

Regents Academic Advisory Committee
Family and Consumer Sciences
Minutes

The Regents Academic Advisory Committee on Family and Consumer Sciences met on October 4, 2002, in Dawson Hall, Room 216, at the University of Georgia. Dr. Judy Lucas, Chair, conducted the meeting. Representatives from the following institutions included: Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College – Darby Sewell, Fort Valley College – Linda Johnson, Floyd College – Carolyn Parks, Georgia Southern University – Diana Cone, Middle Georgia College – Judy Lucas, South Georgia College – Yuna Chen, and University of Georgia – Gerri Benson, Jan Hathcote, and Sharon Nickols. Dr. Judy Monsaas, Georgia Board of Regents liaison, was also present. The meeting convened at 10 a.m.

Dr. Hathcote discussed the transfer of credits for Area F course Development of Family used by the University of Georgia. She encouraged other institutions to send copies of syllabi and competencies to UGA for approval to facilitate the transfer of credits. UGA is very strict on making sure Standard 3 of AAFCS accreditation is met before granting transfer credits for this course.

Dr. Gerri Benson, UGA, shared the expansion of teacher education programs and scholarships designed to encourage greater interest in teaching. The certification programs were discussed. Questions concerning the education of paraprofessionals and the need for non- traditional classes followed. The Board of Regents Office has received two large teacher recruitment grants, some of which will be used for paraprofessional education. In addition, the HOPE Promise grant is available for paraprofessionals. Nationally, there is a serious shortage of teachers and administrators in Family and Consumer Sciences.

Dr. Sharon Nickols presented “The Body of Knowledge in Family and Consumer Sciences.” She emphasized the common threads that serve as a model for all Family and Consumer Sciences programs. She concluded by discussing AAFCS guidelines and the need for Family and Consumer Sciences to be proactive to prevent becoming fragmented.

Representatives from each institution updated the group concerning events or news from their respective campuses.

- Carolyn Parks indicated that enrollment at Floyd College had increased 27%. An initiative to improve equipment and to begin a new campus near the Interstate were priorities. A major concern involved assisting paraprofessionals in obtaining the required degree.
- Diana Cone reported that Georgia Southern University had more than 15,000 students enrolled this Fall. In Family and Consumer Sciences, the greatest growth was in Interior Design. She discussed the Area F course in Design Appreciation and the need to incorporate more theory into the

course to meet FIDER accreditation standards. It may be difficult for transfer students to progress into the Studio courses if Design Appreciation is transferred from other institutions.

- Darby Sewell reported that ABAC had record enrollment this year. Family and Consumer Sciences will move into a state-of-the-art facility soon. Three new certificate programs are being offered and HOPE scholarships are available for these. ABAC will host the State SAFCS meeting on April 11 –12, 2003.
- Judy Lucas shared that Middle Georgia College will no longer offer Family and Consumer Sciences courses. Apparently, the course offerings gradually faded away.
- The University of Georgia experienced a 10.5% increase in enrollment. Fashion Merchandising, Furnishings and Interiors, and Consumer Economics have seen the greatest growth. Computer laboratories are being upgraded with funds from student technology fees. Searches are underway for two new faculty positions (obesity research and housing). An extension position was lost due to budget cuts.
- Dr. Chen from South Georgia College reported on the 9% budget cuts experienced at her institution. The motto is “Do more for less.”

Dr. Monsaas from the Board of Regents shared the major goal for the committee this year is to review Area F course offerings for common core outcomes which facilitate transfer of credits. Other initiatives at the Board of Regents for 2003 are:

- Workload and accountability
- Approval of Lecturer Career Path
- Studying Part-time faculty
- Program Review
- K-12 independent audit and improving the standards
- Mini-Core Transfer agreements

Darby Sewell accepted the position of secretary and chair-elect for this committee for the academic year 2002-2003.

The committee broke for lunch at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education.

Respectfully submitted,

Diana Cone, Secretary
Family and Consumer Sciences