

Minutes of the Vocational Education Advisory Committee
Valdosta State University
February 26, 1998

Members in attendance:

Sharon Walker, Mark Wilson, Carol Dugger, Tim Robinson, Laurie Fontaine, Carla Houston, Beth Koetz, Kevin Cronin, Donnie McGahee, Charles Backes, Rusty McClung, Mary Alice Griffin, Mary Willis, Randy McElvey, Brian Garavalia, Sam Harvill, Arnie Murdock, Susan Jennings, and Patty Anderson.

Members not in attendance:

Keith Middleton, Lynne Wilson, Iris Ellis, Bill Christopher, Tana Long, Todd Williams, Joanna Jones, Lloyd Shaddix, Theresa Clark, Carolyn Cox, Ann Adams, J. D. Thomerson, and Larry Moore.

The meeting was called to order by Patty Anderson, Chairperson, at 7:06 p.m., in Room 244 in the Education Center.

Patty Anderson welcomed everyone and introductions were made.

Donnie McGahee, V. E. Department Head, welcomed everyone and made the following announcements:

- Faculty members in the department have been extremely busy making presentations at various conferences. J. D. Thomerson and Carolyn Cox were not here this evening because they were giving presentations at a conference in New Orleans.
- New program sheets were distributed to the committee for their review. Faculty members have been working to prepare new syllabi for the courses being taught under the semester system.
- As of last fall the College of Education is now using the PRAXIS examination. PRAXIS I is required of all students applying for entrance into the teacher education program. Most students will take the PRAXIS I by the end of their sophomore year. PRAXIS II, which replaced the TCT, tests the students' content knowledge as well as teaching methodology and is taken at the completion of the students' programs.

Donnie McGahee led a lively discussion about the national reactions to this examination. Donnie read excerpts from a newspaper article regarding the PRAXIS standards required by the state of Virginia.

Gulf South Business and Vocational Education Conference

- Since Ann Adams was not able to be at the meeting, Charles Backes discussed plans for our 6th annual conference, which will be held on April 17, 1998. There will be many speakers at the conference covering a variety of topics. Mary Alice Griffin will be in charge of this year's conference proceedings. She mentioned that she hopes to have the proceedings ready to be able to give to conference attendees when they register.

Business Education Certification

- Patty Anderson handed out the new business education certification sheets and reviewed the changes with the committee.

BAS Program

- Arnie Murdock announced that the program is going well. The program continues to grow because of Arnie's multiple presentations to local school districts and technical schools.
- Susan Jennings and Brian Garavalia will be assisting Arnie with advising all the new students in the program.
- Arnie is currently working on designing a new software program that can be used by high school guidance counselors in educating students about the BAS program. In addition, he is developing a web page and a new brochure that will provide information about the program.

Ed.D. Program

- Rusty McClung announced that the first class of doctoral students at VSU has completed their written and oral comprehensive exams and has begun working on their dissertations.
- Rusty announced that the next group of doctoral students will begin Fall, 1998. Candidates for this group will be interviewed in March.

NTI

- This summer Charles Backes will again be running the NTI program.

General Discussion

- All non-VSU committee members in the room were asked to briefly discuss what is new at their institutions. Discussion centered on work ethics, Valdosta Technical School Tech Prep Conference, career day at the middle schools, and college credit for courses taken at Thomas Technical School.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Patricia Lynn Anderson".

Patricia Lynn Anderson, Chairperson

