

## MINUTES

### EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

APRIL 21, 2006

Participants arrived and lunch was served at 12:00.

Nancy called the meeting to order at 12:15 and each participant introduced his or herself. Those in attendance were:

Nancy Ledbetter  
Peggy Sharpe  
Dr. John Nandzo  
Christina Dismore  
Melody Shults  
Janet Seay  
Cindy Ligon  
Linda Sitton

Nelda Fulghum  
Evelyn Hale  
Connie Casha  
Tara Hurdle  
Tracy Harper  
Angelia K. Thomas  
Dr. Pam Munz

Nancy began the meeting by discussing enrollment, referring everyone to the Early Childhood Education Program Updates handout. The online enrollment for last fall 2005 was 51 and this spring 2006 it increased to 91. When looking at the students majoring in ECED, there are 80 students majoring in the A.A.S. Degree, 93 in the A.A./A.S. Degree, and 64 in the Technical Certificate. There are some concerns with students registering for online courses needing extra support to proceed successfully in a fully online format. Graduate numbers were almost identical to spring of 2005. Nancy reported faculty commitment to continue work on building up the enrollment and increasing graduation rates in the A.A.S. program.

Nancy referred to a list of ECED courses that will be on-line for delivery by the summer of 2006 on the Program Updates handout. Nancy told the group that plans are to offer Clinical I online next year and to have the entire Technical Certificate offered online by fall 2007. All of the ECED advising handouts have been updated and were given to committee members with their information packets. Nancy told the group that she has been doing a lot of advising by email.

Nancy told the group we still have one (1) articulation agreement with Tennessee State University. There are discussions at TBR about a possible Associate of Science in Teaching Degree for Early Childhood. (There is a new AST for Elementary Education beginning Fall 06.)

Dr. John Nandzo introduced himself and told the group that he is teaching the Elementary Education classes and some Early Childhood Education classes.

Nancy told the group that we are Recruiting for Faculty for on campus and off campus. She told the group that NSCC serves 7 counties: Stuart, Houston, Humphreys, Montgomery, Davidson, Cheatham, and Dickson. She asked the group to think about new ways that we could serve the off campus students better.

Kathy Emery informed the group that this Summer they will be offering an on-campus orientation for web students. The orientation for Summer of 2006 is June 1, 2006. There will be two orientations in August. Kathy and the group discussed the need for more off campus sites.

Linda Sitton said we need to look at getting a center in Clarksville and urged NSCC to hire on-site faculty in Montgomery County.

Nancy announced that NSCC has sent in their formal application for NAEYC Associate Degree Accreditation! Nancy informed the group that we will need to put together a Leadership team for the accreditation and asked if anyone is interested to please contact her. Plans are to begin the self-study this summer, submit self-study to NAEYC in spring 2007, and host a peer review site visit in fall 2007.

Nancy told the group that NSCC is working on preparing for SACS Accreditation college-wide. There are going to be a lot of changes with the syllabi; some of the changes are outcomes, critical thinking, assessments, etc. She told the group there will be new student evaluations this Fall.

Connie Casha informed the group that ECED 2080 Language and Literacy in Early Childhood is approved only for License Renewal of Pre-K or Elementary Endorsement. Nancy asked Connie to check and see if ECED 2085 Math and Science in Early Childhood could be added.

Linda Sitton discussed the Military and NAEYC. The military at Fort Campbell are involved in professional development for staff. Discussion ensued about how NSCC might support this effort in Montgomery County.

Nancy referred everyone in the group to a draft handout, What Nashville State Community College Can Offer You, and asked for suggestions on content and on how to create this document so that it would easily communicate the options NSCC can offer the early childhood community.

Nancy led a discussion about two questions below:

Who are we now?

What do we want to become?

Some of the responses for what we want to become included:

- Service all 7 counties.
- Model collaboration in Clarksville-Military / TECTA NSCC Accreditation Program.
- Varied delivery methods of courses
- Offer Accelerated classes

Nancy thanked everyone for attending. The meeting adjourned at 2:00.  
The next meeting will be Fall 2006.

Submitted by:

Christina Dismore, Secretary Early Childhood Education