

**DEWAR COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
FEBRUARY 28, 2008**

Belize

Dr. Gerber reported on his trip to Belize and offered several slides of the country and schools. His son attended school for a week at Holy Redeemer School. The cost for attendance at this particular school is \$75 per year, and the government pays for nearly all public and private education. A teacher's salary is approximately \$900 per month, and a beginning teacher should have at least a high school diploma. Belize is attempting to increase teacher salaries and entry level education requirements. There are approximately 28 students per class.

While university personnel and students in Belize are interested in a teacher training exchange program with VSU, the required financial backing is not presently available for such a program. Jane Zahner and her husband, Jack, are assisting with recruitment in Belize. If VSU students want to study in Belize, they could possibly stay at St. Ignatius Convent or perhaps Holy Family Monastery for \$30 per day (includes room and board). Students would require transportation to the university. The monastery has wireless internet and is 45 minutes from the university.

The exchange rate is approximately 2 Belizian dollars for every U.S. dollar. Prices are somewhat inflated but appear to be comparable to U.S. costs.

Technology Report

Sterlin Sanders reported that 169 work orders had been answered since last month's report. Forty machines had been upgraded to 1 gigabyte of memory. According to Allen DeVane, the card swipe system should probably be set up in Room 120 by next week.

The networking would be down this coming Sunday from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. Rewiring to the servers will be postponed until spring break.

Dr. Rober Bauer thanked technology personnel for the laptop setups for the visiting accrediting team from CACREP (Council for Accreditation of Counseling and Related Educational Programs). Dean Gunter noted that technical support is an area where faculty seem most appreciative.

The Technology Committee is preparing a needs assessment.

School Counseling Program

Dr. Bauer indicated that everything went well for the CACREP visit, and that Drs. Cunningham and Hilgert had worked hard to get the School Counseling Program and the School Psychology Program accredited. Having two nationally approved programs in the same department is certainly beneficial for the students. Dr. Bauer thanked Maggie Roberts for the "goodie bags" she assembled for the visiting CACREP team.

Field Experience Committee

The following statement must be placed in **all** field experience syllabi:

"Field experience placements for this course will be arranged by the instructor. In the event the instructor is unable to secure a placement, the Office of Student Teaching and Certification will assist with placement."

The VSU partner school and proposed tier agreement forms passed with some minor revisions to clarify what constitutes a tier 1 or tier 2 partner school. These agreements forms may be viewed at the link to the official minutes of the COE Executive Committee meeting. Proposed tier 1 schools include S. L. Mason Elementary, Hahira Elementary, Cook Middle, Valdosta Middle, and Lowndes High School. The partnership consists of a greater degree of involvement in tier 2 schools.

Early field experiences, especially those not involved with partner school agreements, are now handled at the departmental level. The statement noted above must likewise be placed in syllabi for these early field experiences. The Office of Early Field Experience no longer exists.

Dr. Lynn Minor and Scot Raab will probably conduct training for field supervisors on the Observation Instrument and the Clinical Observation Instrument in the University Center in April. There may be a mentors' day to provide training for new teachers.

Harry Wong Update

Dr. Wong's schedule will not permit him to speak at VSU in the spring; there may be an opportunity to invite him in the fall.

Early College and S.L. Mason Update

The Early College Program will receive \$150,000 in funding the first year and \$125,000 for each of the two subsequent years. Dr. Gerber is working with Dr. Polly Diamond and Scarlet Correll on the selection process (2 sixth-grade classes, 18 students in each). Requirements include academic achievement scores (e.g., Georgia Criterion-Referenced Competency Tests [CRCT]) between the 25th and 49th percentile, good attendance records, and no conduct problems. An advisory committee will be formed for this early college experience. While the current S. L. Mason Elementary School building has been approved for this science/math partnership, classes will be held on the VSU campus, probably in the College of Education, for the first year of the program.

Course Curriculum Change

After reviewing proposed changes to the special education curriculum, the Executive Committee suggested postponement of the changes until next month when Dr. Karla Hull noted that additional, more substantive modifications would be proposed at that time. Dr. Hull rescinded her proposal at this time.

SACS Update

Dr. Julie Lee reported on her recent conference attendance pertaining to the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS). TaskStream, an accreditation management system similar to LiveText, was strongly represented at the conference. Drs. Gunter and Lee emphasized the importance of monitoring the percentage of classes offered on-line for each program. On-line classes must be approved as if they were new courses. If this approval process has not been followed, the on-line course must be rescinded. If more than 50% of program curricula is offered on-line, the entire program must be reviewed and approved by SACS. Programs moving to on-line status must be listed as such in BANNER.

Impact on P-12 Learning Data

Effect size data will be the focus for the Executive Committee's summer retreat. Quantifiable, extractable data is currently evident for five programs: business education, physical education, early childhood education, middle grades education, and special education. Please inform Dr. Reffel if other data are available. Dr. Reffel noted that the Assessment Committee will meet on Monday at 4:00 p.m. in the College of Education to examine the data.

Concern Form

Maggie Roberts presented the proposed Concern Form. With only slight changes, the Executive Committee approved the form which can be viewed by linking to the official minutes of Executive Committee proceedings.

Retreat Dates

July 17-18, 2008 is the tentative date for the Executive Committee retreat to take place at the park in Cordele. Please contact Dr. Julie Reffel regarding travel arrangements.

Relay for Life

Dr. Reffel is registering and accepting funds from those interested in this event which is scheduled for April 11.

Announcements

- March 20, 2008 at 8:30 a.m. – Next COE Executive Committee meeting

Respectfully submitted,
Larry Hilgert