Laura Dowd called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and introduced the first speaker, Dr. Laura Jolly. Dr. Jolly presented the implementation plan for the Student and Financial Aid Systems. This integrated student information system will enhance administrative functions, will keep the data in a more sustainable, secure place, and will improve service to students. Closer to the implementation dates, the Project Advisory Team will provide advisors with education sessions. The data migration will begin in August of 2012 and the project should be complete in June of 2015.

Dr. Scott Shamp educated the group on the New Media Institute—an interdisciplinary teaching and research program in Grady College. The program teaches student how to innovate with new media, specifically in three areas: mobile media, social media, and gaming. Dr. Shamp explained that the New Media Institute is seeking to recruit students from more diverse majors to join the program. Orientation sessions, which take place each semester, will be on January 17 and 18 at 5:00 p.m. in the Journalism Building. Dr. Shamp will email more information to the advisor listserv.

The Assessment Subcommittee will speak in January about the results of the Advisor Survey.

Fiona Liken updated the Council on the Minor Subcommittee’s progress. Under “Majors”, the Spring 2012 Bulletin will give students more information on how they can declare a minor and what they do when they have completed a minor. After asking for feedback on the Minor Declaration and Completion Forms, Fiona said that she will send out the information to AACC so schools/colleges can verify their contact information.

Fiona also updated the Council on the new federal financial aid regulations that do not provide funds for a course which a student has already taken twice and passed. If advisors encounter a student who has taken and passed a course twice who wants to enroll in the course again, they should refer them to their financial aid advisor. Fiona clarified that “passing grade” is defined as D or above, even if a C- isn’t a passing grade for major credit.

Laura announced that the Workshop will be held in the Coverdell auditorium on February 20th from 12-3. The topic is Advising Special Populations—transfers, non-traditional students, veterans, students in IDL, international students, and athletes. The save-the-date email will be sent to the advisor listserv shortly.

Maggie Kerins summarized the 2 policy changes (to the Course Challenging and Academic Renewal policies) approved by the Educational Affairs Committee this semester. Maggie will email the updates to the advisor listserv.

Dr. Elizabeth Hardaway was honored for her years of service in advising and her involvement with AACC from the time it was created. Her replacement, Judith Iakovou, will start attending AACC meetings in January.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m., and the Council will meet again on January 20, 2012.

Minutes submitted by,

Maggie Kerins
Office of the Vice President for Instruction