

PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION COUNCIL
MINUTES
October 25, 2007
Killian 104

Members Present: Anderson-Ruff, Beaudet, Binkley, Bricker, Cannon, Carpenter, Carter, Catley, Corbin, Corzine, Franklin, Holt, Jacobs, Kantz, McCreary, Nickles, Oren, Schade, Schallock, Steiner, Troy, Unruh

Axelle Faughn attended on behalf of Kathy Ivey.

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Dale Carpenter who welcomed the group.

I. Dean Michael Dougherty

Dale announced that the Dean was away on other business but wanted to send a message to recognize and congratulate everyone on receiving the Christa McAuliffe Award for Exemplary Programs in Teacher Education awarded by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities. Noteworthy of our program proposal was the focus on evidence of teachers making impact throughout the entire program. There will be a celebration event in the future.

II. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the September 26, 2007 were approved.

III. Chair's Report

A. Accreditation Schedule

Dale explained that there will be two teams: DPI (approximately 20 members) and NCATE (7-8 members). Interviews will be on Monday and Tuesday morning. Sunday evening there will be a 30 minute meeting with the Chancellor, Provost, and team for introductions. Program Coordinators have been asked to invite students and P-12 educators to the poster session on Sunday to talk about their respective programs. There will also be a visit schedule on-line, conference calls, and interactive video to involve distance students.

B. Teacher Education Interviews

Dale announced that a record 189 TE interviews were conducted by 83 interviewers over an 8 day period this semester. Given the increase numbers, colleagues from Arts & Sciences and Fine & Performing Arts will assist with the interview process in the future.

IV. Information

A. Admissions

Barbara Schade presented 189 undergraduate applications for the Council's consideration and approval. The Council voted to fully admit six applicants without conditions into the program and admit 182 applicants pending removal of conditions by completing admission requirements. One applicant was denied approval at this time until he completes his audition and is admitted into the music program.

- B. Curriculum – None
- C. Appeals – none
- D. Policy and Procedures

Catherine Carter reported on a discussion of PEC Bylaws changes. She will be meeting with the Curriculum subcommittee to discuss changes in their description and function and will bring that discussion and recommendations to the full Council.

E. Field Experiences

Ken Hunt could not be present at the meeting so Dale shared information on the proposed Liability Insurance for Interns/Student Teachers document. When Council recommends approval it will be taken to the University Counsel for additional recommendations. While reading the statement, the terms “students” refer to public school students and “candidates” refer to WCU students. This statement is similar to those at other institutions. Motion and second to approve draft as long as it is reworded to cover all professional education students working in schools (i.e. Psychology and SA) and would include state statute number and school reference. Motion passed.

F. Assessment

Renee Corbin handed out TaskStream summaries. It is a sample of the kinds of things we can report. With the increased efficiency using TaskStream we will be able to do so much more. She reported that the results from host teachers very positive; students with host teachers report positive results on experiences; and have students’ positive responses on teacher work samples. She hopes to soon be able to pull down evaluation and survey results in a statistical package to report.

G. Technology - None

V. New Business

Dale reported on New Standards and Goals of the State Board of Education. The Professional Teaching Standards Commission has set five new standards that will replace the current six core standards. Standards must be met beginning fall 2008. New instruments are being piloted in Cherokee, McDowell, and Transylvania counties. We are mandated to change the undergraduate teacher education program to address the five standards and need to submit a document by December of 2008 to show how our programs are different and meeting the standards. Dale has talked with most departments already and asked for volunteers from Council to be a part of a group to establish a process to develop curriculum to meet standards. The State considers that the standards are very different and the document has to explain how the new program is different and how we’ve involved all stake holders. The Governor, General Assembly, and State Board of Education want teacher preparation institutions to do their share of preparing teachers to meet standards. Dale says we are in excellent shape to revise programs and meet new standards.

V. Program Share

Catherine Carter, English Department, distributed a handout and discussed the recent changes, issues, and what English Education would like to see in the future.

VII. Other - none

The Council adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Schade
PEC Secretary