

## Child Development Advisory Committee

July 22, 2008

Sue Tabor opened the meeting. Those in attendance were Sue Tabor, Cecilia Pittman, Deidra Carpenter, Lee Ann Townsend, Mary McCoy, Jan Wetsel, Ashley McLean, Denise Buthion, Kim Pearsall, Luanne Faulkner, Pam Hibbs, Kristie Day, and Susan Kimmel.

Sue explained that she is now the Dean of Social Sciences but is in the process of replacing the director of the Child Development program so she will address the committee for today's

Cecilia asked for people to please look at their contact information and make corrections if any are necessary. Sue then asked the committee to look at the minutes from the last meeting for approval and then began the meeting with explaining the functions of the advisory committee and the program review. The doctrine of the functions of the advisory committee is taken from the OCCC website. She then showed the OCCC Child Development Program Map that was created during the accreditation process. She and Cecilia have met with others every two months for the past two years coming up with the map that defines the program.

Dr. McCoy shared news about the Child Development Lab School moving to a new location which is the old John Glenn School building located approximately a mile north of the campus. Tentative date for that is Spring 09. The plans are to have 2 infant/toddler rooms, a Pre-K class, 1 preschool student scheduled room and 2 infant/toddler student scheduled room. The goal is to have around 120 slots for child care. The child development program will offer evening and weekend courses there as well. There will also be a model classroom for students. Eventually other groups and programs will be brought into the facility.

Kim Pearsall shared that OSU-OKC is excited about their new student classrooms that will begin the end of July or the first of August. They will have two classrooms, one pre-school room and one infant/toddler room that will be strictly for students without the children. The rooms are targeted to help with students learning in depth about room arrangement and different types of equipment that are used in classrooms.

Pam Hibbs shared her concerns about the need for a change in graduates who are employed as teacher assistants or paraprofessionals in public schools. CDA people are more trained, but the federal government doesn't see it that way. She posed the question that as a committee what can we do to change that?

Deidra Carpenter briefly explained the Scholars program that is a scholarship program for people that are already in child care that will pay 80% of their tuition and 100% of their books to earn an Associate degree. There are approximately 65-95 students in the program at OCCC.

Dr. McCoy stated that she would like to know what happens to our students after they graduate? Where do they go and how do we get some of the graduates? Jan Wetsel stated that there is lots of scholarship money available right now in early childhood education because there is a state shortage in early childhood educators. Pam Hibbs stated that most public schools have started to have all day kindergarten and pre-kindergarten classes and that 141 new kindergarten teachers have just recently been hired in the public system.

Sue then spoke about the accreditation process and how the students document in their portfolios the standards which are aligned with the NCATE standards for teacher preparation. The new orientation class that will begin this fall will include this information to students. Eventually electronic portfolios will be used which will make it much easier to offer to potential employers. Also there are 5 key assessment standards that are spread out through several courses that students take. Assessment in higher education is a huge topic. How does the information that comes out of our assessments affect the program? How will it improve the program and the learner? There is continual use for self-improvement. Currently Tulsa Community College is the only community college in Oklahoma that has been accredited. On October 20<sup>th</sup> we will have our site visit and Sue would like for some of our stake holders to be available for the site visit. She will e-mail the committee members when she knows for sure the correct schedule.

Sue also discussed the program outputs and program concerns that were submitted from the 2003 report. What are some of our current emergency trends? Denise Buthion stated that Special-needs especially in the spectrum of autism is a need and concern. Jan Wetsel also stated that English language learners are a concern. Another concern mentioned was the communication between faculty and adjunct professors. Jan Wetsel with UCO, stated that they use a notebook that all the adjuncts are given with the standards etc. and have meetings with adjuncts. Scheduling a time that fits everyone's schedule is sometimes an issue. Kim Pearsall with OSU-OKC, said that they are trying to add a link to their student orientation website for the adjuncts to click on and gain pertinent information. Lee Ann Townsend asked if graduate students who are about to graduate in Early Childhood Education could be allowed to adjunct. Sue stated that it is a college policy to have completed a Master's degree.

Sue closed the meeting by asking how our committee can help our program and how can we help our stake-holders? Mary McCoy mentioned that she will be offering Tier II training in the fall and spring on mentoring and effective portfolio building. Susan Kimmel stated that we as a committee need to come together and advocate about Certificate of Mastery being worthy of Pre-K teacher assistants. Pam Hibbs stated that she is not sure if we need to do it through the state or federal guidelines but there is definitely a need for it. Pam also asked when we receive the site visit for accreditation what do we need to know to be effective to someone coming in to evaluate us? Mary McCoy who has been on peer reviews stated that this group needs to be knowledgeable about what the college has done in regards to proving that we have met the standards. She shared that the peer reviewer will ask what we know about the self-assessment. Sue offered to email the self assessment to us if we wish.

Finally, in closing Sue stated that the committee is suppose to have a chair that is not a faculty member. The committee is to meet twice a year (which is a college recommendation). Cecilia Pittman nominated Lee Ann Townsend and it was seconded and approved for her to be the new chair of the Advisory Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m. and the date of Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 was set for the next meeting.