

Minutes of the Childhood Education Faculty—January 23, 2009

Members present—Deanna Michael, Cynthia Leung, Kathe Rasch, Juanita Fountain, Guda Gayle-Evans, Zafer Unal, Gwyn Senokossoff, Jennefer Khattabi, Michael Sampson, Alex Brice, Margaret Hewitt, Vivian Fueyo

1. Approval of the Minutes—Minutes Accepted as written
2. Dean's Report—Dean's Report, Graduate Enrollment Trends

Dean Fueyo reported that we should anticipate an additional 15% decrease in state budget allocations for higher education. We must make sure that we have high enrollments. We are seeing significant decreases in graduate programs both in head count and in total credit hours. She is working with university staff to investigate the causes for these trends.

She provided the following data:

Student Credit Hours

Fall 07 1437 SCH	Fall 08 1301 SCH -9%
Spring 08 1500 SCH	Spring 09 1167 SCH -22%

Dean Fueyo then made comparisons with the College of Business for 08-09.

They are at capacity, not able to have visiting faculty in the future and therefore, unable to expand the MBA program.

Discussion that ensued--The English Education M.A. is continuing to grow. Dr. Leung reports that the students in this program are anxious to pursue an advanced degree. This degree program is not a certification program. There are community members want an M.A, but not necessarily teach right away. Some have international teaching degrees, others want to teach in the community colleges. What opened up this program is not requiring certification as a result of the program.. She receives inquiries, but there are a group who do not want to take GRE or other standardized tests. The university requires the GRE, but there has been some concerns expressed about lowering the institution's average. The university does not have a master's in English. Students with B.A. in English can pursue further study of English in this program as well.

The Childhood Education faculty agreed that we would advocate to discontinue the use of a particular cutoff score for this program, contingent upon other indicators of success.

The Arts and Sciences masters programs have everyone take the GRE, but use the verbal scores as indicators for success in the program. We are advocating a different emphasis.

Another change in enrollment reflects changes in Pinellas and FLDOE regulation. The FLDOE had sent out a mandate that all secondary teachers should have a reading endorsement. Pinellas has not enforced that mandate with the budget cuts. The district is allowing a reading certificate using inservice CEU's. Generally, those who come for the endorsement end up taking the rest of the M.A. The last 5 people Dr. Senokossoff had talked with asked about scholarships. The students indicated that they don't have money for tuition. This will affect the COE's enrollment.

Dr. Sampson reported that he was working with Pinellas for the Pathways to Literacy conference. 300 teachers will be at the conference and we might take scholarships to pay for their first courses. There is the hope that these teachers might pursue the M.A. in Reading afterwards.

Dr. Senokossoff reported that UCF has rolled out Content Area Reading professional development on-line. The state coordinators are teaching it by request and it gets inservice credit. DOE and Just Read Florida are developing content area reading competencies.

Dean Fueyo will continue to work on this item in February. She asked that it could be put back on the agenda.

Dean Fueyo asked that we continue to attend to this. Dr. Senokossoff asks about marketing for graduate programs. Dean Fueyo indicated that she is now asking who is the target audience. To whom should we send email blasts?

The Curriculum/Literacy M.A. does not have room to add additional courses for the reading endorsement. There are no courses in this program exclusive to this program. This program will need continued emphasis, attention to web copy, and final exit requirements.

Dean Fueyo returns to budget concerns. Even with a 15% increase in tuition, the net return is quite small. In real dollars, there is only a \$300 increase (\$25 a month) for the calendar year with the proposed tuition increases. There are no accompanying increases in state support.

3. Associate Dean Michael—Dual Track Program, Tiers and Capstone Experience

Dr. Michael shows the Tiers document for the dual track program. On page 2, the comprehensive exam is shown as an exit requirement. This is currently a paper. The question has been re-written, but she suggests that there were better ways to provide an exit requirement. She distributed a copy of the TWS rubric with an added component to the TWS of research as the comprehensive exam. The Fall 09 dual track candidates would be willing to pilot using the revised rubric with additional requirements. Dr.

Michael moved and Dr. Senokosof seconded that there be a Fall 09 pilot. COE could overlay and use components of Dr. Sampson's rubric. These will need to be scored by the Childhood Ed faculty. Action item: A sub-group will get together and help develop the rubric for the pilot to bring forward to Childhood Ed this. Dr. Sampson and Dr. Senokosof will volunteered to assist Dr. Michael to develop it for approval this spring for Fall 09. Motion carried.

Dr. Gayle-Evans indicated that she had met student resistance to a research component for her course..

The Childhood Education program is considering a substantive change.

Degree program changes from last month for the dual track and reading master's programs will be done by the reading faculty and readied for Curriculum and Programs.. (Approved January 2009)

4. New Undergraduate Program and Transitions for current students—Dr. Senokosoff

The data regarding changes for transitions in program were shared in preliminary form. Dean Fueyo will share more in February at the COE meeting February 13. Dr. Hewitt relates concerns about the new fall program and training in the area of team teaching and curriculum coordination. Dean Fueyo and Dr. Rasch are working on a transition plan for the students. It is anticipated that after February 13 the full COE faculty can start to talk about who will be teaching what and this should be ready in February. Perhaps the Childhood Ed can invite the ESE faculty to the February meeting or involved them at the full meeting on February 13..

5. Changes in Writing Curriculum related to SACS—Dr. Hewitt

This relates to the General Education requirements for SACS. Dr. Hewitt solicited specific recommendations/actions that faculty pursue related to all courses in the preservice program. She was particularly concerned about documenting how COE faculty evaluate, reinforce, and support the development of candidates throughout coursework. Dr. Senokosoff indicates that students are given feedback on their writing throughout the program. If the paper really needs a lot of work; she sends it back. Recommended that the COE also explore how the Academic Success Center supports this effort.

Examples are given for each area. There were extensive examples for support of objectives and the faculty's explicit efforts to address issues with candidates' writing.

For example, inn the reading M.A. program, the Writing and Writers course attends VERY explicitly to the teacher's voice/skills as a writer in relationship to developing the writing skills of candidates.

6. Books for Poynter Library—Dean Fueyo

Dean Fueyo reviewed the procedures. Faculty were to meet with library faculty next Monday to review current collections and develop an acquisition list for the Dean. It turns out the library budget covered requests and the other funds were not expended.

7. Old Business—

8. Open Discussion—

Next Meeting—February 27 @1. That morning is the webinar from DOE on the next generation of teacher preparation. That afternoon @5 they are having a retirement party at Williams House for Dr. Koorland..

9. Adjourn—Dr. Hewitt moves we adjourn.