MINUTES OF MEETING OF THE COE ACCREDITATION COMMITTTEE
December 1, 2006
Present: Hickenbotham, Hall, Carriveau, Alsup, Downing, Hovland, Wolff, Simpson

Minutes of the last meeting were approved, with Hall making the motion and Carriveau seconding. Hall reported areas of need from the last NCATE visit. She did not report on the 178 standards we met or on the 15 standards we met with strength at the time of that visit. She noted that BHSU wrote a rejoinder to address areas of need and that NCATE did not change the original report after receiving the rejoinder. The report will be discussed with the entire unit, including COE faculty and program coordinators in the other colleges, perhaps at a February retreat.

The group discussed the issue of upper level credit in science teaching plans and whether or not BHSU will continue to have a teacher preparation program in physical science. That decision may or may not be final at this time. Hall reported that there are two steps required if and when a decision is made to drop a certification program. We (1) stop advertising the program in the catalog, etc., and (2) complete the paperwork to drop the program as soon as current students have graduated. Hall reported (as an example of this process) that BHSU has stopped advertising the middle level education program, but we have students currently completing it.

Hall reported that the Technology Education teacher preparation program will begin using the facilities at Western Dakota Tech, while the degree will remain a BHSU degree.

Hovland reported that the BHSU Teacher Learning Center (West Elementary) may become the site of a pilot program delivering SPED services via a 3-tier, functional model rather than the discrepancy model commonly used.

Hall reported that work is progressing on graduate preparation program assessment plans.

Hickenbotham reported changes designed to strengthen the BHSU response to diversity issues, including the design of a new field experience.

The group discussed the improved collaboration among faculty in the COE and faculty in the other BHSU colleges, noting that students now have joint advisors.

Hall reported that each faculty member's Appendix F will be sent electronically to the chair and then to the dean, rather than being submitted only in hard copy. These documents can be kept in a protective file and made accessible to the NCATE team.

Minutes of meetings of the COE Accreditation Committee and of subcommittees will be posted on the web site. Hickenbotham will work with Laura Turner to facilitate this.

Spring meeting dates are January 26, March 19, and May 14, with meetings at 1:00 p.m.

Submitted by Pat Simpson, December 9, 2006