

NOTE: THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY THE FULL COUNCIL AT ITS NEXT MEETING. SHOULD REVISIONS BE MADE, THEY WILL BE INCLUDED AS AN ITEM IN THE MINUTES OF THAT MEETING.

Minutes of the Meeting of the
COUNCIL FOR EDUCATION POLICY, RESEARCH AND IMPROVEMENT
December 8-9, 2004
St. Petersburg College, Seminole, Florida

Members Present: Akshay Desai Elaine Vasquez (via phone)
Bob McIntyre Harold Wishna
Bob Taylor

Members Absent: W. C. Gentry, Rajendra Gupta, Pat Telson

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the November 9 & 10, 2004, meeting were approved as circulated.

Chairman's Report

Chairman Desai convened the meeting at 8:35 a.m. He thanked St. Petersburg College president Carl Kuttler and Seminole campus provost James Olliver for their hospitality and assistance in hosting the meeting. Provost Olliver welcomed the Council, thanked the members for their important work, and noted that he is using a CEPRI report on educational technology in a class he is teaching.

Chairman Desai reported that he, Dr. Proctor, and Mr. Copa presented the medical education report to the Board of Governors in November and that it was well received and should be useful as the BOG proceeds to address the need for physicians in Florida.

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Proctor said the Legislature will hold its special session beginning December 13 and appears ready to accept legislation related to universal pre-K that will not address the number of contact hours and level of per student funding recommended by the Council and others. He also reported on a meeting he had with Chancellors Austin and Armstrong and Commissioner Winn on the issue of community college baccalaureates. He said State Board of Education chair Phil Handy has indicated his board will not revisit proposals for such programs prior to review by CEPRI. He noted that all at the meeting recognized the need for a statewide strategy in addressing these baccalaureate degrees. He noted that Daytona Beach Community College had identified a need for a management degree that probably exists statewide. One possible approach would be to identify a university or college that could work to address this need in cooperation with other institutions, rather than submitting numerous individual programs for consideration.

Dr. Proctor said he and Dr. Jon Rogers had spent Monday and Tuesday in Ft. Myers discussing the Public Safety Management degree and have requested additional information on how funds initially

budgeted for the program have been used. Mr. Taylor asked if the legislation authorizing the process for establishing community college baccalaureates should be revisited and revised. Dr. Proctor said there was a move last year to revise the legislation and remove CEPRI from the process. He said he would discuss the need for changes to the statute when he meets again with the commissioner and chancellors.

Workforce Needs Analysis –Ms. Tara Goodman presented the results of a joint project with the Agency for Workforce Innovation on the need for new or expanded apprenticeship and other training programs. The report summarizes the supply and demand data for each of the state’s 24 workforce regions and evaluates the long-term employment and earnings outcomes of apprenticeship and other community college or district program completers. A conference call was scheduled for December 17 at 8:30 a.m. for final adoption of the report. Ms. Susan Lehr, Florida Community College at Jacksonville, provided public comment on the report.

Public Broadcasting – Dr. Mark Peach presented an overview of the public broadcasting draft. His remarks included a description of educational programming on PBS, the demographics of NPR and PBS in Florida, a discussion of whether or not PBS and NPR programming is biased, and a description of the on-air and off-air educational programming and activities of Florida public broadcasting. Dr. Peach concluded that the study found no evidence of bias in public broadcasting programming and that the audience was broadly diverse and representative of Florida’s population. The study recommends that it is entirely appropriate that Florida Public Broadcasting continue to receive appropriations through the educational budget.

The Council members suggested that 1) more studies on PBS objectivity be included in the report, 2) that some connection between public broadcasting’s educational programming and outreach and Florida’s new Universal PreK legislation be established, and 3) that the recommendation to continue funding appropriations through the education budget be worded more strongly.

Leadership- Mr. Lynn Wade, Supervisor of Management Training for the Hillsborough County School District, discussed the leadership workforce in Hillsborough County schools and innovative training programs designed to prepare new principals. He said the district has seen nearly 50 percent turnover in principals since 2002. In a new direction for principal training, four training strands of essential skills are required for completion, including human resources, curriculum and instruction, management/administrative training and leadership roles. Mr. Wade introduced the district’s affiliation with the Eckerd College Leadership Development Institute, which is partially funded by the Tampa Community Foundation.

Mr. Tim Flanagan, Director of Custom Programs for the Eckerd College Leadership Development Institute, explained the Institute’s training programs for principals. The Institute is affiliated with the national Center for Creative Leadership. In a one-week program, principals receive a thorough appraisal of their leadership styles and behaviors, gain an honest appraisal of personal strengths and developmental needs and learn how to lead through change. Mr. Taylor asked how the institute and the district addresses the reality of having a newly strengthened principal return to a weak environment at the school site. Mr. Flanagan and Council members discussed the challenges of creating a learning climate in a school and the role of the principal as instructional leader and change agent.

St. Petersburg Baccalaureate Degrees - Dr. Tom Furlong, senior vice president of the college, said the 2001 legislature authorized St. Petersburg College to offer select four-year degrees as an experimental model. He said the college is working with fourteen public and independent institutional partners to offer forty bachelors and twenty-four masters and doctoral degrees on its campuses. He noted that the college is also nationally recognized for its on-line courses and degrees. He reviewed the process through which the college has become fully accredited to offer four-year degrees in technology management, nursing, dental hygiene, and education in the past three years and provided data on enrollments and anticipated graduates in each program. He discussed plans for degrees in orthotics/prosthetics, international business, public safety management, veterinary technology, and legal studies, as well as articulation agreements with a number of other community colleges who participate in the current four-year degrees the college offers. With regard to finance, students pay an amount in between community college and state university tuition and the college expects to earn state funds equal to 85 percent of the support for upper-division university instruction. He said funding for the colleges with four-year degrees was categorical this past year and this was preferable to folding the dollars into the community college program fund.

Mr. Taylor asked about advantages and disadvantages of the community colleges offering these degrees. Dr. Furlong said that while the dental hygiene degree was needed and a priority at the college, it probably would not be a priority at a state university. He said that while ICUF institutions have a role to play in addressing identified needs for baccalaureates this is not always the most feasible approach. He noted that Flagler College was invited to assist in delivering a deaf education program in the Pinellas area but chose not to do so because of distance and other considerations. Mr. Taylor asked that CEPRI look at the effectiveness of the St. Petersburg College of Education from the standpoint of the students and superintendents and other users.

Other Items of Interest

The January meeting will be in Tallahassee.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 9, 2004.



William B. Proctor
Executive Director