Members Present: Beaudet, Butcher, Carpenter, Carr, Carter, Catley, Coone, Cope, Corbin, Corzine, Crawford, Castile, Grist, Holt, Hunt, Jacobs, Kantz, Lawrence, McCreary, McRae, Nichols, Nickles, Norris, Schade, Schallock, Steiner, Unruh

Others: Lucian Szlizewski attended on behalf of Kathleen Jorissen.

The meeting was called to order at 4:10 p.m. Dale Carpenter welcomed everyone and started introductions.

I. **Dean Michael Dougherty**

The Dean was away on other business and not present.

II. **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the April 24, 2008 meeting were approved.

III. **Chair’s Report**

A. **Orientation to the PEC and need for revisions – PEC Bylaws**

Dale explained the purpose of the PEC was to act in an advisory capacity to the Dean of the College of Education and Allied Professions concerning curriculum and policies involving teacher and professional education. He reminded the group that the Council is composed of P-12, faculty, administrators, and students who are all full members and encouraged each to fully participate. The Bylaws currently describe four standing committees: Admissions, Curriculum, Appeals, and Policy & Procedures. Since we are handling curriculum and admissions differently, Dale asked for volunteers willing to take a look at the bylaws and meet with him to propose changes.

IV. **Information**

A. **Admissions**

Barb Schade shared that the new admission process was working extremely well. In addition to students being notified of their pending or fully admitted status sooner, more are also able to register for PES classes during the normal registration period rather than during drop/add at the beginning of each semester.

B. **Curriculum – New Courses or Program Changes**

Dale shared with the Council that the chemistry course requirement for the BSED in Biology was changed from CHEM 133 Survey of Chemistry II to CHEM 139 General Chemistry I.

C. **Appeals – none**

D. **Policy and Procedures – NCCCS Articulation to WCU Teacher Education**

Leadership Council approved the accepting of PSY 241 Developmental Psychology or PSY 243 Child Psychology from NC Community Colleges as meeting the PSY 320 Child and Adolescent Psychology or PSY 322 Adolescent Psychology requirement for teacher education students. Students must have earned a C or better in either course at the community college for the PSY 320/322 requirement to be waived. This helps make Western’s process more streamlined. Dale expressed his appreciation to the Psychology Department for their work in this process.
E. Field Experiences – Update on Piloting Changes for Early Field Experiences

Ken Hunt explained he is piloting observation programs that would reduce the burden on local schools and the number of times students need to drive to locations. Students can choose to do two full days of field experience (14 hours rather than 16) required in EDCI 231 so they can complete their observations during fall break or on Fridays. This could be done at a site of the student’s choosing, including home area schools. Verification signatures of teacher and principal would be required. Of course, Ken could still assign students a site if they wish him to. By doing this students are getting more diversified experiences outside the WCU area. Students enrolled in both PSY 321 and SPED 335/336/337 used to need 32 hours of observations; it has now been reduced to 20 hours. Ken and Bob Houghton are exploring a hybrid model of 8 hours in a P-12 classroom and 8 hours of virtual observation with Swain County.

F. Assessment

Renee Corbin shared handouts of the results of the Spring 2008 overall student performance of Teacher Candidate Interview Form, Pre-Internship Teacher Education Portfolio, and TaskStream analysis of Program Completion Teacher Work Sample and Exit Criteria Performance. Students are now being asked demographic questions when they subscribe to TaskStream so she can better report and help specific programs. Renee pointed out that the Teacher Work Sample assessments dropped within three cohort years.

G. Technology – Website Update

Lee Nickles showed the Council the new redesigned websites for Centers, Offices, and Departments, the Office of Alternative Licensure, Teacher Education Programs, and new building for CEAP menu selection.

V. New and Previous Business

A. Teacher Education Interviews

Dale shared a proposal to review and revise the teacher education autobiography to include questions usually asked during the teacher education interview so that the teacher education interview can be eliminated as a separate requirement for teacher education admission. Although the interviews have been conducted for the past 25 years, the current requirement is cumbersome to administer and some students are missed in the process. It is believed that the goals can be accomplished by combining the interview with the autobiography requirement. The autobiography would stay in the electronic portfolio and include a way for Ken to know what a student needs [where deficient] to round out their field experiences. Motion and second to accept the proposal. Motion passed. The proposal will next go to the Leadership Council.

Because of time limitations, discussion of New Business item State Board of Education process for reviewing legal records of licensure applicants will be moved to the next Council meeting.

The Council adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Schade
PEC Secretary