

## **CHILD DEVELOPMENT/EARLY CHILDHOOD ADVISORY BOARD MEETING**

**June 09, 2006**

### **SUMMARY NOTES**

PRESENT: Beverly Harrison, Diane Hill, Tina Maloney, Jerry Moller, Mary Clare Munger, Jamie Perez, Jana Rice, Cheri Sherley, and Jeanette Waters,

#### **INTRODUCTIONS**

Mary Clare had all present introduce themselves and describe their jobs.

#### **ACCOMPLISHMENTS 2005-2006**

This spring, Melonye Curtis is was chosen as Amarillo College Professor Emeritus 2006.

We are in the process of updating our Child Development/Early Childhood Education website on the AC homepage.

We have four students awarded the *Melonye Curtis Scholarship* this year:

Carolyn Lewis  
Crystal Parker

We also have two new students coming out of high school that will receive this award. The students will receive \$500.00 each. This scholarship is funded mostly by Lou Gerady Street and her husband.

Hereford campus classes opened this year. The ITV classes are running twice weekly during the day and evening classes are nightly Monday through Thursday.

We have increased online options this year. TECA 1318 is now online and CDEC 1321, CDEC 1356 and CDEC 2307 are offered as hybrid classes. Hybrid classes have part on campus and part online meetings and the department has received great feedback on these. We will be continuing this initiative in the fall.

Jerry Moller, Division Chair for Behavioral Studies, commended Mary Clare and her department on their efforts with the ITV classes. There have been technical problems and all the extras that go with that to overcome. The Child Development /Early Childhood Education department is probably one of the few programs to still offer ITV classes, but there is still a need for it in this department.

We have a new Provider's Certificate. The old certificate needed 36 credits for completion, but the new only needs 16. If students take two classes in the fall and spring and one in the summer, they can have their certificate in one year. The department is trying to offer the classes needed more than one time a year. The *Child Growth and Development* class is offered three different times, on campus and online. The *Advanced Topics, Creative Arts* and *Child Guidance* are offered once a year, but hopefully we will be able to offer it more in the future. The *Creative Arts* is offered both all and spring. Students who take these classes meet the minimum standard requirements. Advertisement for the new CDA Certificate is needed.

A question was raised about Financial Aid and how some students are sometimes confused about the process: Is there any way to have handouts on the Pell Grants process? Mary Clare said she could plan meetings with a Financial Aid member present to answer questions.

We had our Program Review and did very well. The college will be moving to a outcomes based assessment and Mary Clare will be happy to share any information on this subject since she was able to attend a conference concerning the new assessment techniques.

The Training Coalition is doing a wonderful job. They are able to still do three trainings a year, in spite of financial funding being eliminated. The training dates this year are: October 21, 2006, January 20, 2007, and April 21, 2007. More training opportunities are needed for the providers. Mary Clare will look into online training options, but it might not be affordable.

The Child Development/Early Childhood Education department had 49 graduates this year. Most were paraprofessional students finishing certificates or degrees, plus some students who have been taking classes as they could and were able to finish.

Jana Rice was able to attend a conference in San Antonio. She was able to network and connect with other schools about curriculum and textbooks, etc.

### LAB SCHOOL

Tina Maloney gave a short report on the Lab School.

At the end of the spring semester, Tina and Pam were able to attend a *Parents as Teachers* conference on Birth to the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> year. The curriculum was very well received and they hope to be able to do a preschool piece soon.

The School has been doing many tours this year mainly due to the TECA courses, but they also have Texas Tech Therapy, Occupational Therapy and Dental Hygiene students. Also, Dr. Deanne Merchant's *Lifespan* Psychology class will tour soon, as well as Glendie Farrar's Campfire group and some West Texas students also.

The School is in the process of looking into self study materials. October is when the self study will begin, with the visit in March or July.

Issues with the building drainage are in the process of being looked at and hopefully will be started and completed in a timely manner.

The three year old class (Coy Graves is the teacher) has been added to the Circle curriculum.

### PLANS FOR 2006-2007

AMERICA'S PROMISE—Mary Clare's term for convener of America's Promise will end this summer. Once again, America's Promise will host a KIDSFEST at Thompson Park on August 12<sup>th</sup>. There will be booths, food, etc all benefiting the children. There will be free school supplies and immunizations for all children. PAEYC will have some ZOOBILEE activities and also a booth.

There will be two new Distance Education classes this fall. Jana Rice will teach TECA 1303 online and there will also be a Hybrid class for the CDEC 1359.

Self study will be more outcomes based. This should be a more exact way to gage expectations and will need to begin to evolve towards portfolios.

There was a motion by Cheri Sherley to have the department pursue the self study to have the Associate Degree program accredited with NAEYC. It was seconded by Jeanette Waters and voted and approved.

A Community Parenting Center would be beneficial to all, not just the stay at home parents, but for any parent, grandparent, guardian, etc., who would like to learn. Materials for this center have been gathered, but there is no building in which to house the center. A motion to work towards having a community wide Parent Center Committee was made, seconded, voted on and approved. Mary Clare, Jeanette and Diane will help with this.

Mary Clare wrote an article for the Amarillo Globe News. It was well received and we need to keep this a hot topic in our community. Any follow up letters to the editor would be appreciated.

Mary Clare had the new study from the A&M Bush School of Government & Service concerning high quality universal preschool programs in Texas. The most conservative census indicates the cost to get high quality programs outweighs not doing anything at all.

### COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS

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**Minutes taken and transcribed by Cheryl Oldham**