

East Georgia State College Faculty Senate

Meeting Minutes

June 10, 2016

9:00 a.m. JAM B171 Conference Room at EGSC, Swainsboro

Type of meeting: Special meeting

Meeting Facilitator: Dr. Lena White, President

- I. Call to order (9:05 a.m.) – special meeting per VPAA and President’s request
- II. Roll call: Dr. Derr and Mr. Damon Andrews via Polycom- Statesboro; Mr. Blount via Polycom- Augusta; Dr. White, Dr. Simmons, and Ms. Todd-Swainsboro. Dr. Mason was not able to attend.
- III. Visitor: Dr. Goodman
- IV. New Business - Academic Affairs material:
 - a. Change in definition of Credit Hour (Credit Hours Awarded Policy)- There was a motion to approve the change in definition of credit hours awarded, and there was a 2nd. There was a call for discussion. Dr. Derr inquired, what is the reason behind this change? Dr. Goodman explained that the USG definition does not go as far as the SACCS requirement (i.e. define an hour beyond seat time). Because we are in the 5th year interim review, we have to change our policy regarding credit hours. We are adopting the standard in order to go beyond seat time. Mr. Andrews inquired if this change will require alternative delivery methods. It was noted that the policy is saying that for each credit hour students spend inside class that they will have equal time outside of class. There was a call to question by Dr. Derr. The original motion to approve the change in credit hour policy was approved (All in favor).
 - b. Combine Student Success and Critical Thinking –CATS 1101 – Dr. Simmons made a motion to approve CATS 1101, and the motion was seconded. There was a call for discussion made by Dr. Derr. Dr. Derr requested information on why the two of these courses were merged. Dr. Goodman discussed the benefits for the students: 1) The merge reduces the credit hours for which students pay; 2) The class will count, so students will have to take the course seriously (i.e. Freshman Year Experience class falls into Area B). The USG will not allow a Student Success course into the Core. However, merging these two courses into a Freshman Year Experience Program will allow it to be a Core acceptable course/program.

Dr. Derr asked given that it is a 1 credit course, how will it affect faculty compensation course for teaching? Dr. Goodman stated that faculty will receive 1 credit hour course pay (this will depend on if the course is an overload). The course is a 1 hr contact and 1 hr online (hybrid) course. Dr. Simmons inquired, how will this work for transfer students? Dr. Goodman stated that if they do not have the hours in Area B, then they will have to take this course. The college will teach Critical Thinking for at least 2 more terms to finish out the requirements for graduation.

Mr. Andrews had a question regarding the portfolio; is this a graduation requirement? Dr. Goodman responded that if it is part of the core, then it will be part of graduation. Dr. Derr/Mr. Andrews inquired about who will assess the portfolios. Dr. Goodman stated that the Director (s) of CATS 1101 (Dr. Strickland) would be responsible.

Dr. Simmons noted that CATS 1101 will be integrated into other courses, so it will take a lot of cooperation among faculty. Have faculty been asked about their cooperation concerning the integration of their courses? Dr. Goodman stated that CATS 1101 will need to be approved before Dr. Strickland reaches out to faculty for their cooperation.

Dr. White expressed concern that the portfolio may take away students' time from their gateway courses. Dr. Simmons noted that scheduling problems with cultural activities and missing classes to get credit for program experiences may prove to be problems. Dr. Goodman noted that we should give Dr. Strickland the opportunity to try CATS 1101 and let him adapt it as he goes.

Mr. Andrews inquired, will the portfolio keep them from graduating? Dr. Goodman noted that once they have finished the course, then they have received their credit. It will not keep them from graduating if they do not submit it after finishing the course.

Dr. Goodman reminded the Faculty Senate that we are just looking for approval of the course; the issues regarding program components can be addressed later in committees. APCC only approved the course for CATS 1101; the FYE has not been approved yet by APCC because it is in development. There was a call to question made by Dr. Derr. The motion to merge Critical Thinking and Student Success into one course- CATS 1101 was passed/approved.

- c. Addition of Critical and Academic Thinking for Success (CATS 1101) to Area B of the Core Curriculum. – There was a motion to approve the CATS 1101 to Area B; there was a 2nd. There was a call for discussion. Dr. Simmons inquired, what is the credit hour limit for student having to take CATS 1101 or not? Dr. Goodman stated that 15 hrs (so a semester). Dr. White expressed concern in regard to making the course available time wise for scheduling. There was a call to question; the motion to approve CATS 1101 to Area B was approved.

- Recommendation to remove Critical Thinking (CRIT 1101) from Area B of the Core Curriculum. There was a motion, and a 2nd. The motion to remove CRIT 1101 from Area B was approved.
- Recommendation to remove Student Success (EGAC 1100) from Graduation Requirements Area. There was a motion, and a 2nd. The motion to remove EGAC 1100 from Graduation Requirements Area was approved.

V. Adjournment (9:50)