

MINUTES OF THE MEETING
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The College of Education Executive Committee met on Thursday, April 19, 2007, at 8:30 a.m. in the COE Conference Room (Room 235) in the Education Center with Dean Gunter presiding. Members present were: Drs. McGahee, Bauer, Hilgert, Martinez, Griffin, Leech, Hull, Corbin, Stanley, Mr. Pearce, and Ms. Roberts. Guests: Dr. Judd, Dr. Zahner, and Mr. Jon Sizemore.

Mr. Jon Sizemore from Continuing Education attended the meeting to explain and discuss the proposed BOR on-line program initiative. Mr. Sizemore explained that this initiative, designed as a "franchise model," is for the development of on-line MAT and M.Ed. programs. The BOR will provide the funding of \$100,000 for the start-up costs of each franchise, and the BOR will be "paid back" by tuition costs. For example, an institution (or a team of institutions) may apply to be the provider for a specific on-line MAT or M.Ed. degree program for the state. If an institution (or team of institutions) is awarded the franchise for this degree program, no other state institution would be allowed to offer this same program on-line (the one exception to this policy is any program which is already approved as an on-line program by the BOR). Mr. Sizemore explained that to meet the criteria set for this franchise model, any program offered must be completely on-line. Also, any institution awarded a franchise would be required to accept all students into the program who meet admission criteria. Tuition costs for courses in franchise programs would be higher than costs for traditional courses. Applications for a franchise must be submitted to the BOR by June 1, 2007; course offerings for a franchise program could begin January, 2008. A number of issues were raised concerning franchise programs: number of faculty needed; size of classes; possible accreditation issues related to NCATE, PSC, and SACS; if a franchise program is "owned" by a group of institutions, where do students enroll and who awards the degree; how would assessment data be reported, etc. Dean Gunter acknowledged that a number of these questions and issues had not yet been addressed; he emphasized that no department was being required to be a part of the franchise model.

Dean Gunter reported on items which had been discussed at the deans' council meeting held yesterday:

- Funding for the charter school initiative, the 3 percent pay raise, and the renovation for Nevins Hall are all still distinct possibilities; final approval is contingent on the state budget approved by the legislature.
- Mr. Charles Harmon is retiring; his successor will have the title of Head of Communications and Marketing.
- Dean Gunter has e-mailed Dr. Krotseng to ask her for the format for this year's annual reports.
- The anti plagiarism software, "Turn It In," is now available on campus and will be used with WebCT Vista.
- Dr. Levy distributed a handout about the BOR's Core Curriculum Project. The overall purpose of the project is to design a core curriculum which is consistent with transferability and which focuses on a common System set of competencies that reflect the knowledge and skills expected of an educated person in the 21st century.

Dean Gunter reminded department heads to please have an adequate number of departmental faculty members at this semester's graduation ceremony. The expectation is that there will be 35-40 COE faculty members at the ceremony.

Ms. Roberts reported that over \$30,000 had been raised university wide at the Relay for Life event.

Dr. McGahee reviewed the GACE scores from the March 17 test. On the three basic skills sections (math, reading, and writing), VSU students scored at or above the state average.

Dean Gunter noted that he had been notified by Traycee Martin that the student teacher fee had been approved and could go into effect Fall Semester, 2007. However, Dean Gunter felt that it would be fairer to wait until at least Spring Semester, 2008, to make this fee effective. He asked Dr. McGahee to convene a meeting of the COE Field Experiences Committee and get the members' input about four questions: when to begin assessing the fee, how to assess the fee, how to use the fee, and appropriate field

experiences for the three new mandated courses (EDUC 2110, 2120, and 2130).

Dean Gunter announced that because of the wild fires, Waycross College would be closed today and tomorrow. Waycross public schools are also closed today.

Dean Gunter announced that Mimi McGahee had offered to restructure Room 255 as a "classroom for the 21st century."

Dean Gunter announced that he is continuing to meet with department heads about the COE re-organization.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee will be April 26. Graduation is May 5.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donnie J. McGahee