Closures, Consolidations and Expansions of Major Functions and Campuses:
University System of Georgia

AVC Shelley C. Nickel
SUNY Critical Issues in Higher Education Conference
November 8, 2012
University System of Georgia, Board of Regents: Governance

- Sets policy for 35 public institutions and hires the Chancellor
- Appointed by Governor
- Currently 18 members – one from each Congressional District (13) and 5 at-large
- Redistricting will add one more in January
- Members serve for 7 year terms
- Terms staggered
USG: Structure

• Currently 35 institutions – soon to be 31!
• 4 research – UGA, Tech, Georgia State, GHSU
• 2 regional universities – VSU, Ga. Southern
• 13 State Universities
• 16 State Colleges
• All 35 Presidents report to the Chancellor
• Georgia is an at-will state
• Institutions are accredited by SACS
Fall 2011 Chancellor promoted the idea of consolidation to BOR: “The purpose of campus consolidation is to increase the system’s overall effectiveness in creating a more educated Georgia.”

In October the “Principles for Consolidation” were adopted.
Guiding Principles

1. Increase opportunities to raise education attainment levels.
2. Improve accessibility, regional identity, and compatibility.
3. Avoid duplication of academic programs while optimizing access to instruction.
4. Create significant potential for economies of scale and scope.
5. Enhance regional economic development.
6. Streamline administrative services while maintaining or improving service level and quality.
Data Revealed 8 Institutions Ripe for Consolidation

• Waycross College and South Georgia College
• Macon State College and Middle Georgia College
• North Georgia College & State University and Gainesville State College
• Augusta State University and Georgia Health Sciences University
USG Consolidations

Transforming the System, Changing Lives, Strengthening the State
Consolidation Opportunities

- Creates larger institutions that provide a strategic approach to higher education in the region and enabling economies of scale
- Builds on existing collaboration between institutions
- Combines resources to enhance responsiveness to economic development needs
Consolidation Opportunities

• The Augusta consolidation reflects a bold move to create a new research university providing high quality undergraduate programs and top-tier health education and research that meet regional and statewide needs.
Consolidation Challenges

• Cultures
• Organizational Structures
• Missions
• New Names
• Mascots
Consolidation Accomplishments Since January 2012

• Implementation teams formed at system office and each pair
• Identified and tracking over 600 items
• New mission statements and new names
• All 4 Prospectus submitted to SACS – 10/1
• On track to have students registered for classes, receive financial aid and employees paid
Closures, Consolidations and Expansions of Major Functions and Campuses: University System of Georgia

AVC Shelley C. Nickel
SUNY Critical Issues in Higher Education Conference
November 8, 2012