

SPED Program Meeting
September 7, 2010

In attendance: Anderson (arrived at 12:43), Baxter, Beattie, Campbell-Whatley Cooke, Jordan, Lo, Matthews (arrived at 12:35), O'Brien, Sherry, Spooner Test, Wakeman, White, Wood, C., and Wood, W.

Meeting called to order at 12:34.

- ◆ Minutes for Approval (August 31, 2010): Dr. Baxter asked the faculty to review the minutes from the August 31st program meeting and let her know if there were any corrections to be made. She also noted that she was already aware that the date of the meeting was incorrect on the minutes.... it will be changed from 3/2/10 to 8/31/10. No other items were noted. Dr. Cooke moved to approve the minutes... Dr. Wood (Wendy) seconded the motion. Minutes were approved.

- ◆ Undergraduate Program (*Dr. Baxter*):

- Evidence 6: needs to be revisited; procedures; rubric*
- Evidence 3: procedures need to be finalized; rubric* (should be ready by Spring 2011)

*on agenda for September 28

- ◆ Graduate Program (*Dr. Baxter*):

- Second year of revisioning – no word from Vicki Jaus yet.
- Need course outlines for SPED 6690 (2); 6502; 6503 very soon. Dr. Baxter would like these by the end of September. They will be completed as follows: 6690 (2 credits) - Campbell-Whatley ; 6502 - Lo; 6503 - Wood, C; 6xxx courses - Lo, Wood, C., Cooke; 6691 – Wakeman; 7113 (RSCH) - Wood, C.

Dr. Jordan asked about the prereqs for SPED 6691... was told it's got to be done at the end (clarification from Dr. Baxter: the course was at the end of the sequence of courses to be taken). Dr. Baxter said that she wants to try to have the course outlines ready for the Sept. 28th program meeting; however, if we can't do it by the 28th, then she wants the course outlines for the Oct. 5th meeting.

- Edits for graduate catalog *in process* for initial licensure graduate courses.
- MAT admission criteria: discussion – At the last meeting, we left off with discussion of requiring MAT students to be employed. Dr. Test stated that these changes to the MAT were all around the fact that MAT's have to be advanced licensure. However, according to what he's been told, UNC Greensboro's MAT isn't changing. How can they do that and we can't? Does this really have to happen? Or not? He is concerned that the College has decided this against faculty wishes. Dr. Cooke mentioned that other programs accepted... ours did not (clarification by Dr. Baxter: Other programs within the College of Education chose to continue offering advanced licensure with the MAT; the SPED program, after a meeting with Dr. Calhoun, also is offering advanced licensure with the MAT). Dr. Test wants it to be on the record that he thinks this will come back to hurt us in the long run. Especially since other universities are not doing it (clarification from Dr. Baxter: "It" being other universities are reported to not be offering advanced licensure with the MAT). Dr. Test wanted to know if he misunderstood that this was out of our hands? Dr. Sherry stated that this was decided when the MAT went through the university approval, it was an advanced licensure program. Dr. Cooke said that when the state came out with a new description of standards, there was a mismatch between those standards and our standards. Dr. Baxter said that she understands what Dr. Test is saying; however what we are discussing today is "do we want to require that students have to be employed to be in the program?". There really is nothing else to discuss today... everything else is done. (Clarification from Dr. Sherry: Do we want to require that students be employed to be admitted to the advanced licensure program?)

Dr. Anderson feels that if this is what the program wants to do (require employment), then we need to be in agreement... we can't make exceptions. Dr. Spooner is wondering why students who are employed as assistants couldn't be eligible. Dr. Sherry answered that we are looking at a leadership role in the classroom; assistants don't have that role. Dr. Cooke wonders if we can be comfortable with a student going full-time until they go for advanced licensure... then they would be required to get a teaching job. Dr. Wood (Wendy) is concerned about any students who lose their jobs... are we telling them that they can't come here? Dr. Cooke responded that she doesn't think getting an MAT will help anyone to get a job... not in this climate. Dr. Test asked, "What about if they were previously employed for the last year?" Dr. Cooke: If they have taught previously (one-year *successful* experience as a special education teacher). Dr. Test wanted to know how we would know it was "successful." The idea of having the principal do a letter was suggested.

Then the question was asked: within the past how many years? 3 years? Dr. Anderson suggested "expect students to be employed as a special education teacher or to have been successfully employed within the past two years". Dr. Baxter is concerned that she has not yet heard any discussion about the importance of why students are having to be employed. Dr. Wood (Wendy) thought that they were going to have to be employed at the end of the program. She noted that we have had some really great teacher assistants. What we are now saying is that they cannot be in the program? Dr. Baxter wondered if we would need to do a short form (for Graduate Council review and approval) with regard to these changes. Dr. Cooke responded that we would not because the changes are admission criteria... not curriculum/course changes.

The issue of "C" grades was discussed. Dr. Baxter wanted to know if we are going to say that a grade of "C" meant that we are going to require the GRE or Millers Analogies Test? One "C" or two "C's?" Dr. Sherry likes the idea of two "C's." He thinks that we want to be a gate *keeper*... not a gate *locker*. Dr. Test wants a vote. Dr. Cooke wondered, whether we decide that it will be

one or two "C's, can we have the student just take the writing section? But, Dr. Beattie said that you can't separate the GRE – students would have to take all three sections. Dr. Baxter asked for a show of hands as to what people's preference is – one or two "C." Seven people raised their hands for two "C's" and six people raised their hands for one "C."

Drs. Baxter and Anderson will write up the new admission criteria. In summary: In addition to the MAT requirements as listed by the Graduate School, admission (clarification by Dr. Sherry: to the final 12 hours of the MAT in Special Education) will require that students should either currently be employed as a special education teacher or, within the past two years, have had a successful experience as a special education teacher for at least one year; in addition, they should also have no more than two "C's."

Before adjourning, Dr. Anderson let folks know that syllabi reviews need to be in by next week.

Next meeting: September 28, 2010; Meeting adjourned: 1:44