

Agenda

University Council



Thursday, September 6, 2007
3 p.m., W1012 Science Bldg.

In preparation for the Faculty Meeting Tuesday, September 18, 2007, 2:30 p.m.

Agenda Items:

- I. Approval of the Minutes from March 29, 2007, available at:
http://www.aug.edu/faculty_secretary/ucmin_03_29_2007_draft.pdf
- II. Academic Policies Committee – Dr. Edgar Johnson
 1. Items requiring faculty vote
 - a. Change to MBA foundation courses – adding option to fulfill statistics requirements
 - b. Proposal concerning Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges
(See Attachment A)
- III. Report of the President
- IV. Announcements

Attachments

Attachment A.

Item requiring faculty vote

Improving Access for Military Personnel – Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges

The Problem: Military personnel move frequently. As a consequence, it can be quite difficult for them to meet residency requirements. And each move to a new location results in problems with transferring coursework. The bottom line is that military personnel face unique obstacles completing their education. One solution to this problem is the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges, or SOC.

What is SOC? SOC is a consortium of colleges and universities that voluntarily agree to take concrete steps to help military personnel complete their degrees.

What are the benefits of SOC membership?

1. If ASU joins SOC, we will remove a major barrier to access for military personnel, especially Army personnel. The U.S. Army has started a new system for payment of educational benefits called “Go Army Ed.” This is an automated system that pays for enrollment costs up front *provided the institution is a SOC member*. If the institution is NOT a member of SOC, the soldier must pay his or her educational costs up front and apply for reimbursement AFTER the semester is over. It can take anywhere from 60 to 90 days for a soldier to be reimbursed for these costs. This constitutes a significant barrier to enrolling at ASU. Joining SOC will remove that barrier.
2. Army Regulation 621-5 specifically prohibits institutions that are not SOC members from advertising, recruiting, or providing courses on an Army installation. Joining SOC removes those restrictions. At a minimum, this would open up the door for ASU to at least advertise its presence to personnel at Fort Gordon.

What do we have to do to join SOC? ASU already meets the six conditions for joining SOC. In addition, we must agree to the [SOC principles](#). These are outlined in four criterion dealing with transfer of credit, academic residency requirements, and crediting learning from military training and other sources. Currently, ASU meets all of these with one exception. ASU has not been using the [ACE Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services](#) to evaluate learning acquired in military schools. The ACE Guide provides *recommendations* for doing this. Individual department chairs would make the final decisions on the award of credit for such work. This is the only change ASU would need to make.

Who else belongs to SOC? Every USG school located near a military installation is a SOC member with one exception: ASU. A complete list of higher education institutions in Georgia that are SOC members is attached.

University System of Georgia Schools and SOC Members

Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College
Albany State University
Amstrong Atlantic State University
Clayton State University
Coastal Georgia Community College
Columbus State University
Darton College
East Georgia College
Gainesville State College
Georgia College & State University
Georgia Perimeter College
Georgia Southern University
Georgia Southwestern State University
Middle Georgia College
North Georgia College & State University
Savannah State University
South Georgia College
University of West Georgia
Valdosta State University
Waycross College

- 20 out of 35 campuses are SOC members
- All system schools located near a major military installation are SOC members except ASU