

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MARCH 23, 2006

Dean Gunter began the meeting by welcoming Dr. Barbara Stanley as Acting Department Head for Middle Grades and Secondary Education. Dr. Gunter said he very much appreciated her acceptance of the position on such short notice. Dr. Stanley will fill the position of Acting Department Head until January 2007.

Hiring Peer Advisors

Maggie Roberts introduced Megan Dove, an Industrial/Organizational Psychology major, who will assist with peer advisor recruitment and training. Peer advisors will help fellow COE education majors in the registration process during the approximately 14 orientation sessions in the summer and the one session at the beginning of fall semester. These orientation sessions will start at either 9:30 a.m. or 1:30 p.m. and will be 2-4 hours each.

Megan has developed a plan for the peer advisement process and indicated that peer advisors should be College of Education majors who have completed at least 30 credit hours. With the completion of at least 30 hours, a peer advisor should be able to easily help incoming students develop workable class schedules. Megan circulated a flier announcing the opportunity to become a COE peer advisor, indicated that the position paid minimum wage (\$5.15/hour), and noted that applications are due April 14, 2006. Mandatory training is scheduled for April 28 and will last approximately 4 hours.

More information about this program is available at:

<http://teach.valdosta.edu/coeadvising/peeradvisor1.htm>

Megan indicated that additional links will appear with information about the time and location of the training session as well as information about the various orientation sessions.

Summer School Budgets

Dean Gunter indicated that the summer budget is still approximately \$15,000 more than available funding but noted that indirect funds (from grants) will offset this deficit. Therefore, the summer teaching schedule should remain as currently configured.

Merit Recommendations

Dr. Gunter advised department heads to forward a short, supportive paragraph to him for anyone receiving more than a 4.5% (4.51% or higher) salary increase. The department head should also attach the faculty member's evaluation. Since staff evaluations are due at the end of March, the 2-3 sentence justification paragraph can be sent now with the evaluation submitted at a later date. Faculty notification will take place when the budget is available. Per Dean Gunter, Dr. Ducharme had already forwarded salary recommendations and/or justifications for faculty in the Department of Middle Grades and Secondary Education.

Construction and Renovation Updates

Major portions of the Advising Center should be complete by April 4 (in time for the dedication ceremony). According to Robert Tindall, MRR (Maintenance, Renovation, and Repair) documents concerning the “lids” (walls to the ceiling) for the first-floor center COE offices have been forwarded to the Board of Regents. Per Dr. Gunter, personnel will vacate their offices for approximately 6 months. While this relocation represents a temporary inconvenience, the long-term benefits will be worthwhile.

COE Dedication Ceremony

According to Ann Lacey of the President’s Office, the College Of Education dedication ceremony will take place on the Baytree side of the COE on April 4 prior to a luncheon in COE Room 255. The sidewalk between the COE and PE Complex will be modified to allow safe passage. Dean Gunter has been promised some “fast-growing” plants to enhance the newly constructed football equipment storage building. A sign will be installed on the Baytree side as well as the parking lot side of the College of Education. The signs will remain covered until the dedication ceremony. The signs read: James L. & Dorothy H. Dewar College of Education

Review of Conceptual Framework

Three departments must still review the conceptual framework. Dean Gunter asked that department heads invite Dr. Julie Lee and him to discuss the conceptual framework with them. According to Dr. Gunter, the conceptual framework is in need of review for teacher education programs as well as non-teacher education programs. Personnel turnover at the level of department head has hindered the review process. For example, while Dean Gunter has met with Dr. Martinez’s department, Dr. Martinez represents the fifth department head in 3 years. Such rapid personnel turnover (until recently) and resulting communication issues have worked against the progress of the conceptual framework review.

Program Reports

Dr. Gunter noted that no one can truly appreciate the amount of work that the program reports have required. He reminded department heads to thank faculty for completing the various reports and for working around diverse obstacles. While there are still some unfinished reports, Dean Gunter and his appointed review committee will begin reading. He requested that faculty be given reassigned time to ensure completion of the remaining reports.

Dr. Gunter stated that the overall report continues to grow; the report for one program alone was 110 pages. The Professional Standards Commission (PSC) may ascertain the magnitude of their request. Some institutions have consolidated their programs to reduce paperwork. Dr. Lee noted that program reports for endorsements are particularly difficult since endorsements consist of only three or four courses, and few individuals pass through these programs at any given time.

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Dr. Lee said that compilation of the reports was indeed a team effort. She will assist, wherever possible, in providing feedback and information concerning candidate statistics. The PSC may require more and different standards for completion of future reports.

COE Executive Committee Retreat

Dr. Gunter suggested June 25, 26, and 27 as possible dates for another COE Executive Committee Retreat at a yet-to-be-determined location. The retreat would begin Sunday afternoon and continue for the next two days.

Kappa Delta Pi

Kappa Delta Pi will hold its initiation ceremony on March 26, 2006 at 3:00 p.m. Please attend if possible. Dr. Ducharme will receive a posthumous award at that time.

Required Tests for Teacher Education Admission

Dr. McGahee spoke about the GACE I. Since the Praxis I will not be available after September 1, students who have not passed the Praxis I prior to September 1, 2006 must take the GACE I. GACE I and II scores will not be returned until February 1, 2007. Students who must still complete the second half of a two-battery Praxis II exam must sit for the test by March 1, 2007. After that date, examinees may have to complete the second part of the Praxis II outside the state of Georgia. Dr. McGahee would urge students to take the Praxis I as soon as possible. The Department of Educational Leadership still uses the Praxis II until the establishment of a reliable and valid test cut-off score.

Project Learning Tree

At the Nature Conference in Macon on March 18, Project Learning Tree presented a plaque to VSU in recognition of environmental education. We thank Drs. Monetti, Jones, Hedgepeth, Minor, and Brasell for their contributions to this Georgia Outstanding Program Recognition.

Registration Start Time Concern

Since many students skip class to be first in line for the 9:00 a.m. opening of registration, the process might begin at 7:00 a.m.; however, midnight appears to represent a better alternative. The Registrar, Chuck Hudson, would like to meet and take a proactive approach to ensure that this issue is resolved and that registration continues as smoothly as possible.

Registration Problems

Maggie Roberts noted a few delays in course change forms going through Arts and Sciences as well as students attempting to change their majors during the registration process. Dr. Gunter suggested inviting Chuck Hudson to next week's COE Executive Committee meeting and indicated that Chuck was open to that possibility. Executive Committee members agreed if Chuck's schedule permits.

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Visits with Russian Delegation

Dean Gunter reported that members of a Russian delegation have been accompanying Ivan Nikolov around campus. These delegates are evaluating a possible collaborative faculty and/or student exchange program.

Departmental Announcements

Dr. Blake Pearce announced that the Art Department is seeking an art historian to replace Dr. Joyce Davis who will be retiring.

The new Curriculum, Leadership, Research, and Technology (CLRT) is interviewing for the position of department head.

Memorial Service for Dr. Ducharme

Drs. Brenda Dixey and Barbara Stanley are in the process of arranging a memorial service for Dr. Adel Ducharme who passed away last Tuesday, March 14. Details of this service will be forthcoming via COEFAC and COESTU email.

Announcements

- The Faculty Senate will meet March 23.
- The last visitation day this semester for families of prospective students will be Saturday, March 25.
- Honors Day will be Wednesday, March 29. Faculty are reminded to dismiss classes from 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.
- Three representatives from the American Speech and Hearing Association (ASHA) will be on campus March 30 & 31 to review the Speech Language Pathology program.
- Reminders: Dewar College of Education dedication ceremony – Tuesday, April 4
College of Education Honors Night – Tuesday, April 18
DOE College and University Forum in Macon – Tuesday, April 25
Graduation – Saturday, May 6 at 10:00 a.m.
- The next COE Executive Committee meeting will be March 30

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Hilgert

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