Members Present: A. Allen, T. Allen, Bauer, Bloom, Boatright, Butcher, Carpenter, Carter, Corbin, Decatur, Engel, Faughn, Ferguson, Fouts, Grist, LeQuire, McDonough, Nickles, Roberts, Ruebel, Schade, Schallock, Unruh

Guest: Dan Grube

I. Dean Dale Carpenter

Dale shared that the State Board of Education (SBE) held its October meeting on the campus of the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching (NCCAT) here in Cullowhee. The Chancellor Belcher and his wife hosted a reception for the SBE at their home and Dale and Kim had an opportunity to interact with the board. He said they are very aware of all the good things we are doing.

II. Approval of Minutes

The September 9, 2013 meeting minutes were approved.

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

April Ferguson shared that Jackson County and WRESA are teaming up and excited about three grant opportunities: Math/Science Partnership with WCU; Meredith Math Project; and a math/science/engineering project with WCU’s Coulter Faculty Commons.

David Strahan was unable to attend the meeting so Kim announced that the next dinner meeting of the School Relations Advisory Committee will be Wednesday, October 30 at 5:30 P.M. The mission of the committee is to provide a forum for discussing school/university partnership activities and advise the Dean of the College of Education and Allied Professions on issues and initiatives related to our partnerships so that participants can improve the quality of educational experiences for students and teachers in the region.

We are hoping to recruit members from LEAs not yet represented and still need representatives from Swain County or Macon County. If you have suggestions for potential members, please send a note to Dave Strahan.

If any members of the PEC would like to join this committee, please also send a note to Dave Strahan.

IV. Chair’s Report - none

V. Information

A. Admissions – none

B. Curriculum – New Grad Core - Lisa Bloom

This discussion was tabled until another meeting.

C. Appeals - none

D. Policies and Procedures – none
E. Field Experience – Mary Beth Decatur

Mary Beth announced that they are now fully staffed with Lead University Supervisor Sarah Reams; University Supervisor Amanda Chapman; and Administrator Support Associate Annie McCord. Annie is also sharing some responsibilities with TRACS and others. Mary Beth shared that she has completed over 300 early field experience placements this semester. The Field and Clinical Experience Committee has already met once this semester and will meet again on October 29th at 4:15 p.m. at Biltmore Park.

F. Assessment – Renee Corbin

Renee presented teacher candidate enrollment trend data for the college over the past five years. The data show declines in both undergraduate and graduate enrollments. She also presented enrollment data in comparison with other colleges on campus. Most other colleges have seen an increase in enrollment while the College of Education and Allied Professions has seen a decrease. A chart of some UNC campus education enrollment data was also displayed. Much like WCU, most of the campuses showed a decrease in teacher education enrollments. Renee also presented the spring 2013 Program Evaluation Survey results with student teachers and intern II’s completing the survey during their seminar class. The data show no significant changes from previous semesters; however, in asking how well students feel prepared as a result of their education, students responded more positively than in the past two semesters for most items. The questions are based on the NC 21st century teaching standards. Many of the comments from students about the strengths and weaknesses of their preparation resembled comments from the past; however, ten students (mostly SPED majors) reported a new theme that they needed a course added in IEP training.

Discussion followed regarding overall teacher morale, salaries, recruitment, and the high teacher attrition costs each year. DPI is trying to get a handle on the number of teachers that are leaving to teach in other states.

G. Technology – none

H. edTPA – Lee Nickles

Lee said they are working through the process of understanding how to implement it for our interns and meeting the requirements to be able to access this assessment tool in TaskStream. A training session will be held next month for the 1st generation programs doing the pilot.

VI. Other

Kim announced that Suite 201, in conjunction with the campus-wide interdisciplinary learning theme “1960s: Take It All In”, will be kicking off CEAP’s involvement in this year’s theme with an event on Halloween, October 31 from 10am-2pm. She invited everyone to stop by to enjoy the fun.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Schade
PEC Secretary