

Child Development Advisory Committee Meeting
Minutes
February 9, 2009

Lee Ann Townsend opened the meeting. Those in attendance were Cecilia Pittman Dawn Ladiski, Mary McCoy, Deidra Carpenter, Luanne Faulkner, Kristie Day, Joetta Gatliff, Petra Hutchison, Ruth Ann Ball, and Linda Whaley

The minutes from July 22, 2008 were looked at and approved. Cecilia Pittman then went over the functions of the advisory committee and explained to the committee that these are set by the college. She stated that we would be talking more about functions four and five later during the meeting.

Members were asked to look at the accreditation summary sheet and Cecilia then gave an up-date on where we are with the accreditation process. She stated that over all, the visiting team was very positive and the main thing that they saw was the camaraderie between the faculty and the students, the faculty and the lab school and between the faculty and the stakeholders. They stated that our students did a good job of articulating the standards and what they have available to them when they leave. Cecilia stated that they will not have the final verdict until May. In the meantime she is collecting data from the students that will be submitted at the end of the semester. At the time of the accreditation visit they only had data for a couple of courses, fieldwork having the most data. She explained that even though they are still collecting data, they were able to articulate to the visiting team what they had planned and how they plan to do it. The data that she is collecting and will send in will show how we met those standards. The team did give suggestions and Cecilia is making changes in one of her classes from those suggestions. She also stated that she feels very good about the visit and she knows what areas need to be refined. (Curriculum, syllabus, and assessments need possible changes.) The review committee also stated that they were impressed that we have so many classes offered on-line. Cecilia added that these are the ones that are first to fill up and the ones that want overrides. Ruth Ann Ball stated that she received word that ACCESS is partnering with ERIC Institute to develop on-line courses, and maybe there is a way we can see what is happening at the National level. She will send Cecilia the information.

Kristie Day asked how we will find out about the accreditation decision. Cecilia stated that she will make sure the adjuncts know so they can tell students and she will send word through email to the stakeholders. Ruth Ann Ball added that we should put something in the Oklahoman newspaper, which in turn would be a good recruitment tool.

Discussions then switched to enrollment. Lee Ann Townsend stated that the college newspaper reported total enrollment for the college is up 7%. Cecilia stated that Child Development currently has 175 students enrolled. This is not counting the child development students that are enrolled in other classes or have not yet declared a major. She added that she is making sure in the new orientation class to tell the students to

declare a major. This will help with funding to show accurate numbers, as it justifies why we need more teachers.

Mary McCoy gave an up-date on the Child Development Center and Lab School's new evening care program. She stated that when the program began last spring there was only one child enrolled, and now it is up to 11. Kristie Day asked the question of what time evening care closes because the sign on May Avenue says 8:00 p.m. and child development classes end at 9:00. Dr. McCoy added that we are working with the students and would stay open as long as they need child care and are in class. Lee Ann Townsend will contact Kathy Nix and ask her to change the sign.

Dr. McCoy then gave a brief up-date on the move of the CDCLS to the Family and Community Education Center (the old John Glenn School). She stated that the budget is coming up and she is putting a contingency for supplies and furniture which will go to the President's cabinet. Facilities management will take care of the renovation, and the target date is Fall 09. She also stated that they haven't started the bidding yet, but once the funding is approved things can go quickly.

The meeting then shifted to brainstorming ideas about promoting the child development program. Deidra Carpenter stated that the Scholars program usually averages 67 to 85 students per semester, and currently there are 71 without counting the second eight week class which will have approximately 15 students. She added that the fact that we offer evening, weekend, and on-line classes are good for recruiting students. She projected that there should be 80 students by the end of the semester. She said that when she has recruiting sessions, she gives out information about the classes that we offer to meet their scheduling needs.

Kadion Lilly stated that she teaches classes at Rainbow fleet and that she could hand out flyers with information about our child development program, times the classes are offered, and our evening care program. She added that we need to communicate more to the public about our program.

Other ideas that were discussed were, taking flyers or perhaps setting up display tables at conferences and workshops that we attend, and checking into getting information to the high schools, because they have many child development students that would be interested in summer classes. Everyone agreed that we should send representatives from OCCC to high schools in Oklahoma City, Moore, and Norman. Cecilia Pittman stated that she would look into contacting high schools. A career day was also mentioned.

We then discussed the need for more special needs education for our students. Everyone agreed that this was a huge need. LuAnn Faulkner and Deidra Carpenter both stated that there are workshops and training available, such as Tic-Toc classes, which deal with special needs. It is a matter of getting that information out there. Joetta Gatliff stated that Special Education classes should be offered to the child development classes as well as the Education classes. Cecilia Pittman expressed a concern that if they added more special education to the child development classes that they would have to take

something away from other classes that are offered. She then shared that she feels there is a huge need for parenting classes as well, and has wanted to start offering them, but again she doesn't want to have to take something away from the other classes. Ruth Ann Ball stated that perhaps we could offer them as 'special topics' classes so it doesn't take away from other classes and open it up to the psychology and sociology classes, or maybe offer parenting classes in the evening when evening care is available. We could even add special needs into parenting classes.

Before we closed the meeting, Kristie Day asked if we had any further information about teacher assistants and paraprofessionals in public schools and the training that is required. Cecilia said that she would contact Sue Tabor and see if she had found out anything. There was also a short discussion about the need for our child development classes to transfer to early childhood education degrees at UCO. Cecilia stated she would get with Sue and check into that too.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m. and the date of Monday, July 20th at 8:30 was set for the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted by: Lee Ann Townsend