Academic Policies and Procedures Committee
January 10, 2006

Present:
Tim Chowns
Skip Clark
Muriel Cormican
Rosalind Duplechain
Lucretia Gibbs
Betsy Griffies
Jorge Gaytan
Bobby Johnson
Scot Lingrell
Katherine Moffeit
Elizabeth Morton
Joseph Sharp
Lauren Konia

Agenda Item # 1- Dr. Clark opened the AP& P meeting and introduced our guest speaker, Dr. Albright from the College Board. Dr. Albright summarized the new basics of the objectives of the new SAT. He noted that 59,842 Georgia college bound students took the SAT in 2005. Dr. Albright asked, “Why change the SAT?” He then stated “to strengthen the alignments of the SAT to instructional practices and test the students and to increase the importance of writing skills.” Dr. Albright listed the three major areas the changes were made: 1) Critical reading (substituted short paragraphs for reading passages and eliminated analogies), 2) Mathematic questions added, quantitative comparisons eliminated, and 3) The writing requirement along with new multiple choice questions on improving sentences, paragraphs, and basic sentence errors. Dr. Albright discussed the new additions in the math section. There was a point made that the changes could cause a problem for seniors who wait to take Algebra II in their senior year. Dr. Albright assured the committee that the math requirement is not increased in level of difficulty. Dr. Johnson and Mark Taylor both noted UWG requires a math higher than Algebra II for admission to UWG.

Dr. Albright discussed the writing test and noted that the essay portion is only 25%-30%. He then explained the process by which the essays are scored. Two experienced high school or higher education teachers (3/4 have advance degrees) are randomly chosen. They are instructed to grade as if the essay is a first draft. If the two scores differ by more than one point, then the essay goes to a third master reader. The College Board does not share the essays with high schools. Dr. Albright noted that a true assessment cannot be made about the new changes until a one year cycle is completed. Dr. Albright noted other information such as students must use a No. #2 pencil (no ink pens), and the cost of the test has increased to ~$41.00.

Dr. Sharp asked how competitive ACT and SAT are. Dr. Albright replied that most colleges accept both. Dr. Sharp asked if the decision to accept the type of test was a regional issue. Dr. Albright replies, mostly yes. Dr. Gaytan asked how The College Board achieves standardization with the grading. Dr. Albright explained the system of six
scoring points and the grading process guidelines and training. Dr. Lingrell asked Dr. Albright if he was aware of the USG’s plans to interject the writing score into the Freshmen Index. Dr. Albright did not know of any definite plans.

**Agenda Item # 2-** Dr. Clark discussed future meeting dates for February 7th, and March 7th. A next possible agenda item may be a writing requirement for UWG as a requirement for admission.

**Agenda Item #3-** Dr. Clark presented the draft minutes for the November meeting. The minutes were approved with a few corrections.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lucretia Gibbs