SACS Progress Report
Executive Board, February 15, 2005

1 ● Jack Lohmann - Update
2 ● Howard Rollins - International Plan
3 ● Amy Bruckman - UROP & Research Plan
SACS Reaffirmation Process

- Compliance Report Submitted, Sep. 10, 2004
- Off-Site Review, Nov. 8-10, 2004
- Off-Site Report Received, Nov. 22, 2004
- Follow-up Report, Due with QEP
- QEP, Due Mar. 15, 2005
- On-Site Review Visit, Apr. 26-28, 2005
- Follow-up Report (if any), Due mid-Sep. 2005
- Commission Meeting, early Dec. 2005
Development of QEP

■ 2003 – Focus areas identified
  • Seven areas considered
  • All had “learning by doing” theme

■ 2004 – Projects developed
  • Teams formed, project proposals prepared
  • Reviewed by Council, then Leadership Team
  • Two selected

Georgia Tech’s QEP

**Focus**

“Strengthening the International Competence and Research Experiences of Undergraduate Students”

**Scope of Work**

- Five Years
- Undergraduates
- Budget: ~ $4.9M
- Involves all colleges, several support units
International Plan: What is it?

- **Degree-long program within the major that develops international competence**
  - Study of core international subjects
    - 3 courses: intl relations, global econ, a country or world region
    - Culminating course that ties intl courses and experience to major
  - Second language proficiency (equiv. of 2 years of college-level study)
  - International study, research and/or work experience
    - Two terms of residential overseas experience (at least 26 weeks)
    - Higher language proficiency required if using the second language

- **Completion earns designator “International Plan” on diploma and transcript**
Key points

- Option within existing undergraduate degrees
  - Not a new degree
  - Not a minor or certificate
  - No BOR approval required

- Approved IUCC on 1/19; Academic Senate on 2/1

- Units elect to participate; control their program
  - Must obtain IUCC approval for each major’s plan
  - Faculty committee will coordinate the International Plan
  - Support and daily operations by OIE & DOPP
  - 16 academic units have participated, many ready to submit
A Signature Program

- Demanding program for best students
- Goals (all majors)
  - 100 in first year (2005-06)
  - 300 by fifth year (2009-10)
  - Represents ~ 12% of graduating class
- Does not replace other int’l programs
- May stimulate more interest generally
Who’s been involved?

- **Int’l Plan Steering Committee, all 6 colleges**
  - Kent Barefield (Sciences)
  - Richard Barke (Ivan Allen)
  - Paul Griffin (Engineering)
  - Joe Hughes (Engineering)
  - Chris Jarrett (Architecture)
  - Rich LeBlanc (Computing)
  - Bill Long (International Affairs)
  - Phil McKnight (Modern Languages)
  - Chuck Parsons (Management)

- **UG coordinators from 12 academic units**

- **Coordination with college administrations**
Bonus Benefits

- Enables GT to attract top students who might otherwise go elsewhere

- Gives GT a competitive edge over other top universities - anticipating growing interest in international study

- Will put GT in national/ international leadership role for integration of international study/ experience into disciplinary studies
Promoting Undergraduate Research

- **Undergrad. Res. Opp’s Program (UROP)**
  - Incentives for faculty and students
    - Small grants for materials/supplies and travel
    - More support as endowment becomes available
  - Organize awareness events
    - Fall research job fairs
    - Spring research symposia
  - Monitoring and assessment

- **Research Plan**
  - Degree with special designation in research
  - Meant to signify an in-depth research experience
Who’s been involved?

- **UROP and Research Plan Committee, all 6 colleges**
  - Kent Barefield (Sciences)
  - Richard Barke (Ivan Allen)
  - Leigh Bottomley (Academic Affairs)
  - Goutam Challagalla (Management)
  - Jeff Davis (Engineering)
  - Nicholas DePalma (Undergraduate Student, Computing)
  - Marta Garcia (Development)
  - Sabir Khan (Architecture)
  - Bob McMath (Academic Affairs)
  - Naresh Thadani (Engineering)
  - Steve Usselman (Ivan Allen)
Research Plan Requirements

■ “Default” requirements with unit flexibility
  • Must be approved by the Undergraduate Research Advisory Group and the IUCC
  • Allows units to account for existing curriculum, especially capstone requirements

■ Undergraduate Research Advisory Group
  • Faculty governance; one rep from each college, two students, and the Director of Undergraduate Research
  • Research Plans to be approved by IUCC
Research Plan Requirements (continued)

- At least nine units of research over at least two terms
  - For either pay or academic credit
  - At least 3 credit hrs or equivalent for pay per term

- Undergraduate thesis/report of research
  - Intended to be substantial enough to show significant accomplishment on the part of students, but not so large to deter faculty from participating

- “Undergraduate Thesis Writing Lab” (1 CH)
Research Plan Requirements
(continued)

- Thesis read and approved by two faculty members

- Five criteria
  - Originality
  - Literature review
  - Writing
  - Technical/experimental/theoretical achievement
  - Completeness
Thank You

Questions