

**Chemistry Academic Advisory Committee**  
**Annual Meeting**  
**Minutes**

Middle Georgia State College  
Professional Science Center 211A  
April 11, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 12:00 pm by the chair, Caroline Clower, Clayton State University. The following committee members (or delegates) were in attendance:

Johnny Evans, Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College  
Louise Wrensford, Albany State University  
Jennifer Barber, Atlanta Metropolitan State College  
Caroline Clower, Clayton State University  
Andrea Wallace, College of Coastal Georgia  
Colleen Reynoso, College of Coastal Georgia  
Floyd Jackson, Columbus State University  
Richard Collison, Dalton State College  
Christopher Wozny, Dalton State College  
Michael May, Darton State College  
Ken McGill, Georgia College & State University  
Joseph Sloop, Georgia Gwinnett College  
Kimberly Schurmeier, Georgia Institute of Technology  
Paulos Yohannes, Georgia Perimeter College  
Scott M. Malinconico, Georgia Perimeter College  
John DiCesare, Georgia Southern University  
Michele Smith, Georgia Southwestern State University  
Jeremiah D Harden, Georgia State University  
Beike Jia, Gordon State College  
Daniela Tapu, Kennesaw State University  
Estelle Nuckels, Middle Georgia State College  
Benard Majdi, South Georgia State College  
Norb Pienta, University of Georgia  
Tim Howell, University of North Georgia

Elections were held for the 2014-2015 committee chair and vice-chair. The committee plans to continue alternating the chair from an institution with a 4-year chemistry degree and a 2-year chemistry degree. The chair for next year is Jennifer Barber, Atlanta Metropolitan State College. The vice-chair for 2014-2015 (and chair for 2015-2016) is Richard Collison, Dalton State College.

The Committee discussed the BS in Chemistry program proposal by Georgia Gwinnett College. Joseph C. Sloop, GGC, was on hand to present the proposal and answer questions from the committee. The committee approved the proposal. The committee chair will compile the committee's comments and submit the Committee Review Form to the USG office.

Scott M. Malinconico, Georgia Perimeter College, proposed a change to the chemistry guidelines for Area F to allow for a lower-level introductory biochemistry course to count in this area. The committee discussed the proposal. Concerns were expressed about the transferability of such a course to 4-year programs and recognition of such a course as an appropriate pre-requisite by professional (medical,

pharmacy, etc) schools. However, the majority of the committee did agree that such a course would be appropriate for Area F, and voted to approve the change to the Area F Guidelines. The committee chair will convey this to the USG office.

Laboratory fees (amounts, auditing committees, etc.) were discussed. A list of current fees for each institution was compiled. The committee chair will send this list to the committee members.

The American Council on Education suggested credit for AP exams was discussed. ACE currently recommends 8 hours of credit for a score of 3 or above on the AP exam. None of the USG schools give credit for a score of 3 on the AP exam. The committee strongly feels that credit for science major courses should only be given for a score of 4 or above. The committee's stand on this has not changed since this topic was last discussed several years ago.

Assessment of graduating chemistry majors was discussed. All institutions present assess their students throughout their program. Most use ACS exams as final exams in some courses. Very few give a comprehensive assessment of all chemistry content before graduation. At least one institution uses the ETS Major Field Test and one uses the ACS DUCK exam. Neither institution has enough data to determine if the exam is a good indication of chemistry content knowledge. They will keep the committee apprised as they gather more data. The DUCK has currently been sold to a total of 238 schools; it is unknown how many of those schools are using the exam.

Suggestions for faculty adjusting to a different environment (especially re: teaching vs. research) in merging institutions was discussed. Clear and open communication, especially with regards to promotion and tenure processes, is essential. Faculty from both institutions should work together to minimize stress during the transition.

Christopher Wozny, Dalton State College and previous CAAC member, presented several online resources available for enhancing instruction for chemistry courses, including OpenStax, Education Portal Chem 101, and Crash Course on Youtube.

The Governor's Honors Program is looking for chemistry and biology instructors for summer 2014. Anyone interested should contact Christopher Wozny for more information.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:45 pm.