

## SPED Program Meeting

March 25, 2014

*In attendance: Anderson, Baxter, Beattie, Browder (arrived at 12:38), Campbell-Whatley, Jordan, Lo, O'Brien (arrived at 12:36), Sherry (arrived at 12:59), Spooner, Wakeman, Wood, C., and Wood, W.*

Meeting called to order at 12:35.

1. **Minutes for Approval (February 4, 2014 and February 25, 2014):** The minutes were sent to the faculty prior to today's meeting. Dr. Baxter asked the faculty to review the **February 4<sup>th</sup>** minutes. Dr. Spooner made a motion to approve the minutes; Dr. Wood (Charlie) seconded the motion. Any discussion needed? None noted. Minutes were approved by common consent. Dr. Baxter then asked the faculty to review the **February 25<sup>th</sup>** minutes. Dr. Wood (Charlie) made a motion to approve the minutes; Dr. Spooner seconded the motion. Any discussion needed? None noted. Minutes were approved by common consent.
2. **AIG News (Dr. Matthews):** We will hold this agenda item until the next meeting as Dr. Matthews is not here today.
3. Reminder (Dr. Baxter):
  - a) **edTPA Training – All SPED faculty responsible for initial licensure courses.** Friday, March 28; 9:00-3:00; Task 2 (Rubrics 6-10 and Task 3 (Rubrics 11-15)
  - b) **edTPA Training: May 15 & 16 – Count for SPED participation; \$600 stipend**

Dr. Baxter noted that we got a lot done in the edTPA training. Re: May dates: Dr. Wakeman brought up the option of meeting separately the same two days in May to develop the SPED products. If anyone is interested in attending the May 15-16 meetings, please sign up. This will not be the main training, as we are ahead of them. This will be separate. Dr. Spooner noted that one thing he took away from the meeting on Friday was that he doesn't understand why there is such pushback with regard to edTPA. Dr. Wakeman doesn't believe it's opposition to the actual content... she thinks people are just tired of yet another change. Dr. Anderson thinks there is also concern about student teaching.

4. **REEL: M.Ed. concentration in SPED (Drs. Wood and Wood):** Continue with 4-5 course sequence, without recommendation for licensure. The faculty were given a handout, "M.Ed. in Elementary Education Requirements (11-15 credit hours for a concentration) – REVISED ELECTIVES FOR SPECIAL EDUCATION." The handout lists a couple of different options for the faculty to review.

Dr. Wood (Wendy) gave a little history on the problem was discovered. Dr. Jordan recommended graduate certificate courses for the sequence. Dr. Wood (Charlie) noted that the M.Ed. in Elementary Education requires 11-15 credit hours for a concentration. He said that we can't offer 11 credit hours... but we could offer anywhere from 12-15. Do we want them to do a grad cert sequence? Charlie is in favor of that. Dr. Baxter wondered if they would they still be uploading midpoint edTPA data since they are not getting licensure. Dr. Wood (Wendy) suggested that perhaps 5100 or 5175 would be better (instead of 5270). Dr. Browder thinks they need 5270. Dr. Wood (Charlie) reminded everyone that we are probably talking about only one student a year. He thinks what we would be doing is telling the students what we will allow... for example, we offer up to 15 credit hours. SPED 5100 (option 1) is what the faculty are leaning towards.

We will be offering a five-course sequence as designated in option 1 (**concentration without recommendation for licensure through REEL**):

1. SPED 5100 Introduction to Special Education (3)
2. SPED 5270 Classroom Management (3)
3. Choose one of the following courses:
  - a. SPED 5275 Teaching Reading to Elementary Learners with Special Needs (3)
  - b. SPED 5276 Teaching Reading to Middle and Secondary Learners with Special Needs (3)
4. Choose one of the following courses:
  - a. SPED 5272 Teaching Mathematics to Learners with Special Needs (3)
  - b. SPED 5277 Teaching Written Expression to Learners with Special Needs (3)
5. SPED 5279 Content-Area Instruction for Students with Special Needs (3)

Dr. Wood (Wendy) made a motion to approve; Dr. Anderson seconded the motion. The faculty approved this offering. Dr. Baxter will check on this to see when it will start (fall?).

5. **SPED Program: Discussion regarding possible clinical position to support candidates for edTPA and licensure tests (Dr. Baxter):** Dr. Baxter mentioned the possible two clinical positions that Dr. Sherry had mentioned... she would like to hear the faculty's ideas. She would also like to get more information from Dr. Sherry... he is currently attend the CHFD program meeting, but he should be here soon. Dr. Browder wondered what this person would be doing? She also thinks

that edTPA will put tremendous pressure on the Office of Field Experiences. Dr. Sherry arrived and joined in on this conversation. Dr. Baxter asked him what his thoughts were on this position. Dr. Sherry noted that he has since had a conversation about this with the Dean. This person could go out to the schools to support students who are having difficulty with the edTPA process. The Dean did not seem responsive to an actual line; she suggested that if this came to pass as was suggested, it would be for 20% of the students.... the solution could be course releases. However, this doesn't really solve the problem; it just increases the number of part time folks that we need to hire because of course releases. Dr. Sherry then told the group that Shawnee has stated that she thinks that this is something that she could potentially do. He was very grateful to hear this. There may also be other creative options that the group may be able to recommend. He is still planning to put the request for these positions in his budget. He will also have further discussions with the Dean. Dr. Baxter noted that she is hearing two things:

- our clinical experience now may no longer be needed for edTPA
- the year-long: when the student is actually doing the teaching (7 weeks)

Dr. Anderson wondered what changes would be occurring in OFE. Other questions: what are the issues that we find on our clinicals? If it an OFE issue? Dr. Wakeman suggested that she would be able to be the conduit with OFE... she said that we just need to identify the bugs and then we can correct them. Discussion ensued.

Dr. Baxter said it sounds like we want to support the 20% of the candidates we are predicting are not going to do well. We need support: task instructors... support the program with regard to teaching.... support placement of clinicals.

With edTPA comes the issue of advising... close coordination between whoever this person is and the student's advisor. Dr. Baxter closed by saying that we haven't resolved anything but we have had good discussion.

6. **Other business?** None noted.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:38.

Program meeting dates 2013-2014:  
April 22 – Program SACS/NCATE data review