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College of Education Early Childhood Education Committee Meeting : 2007 : 11 : 26

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Childhood Education Meeting—November 26, 2007

Members present—Dr. Gwyn Senokosof, Dr. Guda Gayle-Evans, Dr. Zafer Unal, Dr. Katharine Rasch, Dr. Cynthia Leung, Ms. Jennifer Khattabi, Dean Vivian Fueyo, Dr. Michael Sampson, Dr. Deanna Michael, Dr. Margaret Hewitt, Dr. Juanita Fountain

Corrections to the minutes....First item, fact book should be changed to catalog. #9. Ms. Donna Lawless will attend the meeting if Ms. Khattabi cannot attend. Minutes accepted as corrected.

1. Catalog copy for the new dual major program for the 2008 catalog—Dean Fueyo

Because of this unique opportunity for us to submit a new degree program (Elementary/ESE/ESOL/Reading Endorsement), it will have a new degree number for the state. There has to be a record of votes at every level of the academic approval process before anything can be put into the catalog. The process is the same for the undergraduate or graduate program. Dean Fueyo shared the chart from the Graduate Council outlining each step in the process. The process now reflects institutional and system wide reviews. Because it is an undergraduate program, it goes to the Board of Trustees, but does not have to go to the Board of Governors. As we get closer to the system-wide approval, we will better know when we can schedule new courses and advertise the new courses. The environmental science and policies, journalism and graphic arts have gone through this process, so that should help us to estimate how long the process will take. Dr. Michael indicated that it will help that there is no budgetary consequences for this new program.

Dr. Kathleen Moore (part of the ACE work group) will be assisting Ms. Jennifer Baker as we go through this process. This should be very helpful to us.

2. Updates from the November FLARE meeting--. Dr. Senokosof attended the November FLARE (Florida Literacy and Reading Excellence) meeting statewide. FLARE was established about 6 years ago with a UCF grant to cover 1 faculty member from each institution to help support Literacy Coordinators (30). There are 12 faculty members (FSU not represented) who are faculty fellows from the public institutions. The climate for the university representatives has really changed. Evan Levsky (the director) and Dean Sandra Robinson spent the first full afternoon with the university representatives with much more commitment and interest in the university representation. He told the reps that they are looking at developing competencies for a new endorsement for literacy coaches. This group will meet through 08 and it will probably be a year before we can write an endorsement.

Florida is part of a national research project studying how successful the structure of literacy coaches and the public university support for this system. This collaboration with coordinators, university faculty, Just Read is unique and the object of study.

The university faculty are always asked what are they going to deliver. The fellows have written white papers used for training by the coaches. During the last year, the fellows are researching the content area reading course with pre- and post- surveys to determine how successful the training was for teachers. Dr. Feng in UF is looking for a graduate student to help analyze the data. The data indicate that the results are very positive, including high school teachers asking for classroom libraries.

While FLARE is still a K-12 project, the emphasis has been mostly with Middle schools and high schools. There has been support for D schools. The director offered 7 \$50000 grants. The fellows will collaborate to go into the schools and do research projects. Ms. Pamela Craig from Pinellas county will collaborate with Dr. Senokosof to do a research project (beginning in January 2008) using Lakewood and Gibbs or Northeast. The money will be used for books and stipends for the teachers. The project will be studying attitudes of teachers with surveys and focus groups.

Dr. Michael suggested that the literacy coach might be able to consider an Ed.S. degree program. There are real possibilities for an intensive leadership program for coaches in literacy and math/science.

3. Credit for Faculty Grading CDN Assignments—Dr. Gwyn Senokosof

Dr. Braun and Dr. Senokosof have been discussing the evaluation of the CDN assignments. The numbers of student in the CDN is growing and there will be 60 finishing next semester. Many faculty members have been trained in grading the assignments, but we now need to figure how to manage this. There may need to be faculty assigned on a rotating basis. Dr. Unal indicated there are 300 students in the system. 120 new submissions will come from this semester. Between December 25 and January 7, we will be evaluating 300 submissions. In addition, there are ESOL submissions.

Dean Fueyo reiterates that the College will support this unique assessment system. She asked for options on two levels. We have to look at options for the fall and spring. It might be that one person has a course release or service assignments. She solicits other ideas. Because of the changing structure of teaching load in the new program, maybe ½ course assignment may be released in the future.

We reviewed the core assignment process for the CDN. Dr. Gayle-Evans expressed concerns that the cut-off time is over the holidays. Dr. Unal indicates that this gives students enough time to upload after they are getting feedback from faculty. Discussion ensued about the system time and the feedback we get. Dean Fueyo suggests that the program integrity and modification have resulted from review of the portfolios. Dean Fueyo wants to ensure that the importance of this for the College. We will discuss assignments for next semester at the December 7 meeting. When we look at assignments, we have to consider that there is assessment going on in a similar fashion in the graduate program.

An additional issue is how this is implemented for students who did not have the standards based class. The dual track program (a 3-4 year program) means that implementation for that group has been the transition more difficult. Discussion considered how to support these students who have not had the training specifically and have had a change in advisor. Dr. Michael asks that any policies must be considered for their impact on the dual track program in writing. She also indicated that the students are under tremendous pressure in the final semester. We just have to make sure we communicate well. Plans will be made to study the effect of the transition on these students.

Dean Fueyo suggested that we meet to see how we can better improve the communication about the transitions for both faculty and students.

A phase-in plan to the new program will include a complete list of when courses and when they will be phased out. The CDN will need to be in the new catalog.

Dr. Senokosof will put the dual track program on the agenda for the next meeting.

4. Inviting Elise Leonard to visit—Margaret Hewitt

Margaret is a liaison for the Suncoast Area Teaching Training. She is suggesting having an outside speaker every semester. This speaker has an interest in higher level vocabulary.

Dean Fueyo can use carry forward \$ this next semester, but can't commit long term.

Dr. Senokosof might pull in teachers and coaches from the high school through the FLARE as well as our students. Other discussion of the speakers funding followed. Dr. Hewitt moved investigating the feasibility of having her come as a speaker. Perhaps it could be a book signing. Motion carried.

5. Other business--Mrs. Cordoza belongs to Kappa Delta Gamma. They want to award \$1000. Dr. Fountain will develop written criteria so that the approval process for the scholarship. It was suggested that Dr. Fountain go to financial aid to get criteria set up.

On Thursday, the COE and College of Arts and Sciences are submitting a Gear Up grant for Pinellas County. Funds will be available in Fall 2009. The university will provide summer enrichment workshops. Dean Fueyo is submitting templates to provide Math, science and literacy workshops for these students. The faculty endorsed the ideas.

Ms. Khattabi is going back and asking for assistance with last year's minutes.

Meeting adjourned. Next meeting is December 17 at 9:30 a.m.

