

Learning Support Director's Meeting
Saturday, March 31, 2007
Sea Palms Inn

The Annual Learning Support Director's meeting

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Francie asked Jackie Thornberry, Conference Chair

2. Transfer Credit for core classes despite CPC/LS placement. This would be dependent on the number of transfer credits. For example, if a student is transferring the maximum number of credits, and has met the LS requirement, placement may not be required in a LS course.
3. “Auto” Re-Test Policy for Learning Support EXIT? There are no “across the board standards.” On most campuses, a re-test is dependent on final course grade AND Test score. If a student has a “good” grade in a class and tests within 5 points of the “EXIT score,” a re-test is generally granted.
4. Why the change from 4 hours to 3 hours? Is 4 better than 3? There was no data to support the statistics, but the changes were made to support registration purposes basically. For example, a student enrolled for 3 hours is eliminated from a number of student fees.

-- 10 Minute Break --

5. Possible substitution of Math Courses for students with disabilities? Following the break, Dr. (Sandra) Stone (Board of Regents representative) discussed the topic of “Possible MATH Course Substitutions” for students with disabilities. A Logics course (possibly) could be used as a substitute for the “required” math course, but it must be a course that is currently being offered at the institution. However, criteria for an acceptable course and/or student must be discussed/determined. More information will be discussed during the Learning Disabilities Advisory Meeting on April 18. It is strongly “believed” testing is a barrier for the difficulty.
6. Leslie Caldwell (Board of Regents representative) provided an overview regarding the validation/acceptance of COMPASS Scores from other schools/testing sites. Leslie stated COMPASS Scores may be accepted from any **authorized** testing site. However, method of testing, testing site and number of times test(s) taken must be verified. Scores may be received via e-mail, transcript, tele-message, and/or letter – method/score must be verified and confirmed.
7. Concern over “success” of learning support programs at 2-year colleges. There was a brief discussion about requirements? testing? And how is success defined?
8. Passing of high school graduation exam indicating “college and work ready.” Meeting with DTAE, USG and DOE representatives -- by 2010, all high school students completing the graduation exam -- in the state of Georgia -- should be “college and work ready.”

Issues about high school requirements currently being addressed?

- * required number of courses: Math (4), English (4), Science (4), P.E. (1), Foreign Language, etc.
- * getting away from 2-tiered diploma
- * NOT lowering admissions standards

For additional information, see America Diploma Project Network (Google)

9. **REGENTS' TEST-RELATED ISSUES (Leslie Caldwell)**

Leslie discussed the status of the "Regents' Testing" topic ... Right now, test is going "nowhere." Current requirements and scores for testing exemption:

Reading:	SAT-Verbal (510+)	ACT-Reading (23)
Essay:	SAT -Writing (650+)	Int'l HS Bacc (4) AP (3)

"Tiered" Options for dealing with the test:

- 45 hrs, 1 time
- failed 3-5 times, Individualized class
- "chronic" repeaters, 1:1 Instruction

Testing for ESL students was briefly discussed.

Discussion will be continued 5 months, may be up to 18 months as to "what to do/ how to change the testing process". One concern/problem is the course is basically the same – whether you've had the test one time or 8 times. At the system level, there is concern ... "assessment necessary for accountability."

Sandra (Stone) interjected discussion regarding the "white paper" project ... presentation of testing, benefits, pros & cons of assessment measure ... there is the question of what is a good, fair assessment measure? Strategic Plan...we should "stay tuned."

In closing, Jackie briefly discussed a "pilot program" being led by Dorothy Zinmeister in which volunteer sites are needed. For starters, all entering students will be required to take a Math Entry Test, then subdivided by performance level, etc. For further details, and if interested, contact Jackie.

Sandra (Stone) addressed the concern raised in regard to "unproctored on-line testing" ... see BOR Policy Manual (update)/ Academic Handbook.

Other Business:

2008 Learning Support Conference?

Sea Palms (most likely) is the site, but up for discussion

2008 Conference Co-Chairs: Francie Taylor and Tonya Strickland.

2009 Conference Chair: Open

Jackie will serve as Chair, Learning Support Directors' Meeting (2007-08)

The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,
Beverley Richardson Blake
Beverley Richardson Blake, Secretary
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ATTENDANCE
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INSTITUTION

REPRESENTATIVE