



8-10-2011

## Graduate Council Meeting : 2011 : 08 : 10

Graduate Council

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### Scholar Commons Citation

Graduate Council, "Graduate Council Meeting : 2011 : 08 : 10" (2011). *USF St. Petersburg Faculty Senate Committee: Graduate Council: Meetings*. 23.

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## **Minutes of the Graduate Council USFSP**

**Aug. 10, 2011**

Meeting Called to Order at 1:03 PM

**Members Present:** Donna Knudsen, Tina Neville, Lisa Starks-Estes, Kim Stoddard,

**Members Absent:** Katherine Barker

**Guests:** College of Education Associate Dean Lyman Dukes, Dr. Malcolm Butler

### **I. Overview of Agenda Items to be Covered in the meeting**

- A. Presentation of the New Graduate Degree Program Proposal for Middle Grades STEM Education

### **II. Agenda Item**

- A. Donna Knudsen reviewed the purpose of the meeting today and the process that will be used for the proposal being presented.
- B. Associate Dean Lyman Dukes and Dr. Malcolm Butler presented the Middle Grade STEM Education program proposal. Dr. Butler reviewed the rationale for and the salient components of the program proposal. Associate Dean Lyman Dukes further discussed the purpose and unique components of the program. Discussion ensued regarding the program.

Donna Knudsen asked about how the current Certificate program in the COE will mesh with the new program. Dr. Butler explained that the current Certificate program will be a feeder into the new Graduate program. Dr. Butler also verified that the new graduate program will offer courses at the 5000 level and above. Donna Knudsen asked if the GKT would be required for admission to the program. Dr. Butler explained that the program is not an initial certification program so a GKT would not be required.

Associate Dean Dukes presented information that additional language addressing ESE students and ESE relevant instructional practices will be added to each of the syllabi within the program. The following statement will be added to each syllabi withing the STEM program: "Candidates will understand ethical issues and instructional practices related to the development of RTI goals, the IEP, and/or the ITP within STEM classroom contexts".

Lisa Starks-Estes asked about if the program contained a capstone assignment or capstone course. Dr. Butler indicated that the course, EDG 6935 Seminar in Curriculum Research will function as the culminating course. The course can be taken only when a maximum of two courses are left in the program. It was suggested that a more clear connection be explained in the program proposal regarding the course as a capstone experience.

It was noted by the committee that this program is one that is needed within the Education field and that the program seems to mesh well with the current goals of the University. It was also noted that the course also meshes well with one of the

goals of USFSP to increase the math proficiency skills of students at USFSP.

- C. A motion was made by Kim Stoddard and seconded by Lisa Starks-Estes to approve the program with the following suggested revisions:
  - 1) The program syllabi contain the proposed language regarding the Candidates skills in educating ESE students
  - 2) Clarification of the course EDG 6937 as the capstone course
  - 3) Suggestion to add to the program proposal the tie- in of this proposed Graduate program and the QEP of the Strategic plan at USFSP.

The motion passed unanimously.

### **III. Announcements**

- A. Due to the fact that this was the Council's first meeting of the academic years and a number of new members could not attend the Council agreed to an interim appointment of Tina Neville as Chair. The Council will elect a Chair for the 2011-12 academic year at it's next meeting.

**The Meeting was adjourned at 1:15 PM**