

**SCHOOL OF EDUCATION  
DEPARTMENT CHAIRS COUNCIL  
March 20, 2003**

**Present:** Peter Barile, Nancy Bihlmeyer, Pam Brucker, Jim Granfield, Norris Haynes, Kathy Mauro, Sharon Misasi, and Brian Perkins.

**Minutes** of February 20, 2003, were reviewed and revised.

Jim Granfield handed out an email letter dated March 14, 2003, concerning "*congressional frustration with teaching colleges*." He also handed out was an NCATE news article about "*testing does not equal teaching*." A new organization, the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence (ABCTE), announced its plans to develop a national teacher test. Overall, Connecticut teachers are doing well and Jim Granfield asked how could we utilize our legislature in Washington, DC. It was suggested that Patrick Dilger in SCSU Public Affairs be contacted and get teacher preparation information to him for publicity. Students do very well on Praxis testing both at undergraduate and graduate levels, and our students are doing a good job in urban areas.

**Exercise Science.** Sharon Misasi reported that School Health got an extension to June 2 for their NCATE report. They are working on adding a statistics class to the program. Teacher preparation has student portfolio's, gates 1 and 2 completed. She is working on fall schedules, and the early retirement of three professors will affect course assignments.

**Special Education/Reading.** Pam Brucker reported that Special Education is becoming more visible. Louise Swerling is on a committee for ARC (alternate route to certification) at the state level. Members of the department are involved with the new Praxis testing and setting limits. Professor Kennedy of Communication Disorders collaborates with special education working with profound handicap issues and autistic spectrum disorders. Courses will run this summer. A un-retirement dinner will be held May 13 at 500 Blake Street, New Haven, invited by Beverly Gerber, Stu Gerber, Betty Johnston and Bob Piazza who are retiring.

**Counseling and School Psychology.** Norris Haynes reported that department student applications are up and most are very good candidates from all over the country. There are 25 students accepted in each of the three programs each year. The department is working on course sequencing and keeping track of student progress. The gates are helpful in tracking. The database, using Access, is ready for data entry and procedures are being set up for grievances by students. The syllabi format is on file. The department hopes to fill the faculty vacancy of Teri Olisky. Two faculty development activities are scheduled: 1) March 31, Dr. Sara Sparrow on assessment and intervention in autistic spectrum disorders; 2) April 8, Dr. Timothy Shriver on social and emotional learning and development issues among the mentally challenged.

**Education.** Peter Barile said that he is looking for 2003/04 budget information to be distributed. For staff changes, Dr. Christine Villani will be moving from Educational Leadership to the Education Department for AY 2003/04. He thanks Dean Lane for assistance and Brian Perkins for his cooperation. Dr. Jacque Ensign will be returning from a 2-year absence. Dr. Ben Hayford will be returning for the fall as he was renewed. The web site work is beginning and someone will be working with Bob Piazza and Steve Greengross for NCATE preparation. Judy Buzzell, Cheryl Dickinson, and Peter Barile are involved with the early childhood reading course as a state blue print for reading.

**Student Teaching.** Kathy Mauro reported she is busy making student teaching placements. She announced that honors convocation is May 5 at 1:00 p.m. Department chairs should strongly recommend that faculty attend.

**Professional Development Schools.** At this time, there are four PDS schools: 1) Conte West Hill Magnet; 2) Jepson Ungraded Magnet; 3) Edgewood Magnet; and 4) Jerome Harrison. There is a partnership with Wintergreen.

**NCATE.** The NCATE campus site visit is set for October 25-29, 2003. Jim Granfield discussed having a poster session instead of a welcome dinner. Quality Council will look at materials in the Davis 112 exhibit room, including student portfolio samples, before the semester ends. He gave an overview of an NCATE site visit at CCSU. Southern students need to show how technology is brought to the classroom.

**New Business.** He handed out an article, Principles for Reauthorizing IDEA. The U.S. Secretary of Education unveiled a set of principles to guide the Education Department in its work toward seeking reauthorization of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act. The School of Education full-time faculty survey in preparation for NCATE review needs to be filled out. A copy was handed out.

The next meeting will be April 17, 2003.

Nancy Bihlmeyer, Recorder