I. Dean Perry Schoon

Dan Grube welcomed everyone and announced that Perry would not be attending today’s meeting.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of both the December 3, 2009 and January 13, 2010 meetings were approved.

III. Chair’s Report

A. Praxis I

Dan shared that the Pre-professional Skills Tests Praxis I were on the table for discussion at the state level. The State Board of Education has proposed to have something other than Praxis I. The new 21st century electronic evidences may cover the Praxis I areas, particularly writing. It was noted that 80% of the students waived out of the Praxis I tests at NC State; about 30% of WCU students waive out of the Praxis I. Dan will share any new developments.

B. Graduate Revisioning Task Force

The task force is looking at standards and having a graduate core. A blue print with one to four evidences needs to be developed by June 2010 for implementation fall 2011. Programs are free to begin to develop the content piece for the MAEDs. The Professional Education Standards for Graduate Teacher Candidates include Teacher Leadership, Respectful Educational Environments, Content and Curriculum Expertise, Student Learning, and Reflection. Dan will encourage the task force to look at common unit wide plans.

IV. Information

A. Admissions - Barb

Barbara shared with Council the most recent admissions to the teacher education program. There were 96 undergraduate and 94 certification and advanced degree admissions. The majority of undergraduate admissions were in elementary education with 34.

B. Curriculum – none

C. Appeals – Continuation in Teacher Education – Dan

In order to continue in the teacher education program, a student must maintain the appropriate GPA and exhibit behavior which adheres to the code of ethics of the profession. Additionally, if a student fails any course in the professional education sequence twice, the student is withdrawn from teacher education. Students have the right to appeal the decision to remove them from teacher education by a process in the PEC ByLaws Article VI. Section 4: “...The PEC Chairperson will appoint an Appeals Committee to review any student appeals regarding admission to PES or continuing in PES and make recommendations in the form of motions to PEC. The Appeals Committee will include at least one representative from each of the following groups: PES faculty, university administrator (includes Department Head), P-12 professional, student (undergraduate or graduate to match status of appealing student). The Appeals Committee chair will be appointed by the PEC Chairperson.”

A student wants to appeal and the following council members agreed to participate on the Appeals Committee: Jamel Anderson-Ruff, Bob Beaudet, Mary Griffin, Dan Grube, and P-12 professional to be determined. Dan will set up a time for the committee to meet.
D. Policy and Procedures – none
E. Field Experiences - none
F. Assessment – none
G. Technology - none

V. New Business

A. Field Experience Placement Policy

There is a need to re-examine the Field Experience Placement policy due to increase in the number of students. A group will be getting together soon to look at making policies clearer, particularly as they effect resident and distance students. Whatever is decided should work for all programs. The question of compensation for cooperating teachers was raised. Currently, there is no monetary remuneration but WCU can give CEU credit for cooperating teachers if their school system approves. With the new Teacher Leader standard, more districts may be willing to give CEU credit to those teachers who supervise student teachers/interns. Additionally, the question of whether tuition waivers could be considered, in addition to CEUs, for cooperating teachers was raised. That would be something the Graduate School would need to consider and Kathleen Brennan, associate dean of the Graduate School, said she would check with the office and report back to the Council.

VI. Program Share – none

The Council adjourned at 4:30p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Schade
PEC Secretary