

**PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**  
**October 22, 2008**  
**Killian 104**

Members Present: Beaudet, Binkley, Brumley, Butcher, Carpenter, Carter, Catley, Corbin, Ebert, Gastle, Grist, Holt, Jaqua, Jeffery, Jorissen, Lawrence, Lofquist, McCreary, McRae, Nichols, Nickles, Norris, Richards, Schade, Schallock, Steiner, Stewart, Tapley, Troy, Unruh

Guest: Allen Taylor, Advising Center liaison to CEAP

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

I. Dean Michael Dougherty

Dean Dougherty shared his appreciation for service to the professional education program and his encouragement for the revisioning process.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 25, 2008 meeting were approved.

Guest Speaker:

Dale introduced Allen Taylor, Advising Center liaison to the college of education, who presented an overview of the Early Alert System. The Early Alert System is designed to assist students who are experiencing academic and other difficulties while at WCU by providing University personnel with a convenient means to make referrals to the students' assigned advisors and mentors. Information is sent to 11 different groups in a support network to follow-up with the student and to develop an action plan if necessary. There are between 100-200 referrals each semester with approximately 88% positive outcomes. The system is accessed through the Advising Center homepage.

III. Chair's Report - none

IV. Information

A. Curriculum – New Courses or Program Changes

Information was distributed about curriculum change requests approved since September 25, 2008. The five new Educational Leadership courses are EDL 600- Applied Experiences in School Leadership; EDL 601- Ethical School Leadership; EDL 602 – Leading School Culture; EDL 603 – Leadership for Student Learning; and EDL 604 – Exploration and Research of School Leadership.

B. Revisioning Update

Dr. Nickles shared that the revisioning process is in the brainstorming and discussion of barriers stage. Next, conversations will begin to determine courses that will be needed, as well as courses that should change or be eliminated.

C. Field Experiences - None

D. Assessment - None

E. Technology - None

V. New and Previous Business

A. Dispositions for Elementary and Middle Grades Education

Dr. Dee Nichols distributed dispositions for ELMG for evaluating professionalism in courses and internships. These dispositions are an adaptation from WCU middle grades and the Department of Reading and Elementary Education at UNC-Charlotte. Identifying areas that need improvement early in teaching will provide insight, lead to a more successful internship, and document progress toward meeting expectations defined in the Code of Ethics for North Carolina Educators. Also distributed was an Internship flow-chart for improvement that any faculty member could choose to use at any time. Further collaborative discussions should see how this fits within our conceptual framework and state revisioning artifacts.

B. Teacher Education Interview Alternative

Dale announced that a group is still working on a proposal. They will be meeting again on October 23 from 11:00-noon in Killian 104 and invited everyone on the Council to attend and take part in the discussion.

C. State Board of Education [SBE] process for reviewing legal records of licensure applicants

Dale shared that the SBE Task Force Ethics & Licensure is proposing the addition of a lengthy questionnaire as part of the teacher licensure application. The 21 question addition would disclose to and grant the SBE permission to check civil or criminal records to verify statements made on the application and give the SBE permission to request and obtain previous employment records to verify answered statements. Directors of Teacher Education recently met with Katie Cornetto, Staff Attorney and asked for a sampling of the type of offenses that would prohibit candidates from being licensed. She could not give a definitive list. However, the severity, number of offenses, how long ago the offense(s) occurred, what the candidate had done to rehabilitate themselves, and how they accept responsibility would all go into the decision-making process. This increased scrutiny and emphasis on background checks may stem from the state's concerns about unethical behavior and adverse school publicity. Dale asked the Council to think about how we communicate this information to students in our teacher education programs.

D. PEC Bylaws

Copies of the proposed changes were distributed to the Council. Dale will email draft bylaws to each council member for review. They will be presented at the next meeting for action.

Dale reminded everyone that Education Recruitment Day will be Tuesday, October 28 on the Ramsey Center Concourse.

The Council adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
*Barbara Schade*  
PEC Secretary