Attending: Alice Pate, James Galt-Brown, Andrew Goss, John Bryant, Bronson Long, Reid Derr, Craig Pascoe, Scott McDermott, Jeff Pardue, Patrizia Stahle, Carla Gerona, Tom Aiello, Kenja McCray, Bob Burnham, Michael Gunther, Jon Sizemore (BOR Representative).

Meeting opened at 9:00 AM

Thomas Aiello presided as the chairperson.

Minutes from 2015 meeting were approved.

Report from the Annual Meeting of the Regents' Academic Advisory Committee on History (RAACH):

Opening (Introductions and Scheduling of the RAACH Annual Meeting)

RAACH members introduced themselves. Jon Sizemore, BOR Liaison also introduced himself. The chairperson moved to schedule the next RAACH meeting in conjunction with the Georgia Association of Historians' conference in 2017. The motion unanimously passed.

Report from the BOR – John Sizemore

Sizemore discussed Complete College GA (CCG), Affordable Learning GA (ALG), Prior Learning Assessment (PLA), and the Go Back, Move Ahead initiatives. He also discussed Move on When Ready. Sizemore stated that a RAACH for eCore has been formed and eCore and eMajor operations will be merged and geographically housed at the State University of West Georgia, where they will be called eCampus.

eCampus has grown out of the governor's initiative for developing programs to meet industry needs, especially in financial transactions (c. 80% for the nation are processed here in Georgia). Sizemore explained that about 40,000 people in Georgia are employed in the sector and high "churn" creates job openings. Information technology, financial transactions technology, organizational leadership, and cybersecurity are areas needing focus and development in terms of degree alignment within the USG. Sizemore emphasized the need for competency-based associate and bachelor's degrees in these and other areas as well as stackable certificates.

A RAACH committee member raised the question about whether bankers have approached the BOR about the skills most desired in the industry. Sizemore expressed that desirable USG graduates would have double majors in business and IT. Sizemore emphasized employers within the banking industry are very interested in soft skills. It was suggested that USG schools can repackage programs (particularly those in general education) so businesses recognize USG graduates have the competencies and soft skills to serve their customers and clients. A RAACH committee member asked whether the focus for developing and supporting cybersecurity programs will be on R1 institutions? Sizemore asserted that GA Tech, Augusta, Columbus, & Kennesaw State have NSA recognition but every IT and cybersecurity grad the USG can produce will be needed. There is an opportunity for many different institutions to participate and the BOR is trying to develop resources to assist with program development

Sizemore reemphasized the fact that eCore is very interested in RAACH members' input for history course resources. Funding is available. An information sheet was provided at the meeting. The document explained the process for participating. Jon Bryant expressed the opinion that the lack of USG historians' participation in developing eCore history course materials may indicate field experts are sending a message that there's an issue with the content in eCore resources and requested Sizemore to carry the message back to eCore. Committee members inquired about whether eCore is being accredited as a stand-alone entity. Sizemore asserted that individual USG institutions oversee eCore. He reminded the committee that there's also an eCore RAACH, which was formed based on a corrective action aimed at developing institutional representation and direction for eCore. New eCore courses will go through the same review processes as courses at BOR institutions.

RAACH committee members inquired about whether representation on the eCore RAACH is discipline-specific and if individual institutions are responsible for assessing the eCore courses. Sizemore reminded committee members of the following: eCore does a tremendous amount of assessment and publishes data in a fact book; all USG institutions agreed to accept eCore as a parallel curriculum for satisfying general education requirements; and the general education committee recognizes there are slight variations in individual institutional requirements. There is no eCore parallel curriculum anymore, but eCore stands as a rich set of courses correlating with a substantial number of general education courses within the USG. Individual institutions will not be forced to accept eCore courses as a substitute for institutional general education requirements, explained Sizemore.

RAACH Committee members inquired about BOR policies related to Area F. Sizemore said Area F is within SACS' purview. He reminded members, if a given USG institution describes AREA F as a major, they must treat the area as major by assessing programs as they would Bachelor's degrees. Sizemore indicated that USG schools can use "pathway" language, but the preferred terminology is Associate of Science or Associate of Arts. Institutions can't call programs a "transfer degree" or an "area of emphasis" without having at least 12 semester hours in the Area F field of study (i.e. history) and assessing the program. The USG will need to take a look at which programs are really majors and which are general concentrations. Further discussion ensued about Area F history requirements. RAACH committee members queried Sizemore about the USG's global overlay requirement. Sizemore commented that there is a movement to eliminate the institutional documentation of overlays, as the process seems to constitute a transfer barrier for students.

RAACH members asked if the BOR is still committed to continue consolidation efforts. Sizemore suggested that it is safe to assume there will be continued consolidations. Reid Derr raised the concern that consolidation increases bureaucracy and does not save money. Other RAACH members discussed the difficulties consolidation poses within the USG. Sizemore reiterated the idea that consolidation is meant to free up resources, which can be directed toward instruction. Discussion continued concerning whether resources are actually committed to instruction, the theory that cost savings will not be seen within about the first five years, and the reality that Kennesaw has seen increased enrollments in the aftermath of consolidation. A RAACH member raised a question about whether consolidation contributes to access for students. Sizemore expressed that certain degrees have been eliminated via processes like disentanglement and that the inventory of USG degrees may decline but institutions are also continually adding more.

Alice Pate asked several questions. She addressed such topics as tuition increases and concealed carry on Georgia's college campuses. Sizemore reported no tuition increases but was unsure about merit pay increases and the possibility of new hires. There was vigorous discussion related to the issue of concealed carry. Sizemore expressed the Chancellor agrees with faculty and lobbies to keep guns out of the classroom.

Sizemore noted the RAACH explicitly requested guidance from the BOR related to the issue of procedures and protocols related to guns in classrooms, for example what should be done if professors see guns in classroom. Are professors allowed to ask for permit? Dismiss class? Other questions were raised such as whether individuals legally carrying firearms will be able to properly store their weapons so they do not fall into the wrong hands. What are the insurance implications of legal concealed carry? Galt-Brown stressed the importance of expanding college and university police forces rather than legalizing concealed carry on campus. Kenja McCray urged consideration for campuses having issues attracting and retaining enough officers.

Alice Pate proposed a resolution to express the RAACH's concerns about concealed carry in classrooms and desired to include a statement requesting the BOR to extend members' concerns over the issue. RAACH members requested USG institutions' presidents and not just the chancellor to speak to the state legislature and communicate faculty concerns. A question was a raised about whether institutions will be allowed to have metal detectors in entries to various departments/divisions? RAACH members discussed the issue of concealed weapons on campuses, stating their concerns about angry or disturbed students and colleagues, particularly when sensitive information is being communicated to those individuals.

Ultimately, RAACH members came to the conclusion that one of their greatest concerns was how concealed carry legislation would impact professors' ability to manage the classroom. After discussing the issues, the following resolution was introduced:

> The RAACH strongly supports the Chancellor's position in opposition to guns on campus. Weapons in the classroom fundamentally alter the relationship between faculty and students and threaten our ability to teach and to manage the classroom.

> In the event that such legislation becomes law, faculty and staff need clear procedures and guidance on how to handle the reality of guns in the classroom.

> Furthermore as chairs, we need clear guidance on how to handle the reality of guns in non-instructional locations including departmental and faculty offices.

James Galt-Brown moved to approve resolution. The motion seconded and all members voted for approval.

Report from Meeting of RAAC Chairs

Aiello led the discussion, opening the floor for a decision about whether the RAACH supported separate math pathways for non-STEM majors. RAACH members discussed the issue and considered the decision of the math RAAC. A member moved to reaffirm the RAACH's decision from the previous year. The motion was seconded. All members voted to affirm the decision the RAACH made at its 2015 annual meeting. [The committee voted to approve the initiative to advance MATH 1001 as the preferred core

math pathway for most non-science majors with 16 ayes, 2 nays, and 1 abstention in 2015.] The RAACH also discussed programs with low-producing majors, considering examples and discussing the procedures for elimination.

Committee Assignments & Elections

US History in the Core

- Craig Pascoe
- Scott McDermott

World History in the Core

- James Galt-Brown
- Jeff Pardue
- Patrizia Stahle

Major Programs Committee

- Alice Pate
- Jonathan Bryant

Graduate Programs Committee

- Carla Gerona
- Jonathan Bryan

A motion was made to accept the volunteers. The motion was seconded. All members approved.

RAACH Chair – A RAACH member nominated Andrew Goss. A motion was made to accept the nomination. All members voted in favor of Goss.

RAACH Chair Elect - A RAACH member nominated Craig Pascoe. A motion was made to accept the nomination. All members voted in favor of Pascoe.

Other Business

Transfer students from Technical College System of Georgia (TCSG) – Sizemore discussed history transfer students from TCSG, stating that the available data does not show TCSG students perform any worse on a second history course in the USG; however, their numbers of Ws are higher, although not much. Their numbers appear to be "adequate." Technical system students are older and are more like adult learners, so Sizemore proposed a consideration of outcomes for adult learners, as there is no known reason for technical students' withdrawals. He expressed that the issue about withdrawal rate is concerning and the USG may need to provide more orientation for students' transition from technical college to university life.

RAACH members discussed several aspects of the issue of TCSG transfer students. Topics of discussion included institutional reports showing larger class sizes correlate with higher DFW rate. Galt-Brown asserted that RAACH has asked several times for data on technical colleges in terms of rigor, accreditation, etc. Sizemore indicated local colleges and universities have more info on students and are in a better position to report issues to the USG rather than vice versa.

ENGL 1101 - RAACH members discussed the possibility of an ENGL 1101 prerequisite for history courses. Members engaged in a discussion on the issue. RAACH members believe an ENGL 1101 prerequisite will cause a bottleneck for students wanting to register for history courses.   The issue was resolved, as Board Policy 2.4.7 mandates, "No course in one area (A–E) may be a prerequisite for any course in any other area (A–E)." Additionally, members indicated ENGL 1101 does not always prepare students for the types of writing required in history. Patrizia Stahle emphasized the continued importance of teaching writing across the curriculum.

Global Perspectives Overlay - The topic of the global perspectives overlay was opened for discussion. Carla Gerona indicated there are larger problems overshadowing transfer issues with the global perspectives overlay. Gerona is concerned about accountability for USG institutions imparting global perspective. Sizemore stated institutions should not stop offering global overlay, but the move is to make the process more student friendly. Sizemore will work with Barbara Brown to get the proposal to the RAACH for a review of the language.

Other Concerns - RAACH members raised various other concerns. Some discussed the notable declines in history majors' numbers, which is an overall trend addressed at the American Historical Association's annual meeting. Others focused on US history exemption challenge exams and Georgia history legislative requirement assessments. Ultimately, members were concerned that students have as many opportunities as possible to satisfy core requirements while also being required to take and pass rigorous coursework/assessments. The body resolved that there are many options for people who do not pass the exams, even after multiple attempts. USG institutions offer an array of online courses (both eCore and non-eCore).

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed. The 2016 RAACH meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

Minutes recorded and submitted by Kenja McCray.