

Minutes of PEC Meeting
April 21, 2010
128 Gooch

Attending: Jimmy Butler (Agriculture), Jennifer Cook (Director, Education Student Services), Becky Cox (Elementary Education), Ken Douglas (Music), Carol Eckert (Art), Tom Eskew (Engineering and Natural Sciences), Jenny Hahn (Licensure Specialist, Education Student Services), Mary Lee Hall (Dean, Education and Behavioral Sciences), Robert Hartshorn (Secondary Education), Patricia Hewitt (Undergraduate Curriculum Chair, Educational Studies), Sandy Murray (Graduate Committee Representative, Educational Studies), Dan Pigg (Humanities and Fine Arts), Michael Poore (Director, Assessment, Education Student Services), Cherry Watts (Middle Grades), Chris Whitlow (Special Education)

1. Welcome/Introductions/Purpose of PEC – Dr. Mary Lee Hall
2. New information from each licensure area representative - None
3. New endorsements and concentrations – Dr. Beth Quick
New endorsements and concentrations were added at the graduate level this past year: Early Childhood Education (young learners), which is all online, ESL (English as a Second Language), and Reading Specialist. Dr. Hearn said that those in the program this year were all high performing students and the classes were full. Dr. Quick advised the PEC members that Dr. Hearn wrote the ESL and reading endorsements curricula. All have been submitted to the state and there were no stipulations.
4. TEP Interviews – Ms. Jennifer H. Cook
Educational Studies voted on changes in the GPA and background check requirements, but the other areas were not notified. Student from those areas were allowed to participate in the interview, anyway. The interview should be the final step, if test scores/GPA requirements are followed. Students are told repeatedly so the requirements should not be a surprise to them.

Ms. Cook said that there were not enough people to interview the candidates the last time and asked that all members of the PEC participate in the interview process.
5. Student Teaching/Field Experience – Ms. Jennifer H. Cook
The pre-visit has been taken out of the university supervisors' duties, due to the expense involved. More funds have been added to the Education Student Services budget for travel, so Dr. Hall would like to put the pre-visit back in. Dr. Carol Eckert advised the committee that the travel funds for the unit supervisors outside the College of Education and Behavioral Sciences must come from the budgets of those areas. Ms. Jenny Hahn said that had been the policy for many years. Dr. Hall indicated that she would check on this.

6. Graduate orientation/admissions information – Ms. Staci Fuqua
 The GRE will be updated in 2011 with some of the changes being more real life scenarios, provision of calculators, no vocabulary out of context, and more analytical writing with less generalization writing. Test takers will be able to preview all questions and move back and forth throughout the test. Responses can be edited or changed. Scores will now be in 1 point increments rather than 10 point increments. The scoring minimums will be discussed in the fall.

Enrollment information as of today:

	Applicants	Admitted		Applicants	Admitted
Su 09	202		Fall 09	254	142
Su 10	195	67	Fall 10	25	2

There are 368 graduate students enrolled now. An online orientation has been implemented as of Fall 2009, with a hold on student accounts until they successfully complete the orientation. All information they would need to know is in the orientation, which is in Blackboard. One change that is planned is to develop a quiz students will have to take to prove they actually read the orientation rather than clicking through it.

All graduate students are also in a Blackboard “course” that is set up for each major. This is for advising, student teaching, announcements, etc. The Education Graduate Office can email the students with the emails also going to their advisors.

7. NCATE update - Michael Poore
 The NCATE process has changed with one of the options being “Continuous Improvement.” Mr. Poore gave a description of how this works. The IR is now electronic, and is submitted six months prior to the site visit. Each standard is allotted an average of six pages. They want only the changes since the last visit, not everything they have already approved. This is supposed to be a friendlier process, with less information required and fewer people on the NCATE team.

The site visit dates are November 14-16, 2010. There can be a poster session on Sunday evening; they visit the schools on Monday, and spend Tuesday morning writing, then leave Tuesday afternoon. The IR is due May 15, and we will receive feedback on it between June 15 and July 15. They will tell us if it is okay or will ask for more documentation or explanation. We then have two weeks to send it back. The visiting team will probably base interviews, etc. on what information they still need to know; they will not have intensive interviews with everyone.

All members of the unit should email a copy of their vitae to Kristy Crawford. Mr. Poore also indicated that we need examples of communications with the coordinating teachers regarding student teachers. If units are placing people, we need documentation of how they are collaborating with those cooperating teachers.

8. Data Share for input (interviews, exit interviews – fall, portfolio, fiend experiences, alumni/employer satisfaction, etc. – Mr. Michael Poore

Mr. Poore distributed a chart showing the number of appeals, beginning in the 2005-2006 academic year through the 2009-2010 academic year. There are not as many as in 2005-2006, but more than last year. Another handout was distributed, showing interview scoring from the various centers as well as on campus. A copy of the Interview Form and Interview Questions are also included in the handout. Consistency has been better with the prescribed questions given to the interviewers, and the scores have gotten better. Mr. Poore will share more information on the questions and statistics later.

9. Results of Diversity Survey – Dr. Beverly Hearn

The results of the survey are quite favorable. They take this survey after student teaching.

10. Updates from state level – Dr. Mary Lee Hall

The Title II report is not yet completed but should be available prior to the visit.

There is a new add-on endorsement policy – if a student endorsed in a 7-12 area passes the Praxis II (Special Education, P.E.) in the subject area, he or she can get the add-on. Dr. Hall will send a letter regarding this to the state and will share it with the PEC members.

Teach for America has submitted a program to license teachers and has been approved to come into Tennessee.

11. Potential change to Academic Probation Policy – Dr. Beth Quick

A change has been proposed for the academic probation policy that would change it to a four-level system – warning, probation, suspension, and expulsion. This has been referred to a subcommittee for the Faculty Senate. This will have implications for us. Unit members who have not been made aware of this should discuss it with their senators.