members have been diligent about sending information and that the files have been updated. We need to keep sending info and that he still keeps in contact with Linda.
- No new catalogs will be made because it is expensive. Emphasis will be made on the website.

9:25 Doug asked the FLAAC where it get its matrix. For example the Institute of International Education asks for data on an annual basis. How many International students, scholars and study abroad numbers does each of our institutions have? The last report for the University System was 2008. Doug would like to know how they collected their data and make necessary comparisons.

9:30 Doug mentioned he has experience in risk management and proceeded to hand out a Minnesota Life Insurance document. A lot of faculty will spend out of pocket for travel insurance. He let it be known that we do have access to travel assistance coverage through our basic life and accident disability insurance that the BOR provides for us. If we have an HMO we have to pay for it ourselves. If we have Blue Cross/Blue Shield P.O.S., we can check on their website. They are affiliated with hospitals around the world. A few other extra notes:

- If we are doing study abroad, we should be a part of C.I.S.I. This is study abroad travel insurance which includes medical insurance. We should also take advantage of the Department of State Public Registry.
- Last week Doug attended a meeting with The American Association State Colleges and Universities at F.V.S.U. They have not filled the slots for their Japan program. Their deadline was last week but they are still accepting applications. The slots are almost completely funded if anybody would like to take advantage of any Asian study abroad. Very little cost to the institution or the faculty member.

- Doug also had met with the director of international studies from North Georgia College and spoke to them their Check Point Charlie program in Germany.

9:35 As for BOR business, he wanted us to know that there will be a trial list of low producing programs in May. This is not only for foreign languages but for all programs across the state. It is not a list to close programs but rather a document which the conversation starts. For example, UGA looked at the numbers for the Latin and the Greek programs. The numbers didn't look good on their own. UGA consolidated the program into Classical Languages and the numbers increased. There could be foreign language programs on that list just as there may be tech programs on the list as well.

9:38: Asked if anyone is actively involved in the Open Doors Study Abroad numbers report through international education. Vicki did mention that VSU's Irina McClellan could provide Doug with some study abroad numbers. He also asked if anyone can identify a specific language course on banner at different study abroad locations. He plans to see if he can get numbers for his reporting. Some institutions tag their study abroad programs with an "S". Others might come with a prefix IS for international studies regardless what course it is.

9:40 A discussion ensued about how to list on banner web. Eric said that GSW tags all their programs with an S. The banner section number denotes location.

9:42 Doug also commented that USGA is going on the banner system so we won't have to separate processes. Also, all faculty salary should come out of the EMG fund. They should not come out of program funds charged against the students. How is budget and cash being handled for study abroad programs? This is a question he plans to ask every campus that he visits throughout the state. He also plans to ask if we are meeting the recommendations that faculty salary come out of the EMG program for study abroad.

9:45: Eric commented that his department is responsible for paying. He also commented that he will have to pay with no students from his own department. The programs need to find a better solution for funding people. Lisa asked how it was possible that this particular Prof. is teaching a full class abroad and not get anything from the European Council if the class is in Europe.

9:47 Vicky commented that Valdosta State has a "hands off" approach when it comes to the international programs.

Doug commented that at Kennesaw State the tuition dollars don't go back to the department they go to the international EMG funds presumably. But there are discrepancies. Eric asked why the system programs cannot pay. System programs fund themselves. They should pay all faculty 100% their salary.

Ellen mentioned that she took out a regions loan back when she went to study abroad in Costa Rica. Valdosta State University used to have a similar loan program.

9:50 We still did not have a quorum. Vicky mentioned that if we called a quorum we would all have to go home. The committee decided to continue working without calling a quorum in the hopes that more members would arrive.

9:51 Lisa asked Greg Barfield our new department of education representative to introduce himself. He proceeded to give an update about John Valentine. Afterwards he gave us a hand out about the state of world languages and public-school education for 2013:

-World languages K-12 saw an increase of 17% in proficiency levels. Georgia waived out of part of no Child Left Behind. Public schools can get extra points if they have elementary or middle school world languages programs. With longer language sequences there will be higher proficiency levels. The aim is to have students enter at a higher level than 1001 when the students enter the university system. Last year there was a significant gain in numbers. Our schools need more teachers with world language teaching certificates.

10:00 Greg also spoke to us about the Georgia performance standards. All schools must be in compliance with the Georgia performance standards. The state mandates that teachers must have their standards posted on their wall. Latin has GPS standards. GPS standards are based off the American Council for teaching foreign language which was introduced into 2001 standards include the areas of reading speaking listening and writing. All levels are consistent throughout the state except proficiency levels. Before any changes can be made a committee for precision review must meet.

10:04: Greg pointed out that grammar was not listed in the level one standards. We may incorporate grammar in our teaching.

but as a holistic approach and not something specifically to be assessed. Grammar is implied but he would like to get away from the idea of a grammar driven document. He would like to see more communicative activities.

10:08 Eric asked how schools qualified to teach Accel courses.

If we are submitting for Accel courses the approvals are up to Mr. Barfield himself. He explained to us the process to continue if we need more details. Procedures are also listed on the [georgiastandards.org](http://georgiastandards.org).

Eric asked if he would have to resubmit and Greg said no. Vicky asked if there was a way to have proficiency levels listed. Lisa said yes.

10:10 Greg also talk to us about immersion programs. The state superintendent has his initiative 20 x 20. The state hopes to have 20 dual immersion programs by the year 2020. At the present we have eleven and by August we should have fourteen. If schools want to be a part of the dual immersion they must write in their charter that they are an immersion school.

10:28: Greg finished his presentation and the committee thanked him for listing job openings to our listserv.

10:30 Committee went on break.

10:45 Lisa called the meeting.

10:46 Dorothea was asked to give us an update about the listserv.

10:49 Lisa asked us to look at the 2013 minutes Kristina wrote last year. Asked for any suggestions or revisions. None were given. Pedro Milagro moved to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Dorthea. Minutes were approved. Our minutes were posted on the advisory academic committee homepage.

10:52 Lisa proceeded to talk about the value of the foreign language graduate. In September of last year she was invited to a meeting in Macon with all the other academic advisory chairs. Dr. Felita Williams directed the gathering. She introduced the chairs the document Value Of A Philosophy Graduate. It was sent to us through our listserv in January. The philosophy advisory committee created the document in 2011 which was later posted on their advisory academic committee homepage. Williams would like that all the academic advisory committees write a similar document. Lisa as Chair assigned us the task. The document will appear permanently on our academic advisory homepage along with our minutes.

10:56 Lisa had asked for volunteers to come up with a proto document. Eric Kirchner had provided her with links and other suggestions prior to the FLAAC meeting. Other people from other institutions had offered to help but due to issues and time constraints no document was produced.

Dr. Williams would like us to mimic the conciseness and value of the philosophy document. She would like for us to submit a document by the end of May.

10:58 Lisa proceeded to show us the philosophy report. The report was sent to us to the listserv back in January.

11:02: We started the discussion with how to petition the BOR to change the name "foreign" in our committee name. Dr. Williams told us that we can directly contact Linda Nobles office and petition a name change. Each committee has its own bylaws as long as we follow them he does not see why we cannot petition a name change.

11:06 There was a motion to change our name from foreign language to something else perhaps like global language.

11:09 Kristina made a motion to move the discussion to the listserv since many members were not able to make it to our meeting today.

Lisa said she would send us an email asking us to start a discussion and to keep in mind that we exclude English and ASL from our mission statement.

11:11 Kristina also asked us to add another section to our document about other disciplines that have a modern language component. Lisa said she was not opposed but in order to begin this discussion we had to answer what are the benefits to the state of Georgia.

11:15 David de Posada commented that Georgia College and State University had to produce a similar document for the prioritization movement. Every department had to produce this document. If the FLAAC had had a document posted to the academic advisory website, it would have been very helpful.

11:20: Pedro offered a mission statement. Lisa liked it but commented that Dr. Williams would like a document akin to the philosophy document where they had quotations from news organizations such as the New York Times and the LA Sun. They would have raw data from departments.

11:26 Doug suggested that we get data from the Georgia Department of economic development. The Vice Chancellor for economic development answers to Houston Davis. At the moment the board is really big on economic development.

11:35 Lisa asked us to break up into three or four groups each and to write three or four paragraphs that would fit into section of introduction. Assigned to the first group were Pedro, Trino, Joe, Rick, David and Mamadou. Assigned to the second group were Nancy, Mark, David, Eric and Darren. Assigned to the third group were Mark, Dorothea, Vicky and Cristina. Lisa said she would send the philosophy document to the listserv.

Lisa would like us to focus on the benefits to the students and the economic benefits to the state. Later she can circulate the document on the listserv so it can be refined further.

David de Posada offered to send us the questions they had received when they wrote their justification.

11:40 David shook commented that philosophy, social work, anthropology, sociology and mathematics academic advisory committees had already produced their documents and posted them on the BOR website.

11:43 Lisa called for nominations for the FLAAC 2015 secretary. Mark Gregor from Georgia Highlands nominates himself. Prados seconds the nomination. Committee voted all in favor. The motion passed. Mark Gregor will be the 2015 secretary. Prados will be the chair elect and Kristina Morimoto will be the chair.

11:45 The group held discussions about next year's venue and date.

Vicky motioned that next year's FLAAC meeting remain at Middle Georgia State College on April 13th 2015. David shook seconded the motion. The motion passed.

11:50 Eric mentioned that next year he hoped to see a proficiency workshop or a familiarization workshop added to our meeting. Lisa said she would put this question out on the listserv for further discussion.

11: 56 Lisa called for a working lunch so we could start working on our document. The meeting would be adjourned after lunch.

12:00 Vicky motioned the meeting to be adjourned. Duarte seconded the motion. The motion passed. The 2014 Foreign Language Academic Advisory Committee meeting was officially adjourned.

