



Tuesday April 22

Fourteenth meeting of Spring 2008

Meeting Start/End Times: 12:40-1:35

11 Students, 3 Faculty & 2 guests in Attendance

Thank you Dr. Hilgert for the informational meeting on school psych! Thank your guest speakers from the Tift County school system for us as well! Here is an overview of the program and what school psychologists do:

- To get an Education Specialist's degree you must complete 4 years post undergraduate schooling/training that includes 2 years of a Master's, 1 year of specialist training, and a 1 year internship. The internship pays about \$27,000 a year which is about 2/3rd of a Master's salary.
- There is currently a shortage of school psychologist in the state of GA.
- VSU is the ONLY school in GA that has a nationally approved program to train, teach and certify school psychologists.
- School psychologists work less with severely disabled and more with the planning and intervention of young children, even before they reach 1st grade (age 3).
- Thesis to obtain degree is a requirement that may be substituted in the future with a case study.
- All students in program must design and document an actual intervention case and show a change in the behaviour of a particular child.
- School psychologists always look for what others don't see as far what may be attributing to a students lack of comprehension or cooperation with the given curricula.
- School psychologists observe for academic and/or behavioural problems, so that they can develop a plan for individual students.
- They do crisis and group counselling

For more information contact Dr. Hilgert at lhilgert@valdosta.edu or Mrs. Gonzalez at ggonzalez@tiftschools.com / 229 387-2460. Also, check the web at www.valdosta/coe/psychology/schools/psychologyvsu.shtml