

**DEWAR COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
APRIL 26, 2007**

Dr. Brian Gerber presided at this meeting in Dr. Gunter's absence. Dean Gunter was attending an Educator Preparation Academic Advisory Committee (EPAAC) conference.

Technology Report

Dr. Andy Brovey, chair of the Technology Committee, noted that Clayton Brady reported on the COE server upgrades during the last meeting of the Technology Committee. Andy will be leaving the Technology Committee Chair after 2 years of service in that capacity. A new technology chair will be selected for fall semester 2007. Dr. Brovey was acknowledged for his receipt of the Apple Distinguished Educator Award at the Georgia Colleges and Universities' I-pod Day for the use of the i-pod in video streaming.

Drs. Brovey, Heather Brasell, and Blaine Browne presented a successful paper session at the meeting of the Georgia Psychological Society on April 14.

Shirley Sainz and Becky Crosby will be working on a project related to the provision of additional training in instructional technology.

Dr. Brovey also mentioned that Mimi McGahee will be helping to set up COE Room 255, the 21st century classroom under development.

The report then mentioned 36 computer upgrades as well as an updated lab in Psychology Room 106. The Speech Language Pathology lab will next receive an upgrade. The portfolio server was moved to facilitate better management.

Dr. Karla Hull questioned what to do with older computers. Per Allen DeVane, a process is in place to outsource them; just call the help desk for disposal.

Dr. Julie Reffel requested a faculty workshop in the use of the smart board. Dr. Brovey will address this request. He plans to offer an i-pod workshop on Monday, May 7, 2007.

Please see the official minutes for a link to the Technology Report. The report includes other details of computer installations, the Datacenter clean up process, PC distribution, smart classroom progress as well as lab upgrades planned for summer.

LiveText

Dr. Julia Lee reported on LiveText. She began by offering a synopsis of the LiveText session where Bob Budnick presented to faculty and administration. With the exception of Nursing and Social Work, nearly every department was represented. Dr. Lee attended the Digital Measures presentation and noted that perhaps it has more of a business type model.

Dr. Lee and other Executive Committee members who attended the LiveText demonstration agreed that LiveText could work well with the College of Business. Mr. Budnick indicated he was willing to help develop additional components at no cost if they would be beneficial to a larger audience. If the additions only addressed very specific issues, a cost would be incurred. LiveText could address SACS accreditation issues, and Mr. Budnick would be willing to work on that report which would be applicable to other schools accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. In October, Dr. Marsha Krotseng will meet

again with Drs. Julia Lee and Julie Reffel to discuss the use of LiveText and Digital Measures with regard to SACS.

Dr. Lee complimented the portfolio construction by PE students. The capacity of LiveText was tested within the PE Department since some of the portfolios included video streaming and various other multimedia components. In LiveText, graduate students are able to add a page pertaining to initial certification. Dr. Lee noted that Dean Gunter plans to send representatives to the LiveText conference for updates on new aspects of the LiveText software. One strength of LiveText is immediacy of feedback. Integration of information is more difficult with the virtual drive approach that is outside of LiveText. Some accrediting bodies (including the American Psychological Association) have a reporting system directly out of LiveText.

According to Dr. Lee, some courses will be based in LiveText, and others will be virtual drive based. Some discussion ensued regarding how faculty can learn more about LiveText. If LiveText represents a difficult problem for some faculty members, that perspective should be respected.

Renaissance Report

Dr. Brian Gerber stated that U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson was in attendance at the meeting of the Renaissance Group. Approximately \$200 million is being committed to science and math development, and 10,000 newly qualified math and science teachers are needed per year. Science and math teachers are at a premium and are difficult to find.

The Renaissance Group felt that perhaps the focus in special education should be more on the individual educational program (IEP) rather than the group approach. The Georgia Learning Resource Services (GLRS) should participate in the retraining, and a need exists for more individuals with English as a second language. This process now requires 3 years of training.

The Higher Ed Reauthorization Act focused on the higher costs of higher education.

Seventy percent (70%) of 18-24 year olds will be ineligible for the armed services due to a lack of high school diploma and excess weight. Due to costs associated with the Iraq war, very little grant monies are currently available. The chancellor's franchise approach to education may become the trend as education costs increase.

A new research group within the Renaissance Group hopes to connect VSU as the rural representative and Kennesaw State University as the urban representative.

An online philanthropy website (Donors Choose) is available, and donations are delivered to teachers.

The *Valdosta Daily Times* reported that \$125,000 had been requested from the state legislature for the establishment of a VSU charter school.

New Course Proposal

Course changes/proposals will be discussed at the next COE Executive Committee meeting.

Announcements

- May 5 – Graduation at 10:00 a.m.
- May 10 – Next COE Executive Committee meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Hilgert