

Regent's Advisory Committee on Institutional Effectiveness (RACIE)

Report of Subcommittee on purpose and organization of RACIE (2008-2009)

As of 02-20-2009

This subcommittee met by telephone conference as follows:

- Monday, 12/01/2008 2:30- 4pm
- Wednesday, 11/12/2008 at 10-11:30am

The members of this subcommittee of RACIE are:

- Susan Bello
- Bob Boehmer
- Kristina Cragg
- Cathie Mayes Hudson
- Juliana Lancaster
- Ed Rugg

As discussed in the 09/30/2008 telephone conference of the full committee, the general purpose of these two meetings was to adopt a final recommendation to the full committee for an updated purpose and structure of RACIE. This update is intended to res

Suggested New Directions for Transforming RACIE to RACEA

(Last revised from RACIE subcommittee discussions on 12/01/2008)

New Name: **RACEA** (Regents Administrative Committee on Effectiveness & Accreditation)

Vision Statement: RACEA is expected to be a catalyst for strengthening the University System of Georgia and its member institutions as leaders in key areas of institutional effectiveness and regional accreditation, including quality enhancement, student learning outcomes, comprehensive program review, assessment practices, continuous improvement, accreditation compliance, and public accountability.

Purpose Statement: RACEA provides a system-wide network of professional specialists and resources for promoting success in the interrelated areas of institutional effectiveness and regional accreditation through shared information, mutual support, expert assistance, and emulation of best practices and for recommending improvements in related USG policies and procedures that reinforce success in these areas.

Membership: USG presidents will annually appoint one institutional voting representative to RACEA from the ranks of institutional effectiveness directors, SACS accreditation liaisons, assessment coordinators and Quality Enhancement Plan directors. In keeping with RACEA's vision and purpose, other institutional representatives may also be appointed as non-voting affiliate members of RACEA who will attend annual meetings, and participate in the Committee's task forces, professional development programs, and USG initiatives.

Task Forces: RACEA's annual plan of work will revolve largely around the goals, initiatives, and accomplishments of its five standing task forces on:

1. Evaluation of Expected Outcomes for Programs & Services

Focused on: conducting comprehensive program review of degree programs and general education; articulating, assessing, and improving expected outcomes for the institution's programs and support services, including its research and public service missions (CS 3.3.1.1-5); best practices; successful models, regional and national developments, etc.

2. Student Learning Outcomes Assessment

Focused on: interpreting the different meanings of student learning outcomes (CS 3.3.1.1), the college-level competencies of graduates (CS 3.5.1), course-level learning outcomes, and “expected outcomes” for programs and services; articulating assessing, and improving student learning outcomes and college-level competencies; comparative

5. RACEA Resource Center

Focused on: constructing and maintaining the RACEA Web site on Shared Resources and Best Practices, the content for which comes from the other four Task Forces and RACEA's membership (this will require USG budget and technical support); providing consulting assistance from the RACEA network members for mock team reviews of accreditation reports, trouble-shooting institutional problems in achieving compliance, and interpreting accreditation requirements and standards.

These task forces will be composed of RACEA members as well as affiliated colleagues with expertise and interest in the focal area. RACEA members may elect to serve on more than one task force. Task forces will work and meet throughout the year and will actively communicate with the RACEA membership on issues and developments of mutual interest as they arise and by posting their work, findings, reports and minutes on the RACEA Resource Center Web site. Each task force will also prepare an annual presentation of their accomplishments, including an assessment of goal attainment and plans for improvement in the coming year that will be subject to review and discussion by the full membership of RACIE at the annual meeting.

RACEA Executive Committee:

The executive committee will coordinate the business and activities of RACEA and its task forces throughout the year between annual meetings of the membership. It will ensure that the five task forces are operating throughout the year and will coordinate the scheduling and organization of the annual meeting. The Executive Committee will also coordinate RACEA's annual election process. The Executive Committee's membership will include the Chair, Chair-Elect, the 5 Task Force Chairs and RACEA's liaison from the USG administration.

Annual Meeting:

RACEA will meet annually for a two-day retreat to provide a venue for sharing issues, concerns, recommendations for future directions and best practices in the areas of institutional effectiveness and accreditation. This will be scheduled in January or February each year (following the SACS-COC Annual Meeting) and will adhere to a standing agenda that includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Institutional Accreditation Status Reports & Consulting Assistance Requested

Status reports from member institutions undergoing SACS-COC reaffirmation of accreditation, follow-up reviews, substantive change reporting and action, fifth-year reporting and resolution of sanctions or compliance issues with a concluding focus on RACEA's response to requests for providing support and consulting assistance from the membership;

