Indiana University School of Education

EDUCATION COUNCIL

Minutes

December 4, 2009

Members Present: Joyce Alexander, Barbara Thompson-Book, Dan Doerger, Linda Houser, Deborah Keller, Diana Lambdin, Joy Seybold, Jill Shedd, Terri Swim, Bruce Switzer, Sheila Marie Trzcinka

Jill Shedd called the meeting to order. She shared that she would facilitate the Council meeting, given that Dean Gonzalez was meeting with the Board of Trustees.

Approval of the April 24, 2009 Minutes
The Council approved the minutes of the April 24, 2009 meeting on the South Bend campus as presented.

Selection of a Chair to the Agenda Committee
Jill explained that the Council’s constitution states that there is to be an Agenda Committee of the Council. With the retirement of Guy Wall, there is a vacancy on the Committee, which needs to be filled by a Council member representing one of the regional campuses. Both Bruce and Sheila Marie volunteered to serve, and by consensus the Council agreed that they would be co-chairs of the Agenda Committee serving along with Jill Shedd and Linda Houser.

Discussion re: Math/Education Issues
Jill provided a brief history of recent course remonstrance at Bloomington, IUPUI and East with respect to proposed N-courses in mathematics in the elementary programs. Diana added that there is a current remonstrance being discussed between the School of Education and the College of Arts and Sciences. Sheila noted that on the IUN campus a mathematics course was negotiated between the two units. At IUSB, Bruce noted that the T-courses are in the Mathematics Department, and there have been no particular issues over the courses. There are at times issues related to the availability of required mathematics courses for secondary education students.

Barbara shared that at IUS the T-courses are taught by lectures who have been teachers. At IUSB and IPFW the T-courses are being taught by math educators.

Diana reported that Bloomington is negotiating with the Mathematics Department to offer summer math courses for teachers’ professional development.

Implications of REPA
Jill shared a summary of the positive changes to the REPA draft to date. The status of Praxis I remains an unresolved issue, and remaining issues are related to dual-license programs and license additions.

South Bend Program Proposals
[Karen Clark and Terry Shepard joined the meeting by conference call to discuss the three proposals.]
Bachelor of Science – Elementary and Special Education. Karen explained that currently at IUSB there is a dual license program in these areas, but the proposal is to move to a double-major program. The proposed program still would honor the Common Lower Division Coursework Agreement. In response to individual questions about the proposed curriculum, the following information was provided.

- Learning Disabilities methods will be addressed in K305 and K370.
- The three student teaching placements will be made in one semester with the intent of one of the grade level placements being in an inclusive classroom. A suggestion was made to use M424 for the Early Childhood Student Teaching Placement.
- The degree requires 139 credit hours, and is shorter than current dual-license program in which students complete the elementary program requirements, take a 12 cr semester of special education and then student teaching for a total of 145 credit hours. Within the proposed program, the special education coursework would be integrated throughout the program.
- Clarification that the program will prepare students for licensure in elementary and mild interventions.

A question was raised whether the proposed double major constitutes a new degree versus a bachelor of science in special education or elementary. The IUSB representatives agreed to research the issue of maximum hours for a degree (Is 139 too many?). Assuming the number of credit hours will not be an issue, Bruce motioned for approval of the double-major program. Sheila Marie seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Masters of Arts in Teaching – Special Education. Karen reported that this is a new degree at IUSB, and the program has been approved by the Department of Education. The program will lead to a license in mild interventions, K-12. The potential student pool is current teachers in the area on emergency permits, and the program was designed with their needs in mind. Thus, the students meet the licensure requirements upon completion of the first 24 credit hours in the program. Graduates of the program would be qualified for co-teaching and/or supplemental instruction positions. The program has not been designed to qualify candidates for licensure in a content area. Bruce motioned to approve the program as presented. Terri seconded, and the program was approved unanimously.

Masters of Science in Educational Leadership. Currently, IUSB has master’s degrees in elementary and secondary education in which candidates may include educational leadership coursework. This proposal is a new 36 credit hour master’s degree in Educational Leadership. It represents a realignment of existing courses into a master’s degree program. Bruce added that it is designed as a field-based program in which candidates must be recommended by a building principal or superintendent for admission and thus allow all parties to work collaboratively to design individual candidate’s field work. The program is a very collaborative initiative between IUSB and the local school corporations.

Given that this is a new degree, it was noted that the Education Council needed to review the full complement of paperwork re: the degree proposal. Barbara seconded the motion. Questions to be addressed in the review include field-based components of the program, including whether they cover K-12, and the program internship. The motion passed unanimously.
Remonstrance Process
Jill shared with the members that the University is developing a new on-line remonstrance process. It is not implemented fully, but is coming; she simply wanted to alert the members of the coming change.

The meeting adjourned at noon.

Submitted by

Jill D. Shedd
Executive Secretary