I. Dean Dale Carpenter

Dale welcomed everyone and extended thanks for doing this important work. He shared the following items with those present:

- A student majoring in Elementary Education had a serious incident and needed open heart surgery but is doing well;
- A fee for student subscription to TaskStream and standardized background checks is supported by the Student Government. A fee for Intern II to provide $150 stipend for cooperating teachers is now at UNC Board of Governors and will be voted on, and hopefully passed, at the next meeting; and
- Graduate program completers this semester who are currently employed need to meet specific deadlines to be eligible for master’s pay.

Kim explained that materials need to be submitted to DPI early April so portfolios need to be graded early. Emails with updates will continue to be sent out as needed.

Dale also wanted to thank everyone that’s taken part in the edTPA training and although there is still a lot of work to do, things are going well.

II. Approval of Minutes

The November 4, 2013 meeting minutes were approved.

III. Update from P-12 Partners/School Relations Update

Kim announced that a tentative school partnership dinner is scheduled for Tuesday, February 25th. When the group was originally put together, the announcement/invitation said come if interested. That is how the current committee makeup was born. However, the group is not exclusive so if you are interested in participating on the committee, please email Dave Strahan.

IV. Chair’s Report - none

V. Information

A. Admissions – Rachel Wike

Rachel announced that things are on target with undergraduate (66) and graduate/certification (62) admissions. She also shared that the new Praxis test – Praxis Core- is only offered during specific testing windows and feedback from students is that scores are not immediately available. Rather scores are received weeks after the testing window is over. Therefore, students can experience delays in signing up for tests if they need to be retaken. EDCI 201 classes are being informed.

Kim reiterated that the new testing requirements become effective July 1, 2014.

Kathy Jaqua questioned the lack of Math majors reported and Rachel said she would be happy to go back and review the data.

B. Curriculum – none

C. Appeals - none

D. Policies and Procedures – none

E. Field Experience – Mary Beth Decatur

Mary Beth announced that the application for Student Teaching/Internship is open on TaskStream with a deadline of February 14. Deadline to apply for field experiences for EDCI 201 is February 7 and the deadline for PSY and SPED classes is January 24.
Mary Beth also announced that there will be a change in wording (in italics) to clarify distance placements obligations, particularly as they apply to dealing with financial obligations as follows:

Distance programs that allow placement outside the partnership region by the Office of Field Experiences include Birth-Kindergarten, Regional Alternative Licensing Center courses, graduate special education and most non-degree, certification-only programs. Other WCU distance programs should be completed in North Carolina. *Students will be responsible for any financial obligation required by a school/school system such as payment to a host teacher or non-WCU university supervisor.*

There are problems when a student starts our program in NC and then moves outside the region or state. If the student completes their internship out-of-state, they are responsible for cooperating teacher payment. The Office of Field Experience keeps a list of those states where students cannot be placed for internship.

F. Assessment – none

G. Technology – none

H. edTPA – Lee Nickles

There has been another training session and at our leadership commission meeting on Friday we will talk about questions that have come up and how to find solutions. Portfolios are up for students in TaskStream.

Mary Ella says everything is going well so far in her area and Sarah Meltzer is guiding students in seminar.

VI. New Business

A. Curriculum Materials Center – Beth McDonough

The CMC is located in the Library to provide access to instructional materials, professional teaching resources, textbooks, big books, and children’s and young adult literature. It supports students in field placements and all EDCI 201 classes in getting an early introduction to resources on how to teach, lesson planning, and instructional strategies. Overall the center is used extensively by our education students. The space is available for special projects, tutoring, etc. and she can be flexible in working with students and classes. If interested in bringing a class to the CMC, just contact her.

Beth shared that they may have money left in the curriculum materials fund code that will be refreshed as of July 1. Please contact her if you have suggestions for purchases. Patricia thanked Beth for purchasing books that she has suggested in the past and Mary Ella for very productive class sessions.

VII. Other

Brian Kloeppe, Graduate School Associate Dean, said the vast majority of questions to the Graduate School come up about non-course requirements and he asks that faculty/program coordinators please share requirements with their students.

Brian also shared that graduate schools are moving towards developing “teach out plans”. The trend is for “teach out plans” for all students. Although he’s not sure WCU is moving toward that model, the graduate school is always looking to minimize frustrations. He will continue to investigate models of success through the country.

Additionally, Dale said CEAP is starting to develop a spread sheet of graduate program costs, when courses offered, and how long it is expected to take to finish programs. Related to cost estimates, Brian said that on the WCU website there will be a roll out of another tab for potential students for proposed costs that applicants should have access to MyCat by February 3.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Barbara Schade*

PEC Secretary