

Professional Education Council Meeting  
Wednesday, April 22, 2009  
3:30 p.m.  
Gooch 128

Attendees: Dr. Robert Hartshorn, Dr. Carol Eckert, Dr. Mary Lee Hall, Dr. Chris Whitlow, Dr. Becky Cox, Dr. Kathy Evans, Dr. Beth Quick, Mr. Ken Douglas, Dr. Ann Duncan, Dr. Karen Greenockle, Mrs. Jennifer Cook, Dr. Laura Brown, Mr. Michael Poore, Mrs. Jenny Hahn, and Mrs. Amanda Hutson

Welcome and Introductions – Dr. Hall

Update on any area licensure changes

a. Secondary Education licensure changes -

Dr. Beth Quick - Secondary Education was on the THEC report for low-producing programs. The catalog for Secondary Education has now been revised and approved through UG council. Dr. Quick thanked Dr. Seng for all of her help in getting this taken care of.

Dr. Whitlow commented that Special Education was also one of the low producing programs on the THEC report, even though they have a large number of students taking the classes. THEC requires that a program must have 50 graduates over 5 years to be taken off one low producing list, and that is the case with Special Education.

Field Experiences/Student Teaching updates- Jennifer Cook

Ms. Cook reported that she has 62 Student teachers for Fall 2009, and most have been placed. She will meet with them on April 28 to give them their placements.

Interviews for admission to Teacher Education are always difficult to schedule. To help alleviate this problem, Mrs. Cook is going to submit a schedule to all Teacher Ed. programs so that faculty members can sign up in one-hour increments. After all the faculty have signed up for interview times, the students will only be allowed to sign up for times when faculty are available. The interviews will take place 10/05/2009-10/09/2009 from 9am - 4pm.

Dr. Hall commended Ms. Cook on having the majority of her students placements made by the end of the previous semester.

Regarding criminal background checks, Mrs. Cook proposed that students obtain them prior to entering a classroom in the public school. Mrs. Cook shared with the group that some schools are requiring a criminal background check to be completed before a person is allowed to interact with students in school. Presently a criminal background is only required once when a student wishes to be admitted to an approve teacher training program in Tennessee. Mrs. Cook suggests that instead of each department obtaining their own ORI number for receiving criminal background checks that the criminal background checks continue to be sent to Education Student Services the results on criminal background checks are usually made available to Ms. Cook the same day or early the next day.

Change in NCATE review process-

Dr. Hearn sent a link to all faculty concerning the upcoming NCATE visit. Dr. Hall believes that we will see a revised type of visit with fewer days and fewer people, which will reduce the cost of NCATE accreditation.

Recognition of State BOE members-Dr. Beth Quick and Dr. Betty Cox joined Dr. Karen Greenknockle as state BOE members.

NCATE update - Mr. Poore reported that the NCATE visit scheduled for Fall 2009 has been changed to Fall 2010. It is tentatively scheduled for the end of October or beginning of November

Unit Assessment System data update- Michael Poore  
(Fall 2008 and Spring 2009)

- a. Alumni Satisfaction Survey –Kristy Crawford is entering survey results on our NCATE webpage,.
- b. Employer Satisfaction Survey -Sections highlighted on the handouts provided by Mr. Poore indicated the areas where our graduates are still lacking skills. Dr. Hall reminded the group that the reason we collect data is to make decisions on how to improve the programs. Dr. Hall also shared with the group that there will be a technology category in the state’s new curriculum framework for K-12, and our students will need to demonstrate proficiency in technology. Dr. Hartshorn commented that most of the schools are now using Smart Boards. Educational Studies currently has only has one Smart Board for instruction of our pre-service teachers.
- c. Exit interviews –The results are for students who just completed student teaching Fall 2008. Interview results are available for the two previous years but with different questions.
- d. Teacher Education Interview- When students fail the Teacher Education interviews, Mr. Poore asks them to meet the testing requirements before they are interviewed again.
- e. Teacher Education Program Appeals –This information is not complete since there is another PRAXIS test 4/25/09. Students must attempt the PRAXIS at least twice before making an appeal. This practice helps weed out the students who will never get licensed.
- f. Advisor Perception Survey-HHP did best job of responding!

Other Business –NCATE supporting documentation will be almost totally electronic for the Fall 2010 visit.