

MINUTES OF THE MEETING  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The College of Education Executive Committee met on Thursday, January 17, 2008, at 8:30 a.m. in Room 235 in the Education Center with Dean Gunter presiding. Members present were: Drs. McGahee, Stanley, Hull, Minor, Reffel, Gerber, Bauer, Myers-Jennings, Griffin, Leech, Corbin, Martinez, Hilgert, Lee, Mr. Pearce, and Ms. Roberts.

Dean Gunter distributed [a handout from the deans' council meeting](#) held yesterday. Some of the items discussed included:

- The Office of University Relations is being divided into three separate units: Publication and Design Services (Jeff Grant), Marketing (Mary Gooding), and Communications (Thressea Boyd).
- There is a 26 percent increase in admission application acceptances over this same time last year.
- The construction of the Sports Complex on Mary Street is behind schedule; this delay is impacting other construction projects on campus.
- A great deal of time was spent discussing issues related to the upcoming SACS visit. Dr. K. Cragg distributed a handout dealing with the reporting of substantive changes in programs to SACS; specifically, when and under what circumstances SACS notification was required. Dean Gunter noted that the university needs some type of mechanism to trigger whether or not SACS notification was required for a program change.
- Dr. Kinney discussed the QEP (Quality Enhancement Program). QEP is a SACS requirement. QEP must be a project that is linked to the mission of the institution and demonstrating that learning is at the heart of the institution. For the upcoming SACS visit in 2010, the university must just have its proposed QEP. SACS will review the university's progress on the QEP in 2015.
- Areas of focus for SACS: faculty qualifications, program outcomes and assessments, evaluation of part-time faculty, course syllabi, and linking educational objectives with learning outcomes. Dean Gunter thinks the COE is in excellent shape in all of these areas, with the exception of evaluation of part-time faculty. He has asked Dr. Reffel to chair a committee to address part-time faculty issues.
- Dr. Levy asked deans to submit to him a list of three "big-ticket" items they would like to have; Dean Gunter asked department heads to send him ideas.
- Dr. Gravett distributed a list of the undergraduate advising models in use at VSU.
- Dean Gunter talked with the other deans about the qualities they were looking for in a new president.

Dean Gunter asked Dr. Stanley to explain the status of PLA (Prior Learning Assessment) at VSU; Dr. Stanley is a member of the PLA Assessors Group. Dr. Stanley distributed [a handout about PLA](#). Currently, VSU offers six methods for PLA: CLEP, AP, DANTES Testing, ACE credits, departmental examinations, and prior learning documentation. There are, however, a variety of other ways to provide evidence of learning. The Assessors Group would like for the COE to have three faculty members who would be PLA assessors. These people would be trained as assessors and would be on call to assist students who are trying to receive credit for prior learning. Dr. Stanley asked department heads to send her names of faculty who might be interested in being one of the assessors.

Dr. Lee announced that the BOR Teacher Report is due to be submitted by February 1. Dr. Lee and Dr. Reffel have completed the report; Dr. Reffel distributed [copies of the report for department heads](#) to review. Department heads were asked to send any comments to either Dr. Lee or Dr. Reffel.

Dr. Reffel showed Effect Size data for the 68 ECE student teachers from Spring Semester, 2006. Based on the data, the ECE student teachers were highly effective in impacting learning at the 1.39 level. Dean Gunter noted that since all programs have data in LiveText which document candidates' impact on learning, it would be a fairly easy task to determine Effect Size on a unit-wide basis for all candidates. Knowing Effect Size for all of our candidates would be critical for the 2013 NCATE visit.

Dr. Gerber reported on the progress being made on the Early College Initiative. The Valdosta City School Board met this past Monday night and discussed the initiative; concern was expressed about the facilities to be used for the initiative after the first year. In a meeting Dr. Gerber and Dean Gunter had with Dr. Zaccari since this past Monday, Dr. Zaccari also expressed concerns about the location for the initiative. After the meeting with Dr. Zaccari, Dr. Gerber met again with Superintendent Cason. Superintendent Cason wants to meet with the system's Facilities Planning Committee and hopefully get that committee's support for designating and financially supporting S.L. Mason as the location for the Early College Initiative. After the committee makes its recommendation, the issue will be brought back to the Valdosta City School Board again for consideration.

Dr. McGahee distributed to department heads the student teacher data (mentor evaluations) from Fall Semester, 2007. Dr. Reffel announced that the course/instructor evaluations from Fall Semester, 2007, would be distributed next week.

Dr. Reffel reported on the PAAR Webinar workshop that she and Dr. McGahee participated in on Tuesday. She reported that the PAAR reports would be due to PSC by October 1, 2008. The format will be changed very little from this past year. PSC has requested, however, that department heads carefully review the 2007 list of VSU programs and let them know which ones should be removed from the 2008 list.

Dr. Stanley distributed [nomination forms](#) for the annual Georgia Legislative Recognition Day recipient. Nominees must: have a cumulative 4.0 GPA (or close to it), be an undergraduate, be a Georgia resident, and must have attended only VSU. The turnaround time is very short; Dr. Stanley needs completed nomination forms back from departments by tomorrow.

Dean Gunter reported that he had talked with Dr. Huitt about a very interesting project he uses with students in his EDUC 2130 class. For their field experience requirement, the students are going to S.L. Mason Elementary where they are reading to students and recording the activity. A DVD is made of the recording and given to the students, who can then take it home with them and can be “read to” whenever they want to be. Dean Gunter is exploring ways to enable faculty to share other creative activities they are using in their classes.

#### Announcements

- Next Executive Committee meeting, January 24.
- Dr. Reffel distributed Relay for Life sign-up sheets.
- The Share-the-Wealth Conference will be held next week at Jekyll Island; Dr. Reffel is accompanying a group of ECE majors to the conference.
- Two representatives from LiveText will be on campus January 31 and February 1 to assist in training faculty in the new version of LiveText.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donnie J. McGahee