

Arkansas State University
COPE Minutes
September 30, 2008
3:30 pm, Graduate School Conference Room

Present: Julie Grady, Julie Lamb-Milligan, Joanna Grymes, Dixie Keyes, Patty Murphy, Tonja Fillipino (conference call), Tillman Kennon, Natalie Johnson-Leslie, Gina Hogue, Gwendolyn Neal, John Beineke, Don Maness, Mary Jane Bradley

Absent with proxy: Tom Fiala (proxy – Joanna Grymes), Gayle Pendergrass (proxy – Dale Miller)

Absent without proxy: Dianne Lawler-Prince, Mitch Mathis, Ron Towery, Kevin Humphrey, Ralph Ruby, and Brenda Randle

Guest: Dr. Mitch Holifield

WELCOME

Dr. Maness called the meeting to order at 3:30pm. In lieu of an elected chair, Dr. Maness chaired this section of the meeting.

Meeting materials were distributed, including the agenda and the COPE Governance Handbook. Dr. Maness highlighted several sections of the COPE Governance Handbook, including COPE's role and scope, meeting responsibilities, and the roles and responsibilities of the Forum chairs.

NEW BUSINESS: COPE leadership

Dr Maness opened the floor for nominations for chair of COPE.

Tillman Kennon nominated Natalie Johnson-Leslie as chair; Patty Murphy seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Julie Lamb-Milligan nominated Julie Grade for COPE Vice-Chair; the motion was seconded and approved with no opposition.

Natalie Johnson-Leslie nominated Joanna Grymes as Recorder; the motion was seconded by Dale Miller. The motion carried with no opposition. At that time Natalie Johnson-Leslie began to chair the meeting and Joanna Grymes began taking minutes.

NEW BUSINESS: Course proposals

Dale Miller moved to accept the course proposal for ELSE 5073, The Gifted, Talented and Creative; Julie Lamb-Milligan seconded.

Discussion of the motion ensued. Concerns were stated regarding the dissenting opinion forwarded by the members of the College of Education Curriculum Committee. A consistent stated concern was that as presented, the course proposal did not provide a sufficient level of detail to address the depth and breadth of course content. Julie Lamb Milligan, as lead instructor for the course, addressed the content issue of teaching in five weeks. The integrity of the course is not compromised by the shortened time line or brief course outline.

One recommendation was for the department to submit a copy of the syllabus to provide further information on the content of the course.

Concerns were stated that a copy of the syllabus would not address all the concerns forwarded by the dissenting members of the College of Education Curriculum Committee. These concerns related to the completeness of information provided by the course proposal.

An amendment was offered by Dixie Keyes (moved) and Patty Murphy (seconded). The ELCSE Department will make the appropriate corrections to the course proposal form (expand the content in the outline, provide complete information on the text; clarify the course description) with those corrections/changes verified by the chair of COPE before it is moved forward to the Head of the Unit. The amendment passed unanimously.

The amended motion was taken to a vote; it passed unanimously.

The motion was made (Joanna Grymes) and seconded (Dale Miller) to accept the course proposal for ELSE 6183, Inclusion of Individuals with Mild Disabilities in the Regular Classroom, as written.

Discussion pursuant to this proposal also addressed aspects of the memo from the dissenting members of the College of Education Curriculum Committee. Dean Beineke stated that his understanding from Dr. Holifield was the course currently being offered was in the Bulletin and was not one of the courses currently under review. Dean Beineke did wish to consult with Dr. Holifield to see that this response was accurate. Dean Beineke addressed another concern of some members of the College of Education Curriculum Committee related to measuring of clock hours of participation in online courses. He raised the question of how clock hours for an asynchronous online course can be measured. New forms of instruction may not fit well into our existing framework.

The motion to approve as presented was vote upon; all were in favor but one. Motion carried.

The consensus of the committee was that the dissenting comments from members of the College of Education Curriculum Committee could be removed because they had been addressed in the case of the first proposal and not considered a concern for the second proposal.

NEW BUSINESS: Committee Charges

Committee chairs will receive an email from Dr. Maness concerning charges and the timeline for those charges. Forums will not have specific charges from COPE.

NEW BUSEINSS: Teacher Education Conceptual Framework

Dr. Lawler Prince, Chair of the Advanced Curriculum Committee, forwarded the draft of the Teacher Education conceptual framework for graduate programs. Joanna Grymes moved to accept the Conceptual Framework; Patty Murphy seconded. The motion carried with no discussion and no opposition.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Next scheduled meetings: 3:30 pm, October 22, 2008 in the Graduate School Conference Room and November 19, 2008 in the College of Education, Dean's Conference Room. Other meetings will be called at the Chair's discretion.

COPE may wish to make a change to the existing governance document to change the number of required meetings per semester. A less structured policy may be beneficial.

Chair Johnson-Leslie called for any other issues. None were presented.

The Dean thanked the COPE members for their services.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:35

Respectfully submitted, Joanna Grymes, COPE Recorder