

DEWAR COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
Executive Committee Meeting
FEBRUARY 15, 2007

Drs Julie Lee and Barbara Stanley were attending conferences, and Dr. Karla Hull may not be in attendance having returned at 3 a.m. from serving on an NCATE accreditation team. Accreditation reports for Georgia Southern and Georgia State are available on the Professional Standards Commission website.

Report from Deans' Council Meeting of 2/14/07

- Withdrawals after midterm are the faculty's responsibility. After midterm, students are not permitted to withdraw from a course on their own. Faculty are not to resolve hardship cases; they will be resolved at the administrative level.
- The Online Lifeline Conference begins February 16.
- Dean Gunter noted that an announcement will be made on February 16 concerning faculty support for distance learning (the development of distance learning courses or modules within courses). Money (funded by USG student technology fees) is available for development of on-line materials. Proposal forms should be available tomorrow, and faculty may apply for a maximum of \$2000 to cover equipment or training costs.
- The architects for the new Health Science Building met to discuss the actual structure of the building including space for a clinic. Some COMD offices may be housed in this new building.
- Dr. Levy announced proposed guidelines for special faculty positions. Responses to the proposed guidelines will also be solicited.
- Dr. Beverley Richardson-Blake announced their training program schedule program. Additional information is available at their website (<http://www.valdosta.edu/eopma/>).
- The University Council is now official, with 93% of the faculty voting in favor of its establishment. Dr. Levy expressed thanks for the vote.
- The salary study is nearing completion, and salary adjustments **might** be retroactive to January 1, 2007.
- \$120 million has been approved for Georgia, Hopper, and Reade Halls, the Student Union, Student Center, and multi-story parking deck. The parking deck will be constructed next to the Recreation Center.
- President Zaccari indicated that for at least the next 5 years, VSU will probably remain a Division II school.
- Cathy Cox and her son will be on campus February 21, 2007. President Zaccari will accompany them to S. L. Mason and provide a tour of VSU facilities.
- Dr. Marsha Krotseng announced that Digital Measures has tentatively been selected as a database program for administration and is compatible with LiveText.
- Georgia Southern has switched from TK-20 to LiveText. University of Kansas is currently using TK-20.

Board of Regents Initiatives on Distance Education

The Board of Regents is concerned with students transitioning from distance education to teaching. Grant monies will be available for distance education and collaboration between school systems and universities. Funds are to be used for initial certification programs. At VSU the Department of Special Education and Communication Disorders has an entirely on-line initial degree certification program. The application deadline for this funding is March 20, 2007. A total of \$3 million over 5 years may be divided among three or four institutions in the amount of \$200, 000 per year. Presently, North Georgia College, Georgia State, and Valdosta State have programs that may qualify for this funding.

On March 29-30, the Board of Regents will present a distance learning symposium to expand distance education. Jessica Summers, Trish Patterson, and Jan Ketterwell will represent the BOR at this initiative. Dr. Gunter requests two or three faculty members to attend this conference to establish alternative, equitable models of distance learning. Currently, VSU has one of Georgia's six on-line programs, and a website is under development to link the six programs by fall 2007. By May 2008, additional on-line programs are expected to be linked to this website. Summer funds may also be available to develop these programs or parts of such programs. A goal of this initiative is to have entire degree programs available via on-line instruction. An ESOL on-line degree would be a part of this effort. Dean Gunter noted that a traditional college experience away from home is what many students seek; they want face-to-face instruction such as offered on campus. The best situation is to provide both types of instruction at the undergraduate level.

Report from Area F Training Sessions

VSU faculty attending the Area F training sessions were well prepared in compiling the EDUC 2130 syllabus. The faculty's pragmatic concerns related to statistics associated with Area F changes during fall 2007 such as the number of sections needed for courses that were part of the previous structure. For example, SPEC 2000 will not be offered after summer 2007; it has moved to a 3000-level course. Dean Gunter asked for up to six sections of EDUC 2130 with the possibility of course substitutions to facilitate the transitional period.

Executive Committee members want to assure that background checks are in place for all students prior to the 20-hour field experience required for EDUC 2130, PSYC 3110, and PSYC 3120. Field experiences can take place outside the schools. Perhaps an Office of Early Field Experience could help coordinate this effort since six sections of three courses could result in 450 students participating in a field experience each semester. Executive Committee members agreed this situation should be addressed relatively soon and discussed the possibility of offering specialized sections of these Area F courses for particular majors such as early childhood, middle grades, PE, or special education. Development of printed materials should help the transition to the new Area F courses. Advance preparation related to these changes can result in a smoother pre-registration process for summer and fall. Dr. Gunter noted that pre-registration begins March 26. By spring 2009, course substitutions will no longer be available for Area F courses; all Area F changes should be fully implemented at that time.

Advertising Our Programs

Dean Gunter speculated that perhaps VSU has a marketing issue related to program advertisement. He noted that a Graduate Fair will take place outside the Palms Dining area on March 7, 2007. Dr. Adler plans to meet with various groups of undergraduate students and provide information on graduate programs at VSU. Dean Gunter reminded committee members that VSU does have a doctoral program in educational leadership and noted that many people are unaware of this program. Visits to off-campus, public schools and dissemination of information (e.g., brochures in teachers' lounges or bulletin board postings) related to Valdosta State's graduate programs may be helpful. Perhaps a billboard? Dr. Gunter noted that SIFE is a good model for program advertisement and consultation with SIFE may be beneficial. University Relations may also be consulted in this process.

Attendees at the GACE Faculty Resources Website Meeting

A van will be leaving from the College of Education parking lot for those individuals attending this meeting in Macon on February 21. Faculty needing transportation should contact Dr. Larry Hilgert to make arrangements.

Announcements

- No COE Executive Committee meeting until March 8, 2007
- Scholastic Book Fair – February 19-23
- Project Learning Tree – February 24 from 9-4 in the Education Center
- International Folk Festival middle school field trip – March 2 and 3
- Helen Ruffin Reading Bowl – Saturday, March 4, 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the Bailey Science Center (volunteers are needed – students may work for extra credit as moderators, judges, time keepers, door keepers, etc. by completing an on-line application or obtaining a form in room EC 50)
- Peer advising applications are available – please apply by March 9 (advising will begin then for registration which starts March 26)

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Hilgert