The University of Louisiana at Monroe Council for Teacher Education Minutes

Meeting Date/Time: Monday, October 16, 2006

Time: 3:30-4:30

Members Present:

Dr. Beverly Flowers-Gibson, Chair

Dr. Donna A. Rhorer, Recording Secretary

Dr. Sharon Cruse

Ms. Beth Smith

Dr. Jean Cottingham

Dr. Jerrilene Washington

Dr. Sean Chenoweth

Dr. Jean Cottingham

Ms. Janean Branch, Student

Absent: Dr. Walter Creekmore, Ms. Maria Hernandez, Dr. George Rice, Dr. Mark Doherty, and Ms. Joni Noble

ITEM 1

Dr. Beverly Flowers-Gibson, Chair, called the meeting to order. She asked members to introduce themselves to new members. Next, the agenda and minutes from the last meeting were distributed. Beth Smith moved to accept the minutes; Dr. Cruse offered a second. The minutes were approved as read. Dr. Flowers-Gibson will post the minutes.

A copy of the exit survey was given to members. Dr. Flowers-Gibson explained that the first part of the survey contained demographics; the second section contained the exit survey questions. She noted that beginning with the Spring of 2004 changes had been made to the survey. Specifically, 12c and 12 k were deleted. A Placement Center was referred to in 12c and the Curriculum Library, in 12k. We no longer have either. Instead, we have a Curriculum Collection located in the main library.

Dr. Flowers-Gibson brought a draft of statistics from the exit surveys (the surveys had been archived and could not easily be retrieved). The draft is still being worked on. Conclusions may change as results from additional surveys are added in, and study of these results may give us valuable information. Prior to our meeting, Dr. Flowers-Gibson looked at the Fall 2000 results and compared them to Spring 2006 and noted improvement.

The Chair reported that she received no suggestions for rewriting the library question on the exit survey from members after the last meeting.

Next, the Chair inquired as to which member at the last meeting has questioned the purpose of looking at the surveys. Dr. Rhorer thought it had been Dr. Creekmore. He suggested that students be told to reflect on their entire college experience when answering questions. Dr. Cruse proposed that we add a statement reflecting Dr. Creekmore's suggestion to directions in the survey.

Student member, Janean Branch, noted that in her college career she had not gone to the library much since teachers provided most of what she needed. Her comment came after a discussion which centered on electronic sources and whether or not students were even thinking of them when they answered the library question, Ms. Branch added that she had not been thinking of the Internet when she made her initial comment. Beth Smith suggested that the insertion of a statement into the library question which reads "when utilizing library I found material adequate to meet my needs." Dr. Rhorer suggested including electronic sources in the question. Dr. Cottingham thought that the words "in the library" should be in the question; and Dr. Chenoweth suggested asking if the resources had been adequate. The group agreed that the following reworking of the library question should be added to the exit survey:

"Educational materials available through the library, including both electronic and print, were adequate to meet my needs."

Dr. Flowers-Gibson asked if there were any other questions that should be considered. Beth Smith suggested that the person working on the spreadsheet should line up columns so that results can be easily read. The Chair noted that she could have the secretary comply with the request.

Members of the committee voted on the change to the library question. Dr. Washington moved that we accept the new wording. Ms. Smith provided a second. The motion was approved without objection.

Item 2

Next, the Chair noted that our next meeting would be in January during University Week, and Academic Affairs would set the date and time of the meeting. She thanked everyone for attending the meeting, and asked for any other business or other concerns we might ask the Council to consider.

Item 3

She mentioned that some Music Education majors are presenting themselves for student teaching when they have never been advised in the College of Education. Specifically, students can major in Music Education Vocal, Music Education Instrumental, or Music Education Vocal and Instrumental. The question was posed as to whether or not this is occurring because there is new faculty in Music.

Dr. Chenowith asked if there was advisor training. Do instructors in Education meet with other departments? Beth Smith also thought the problem might be new faculty.

The suggestion was made that the Chair should send a memo to department heads asking for the appointment of a content area supervisor. She will do this. Ms. Smith suggested we ask for two names from each department in case something does not work out with the first appointee.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Donna A. Rhorer, Secretary