

Minutes of the Vocational Education Advisory Committee
Valdosta State University
October 14, 1998

Members in attendance:

Carol Dugger, Iris Ellis, Wendy Moore, Ivory Gates, Steve Dunn, Lynne Wilson, Ronnie Dunn, Wanda Colyer, Michael Heard, Rachel Wynn, Donnie McGahee, Charles Backes, Rusty McClung, Mary Alice Griffin, Mary Willis, Randy McElvey, Brian Garavalia, Sam Harvill, Arnie Murdock, Susan Jennings, Carolyn Cox, J. D. Thomerson, Larry Moore, and Patty Anderson.

Members not in attendance:

Sharon Walker, Mark Wilson, Keith Middleton, Lloyd Shaddix, Theresa Clark, Laurie Fontaine, and Ann Adams.

The meeting was called to order by Patty Anderson, Chairperson, at 7:36 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:

- The PRAXIS national test is now being used by Valdosta State University in the College of Education. 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' program. Unfortunately, the reporting of the results have been rather slow; but we have been told that this will improve. To date, all of our business education students who have attempted the examination have passed it. More results will be provided at the spring meeting.
- Our next SACS review is spring 2000. The next visit by NCATE will be fall 2000. Preparations have already begun.
- Semester transition has been fairly smooth. A few minor problems but preplanning really paid off. Students are having a little problem carrying five academic courses. Some students have dropped to four courses. This could be a problem because, in order to graduate in four years, a student needs to take 15 hours each semester.
- This semester, a new course—Introduction to Business—is being offered. One of the original reasons for its creation was to cover material with which

an analysis of TCT assessment results showed business education majors were having trouble. Since it is a 1000-level course, it is open to any student who is interested in learning more about business and career options. Some of the topics covered in this course are finance, personal investments, banking, insurance, economics, ethics, and international business.

- This fall Susan Jennings has taken over the responsibilities of supervising business education student teachers. Currently, there are six student teachers in the field.
- Faculty members in the department have been extremely busy writing for publication and making presentations at various conferences. A review of the different accomplishments of the department members was given.

Patty Anderson handed out and reviewed the department's mission statement and goals. It was explained that a periodic review of these documents is necessary in order to ensure that they are relevant and appropriate for our programs. A discussion was then held pertaining to the different sections. Patty requested that each member take time to review the mission statement and goals again in the days to follow and notify us if there are any suggested changes or additions.

Rusty McClung and Charles Backes announced that VSU will be hosting the Southeastern Trade and Industrial Education Conference in St. Simons. The conference will be May 26-28, 1999. A flyer was handed out listing all pertinent information. A web site has been set up for this conference (<http://education.valdosta.edu/dept/ved/stiec.htm>). Anyone interested in presenting should contact either Rusty or Charles.

Susan Jennings announced that the Gulf South Business and Vocational Education Conference will not be held this spring. It has been moved to September 24, 1999. Anyone interested in presenting should contact Ann Adams, Charles Backes, or Susan. Also, if there are any topics that you would like to have presented, please let them know. There will be a proceedings for the conference. Since the conference has been moved to the fall, it will require presenters to submit their manuscripts for the proceedings by early August. More information about the conference will be given at the spring meeting.

Carolyn Cox gave a report about the new computers in room 244. The room was updated with 21 400 megahertz Compaq computers. All of the computers have Windows NT. This is the test lab for the university since it is the first lab on campus with Windows NT. Initially there were some problems, but they have been ironed out. Carolyn pointed out that it is a good idea to have a technician that is certified in Windows NT because it has a different operating system. The College of Education recently hired a new technician to cover this system for the college.

Carolyn also led a discussion about the Y2K compliance on campus. It looks like there are 97 computers that cannot be made compliant. These computers are located in the faculty offices.

Carolyn Cox also mentioned that we have new textbooks for the BVED2400 course. J. D. Thomerson is using MS Publisher in addition to Pagemaker in his desktop publishing class. A digital camera is being purchased for the department.

Rusty McClung announced that fall 1999 will start the next cycle of our Ed.D. program in Adult and Vocational Education. Anyone interested in applying should do so immediately. The deadline to apply is February 26, 1999. Five applicants have been accepted already for the next group. There has been one doctoral candidate from the first cohort who has completed his doctorate.

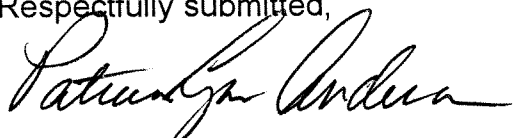
During general discussion some of the topics discussed were:

- Valdosta Technical Institute's enrollment is up for this year. A large increase is due to tech prep.
- Valdosta Technical Institute will be holding a trade and industrial expo this October 16.
- Wendy Moore mentioned that the VSU's BAS degree is greatly impacting the young people at her school (Lanier Co. High School)
- Alternative schooling using computer based learning
- Block scheduling status at the different schools in South Georgia
- Work place ethics grades and how they are helping with retention and lowering absenteeism at Lanier Co. High School
- 9th grade academy at Valdosta High School. Aim will be to lower failure rate and increase retention. There is a similar program at Lowndes High School called Freshman Academy.

Patty closed the meeting with a reminder to all committee members to please review the department's mission statement and goals and to please provide us with feedback.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia Lynn Anderson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Patricia" being the most prominent.

Patricia Lynn Anderson, Chairperson