## College of Education News February 2010

The next College Faculty Meeting will be Wednesday March 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 a.m. in the Young Center. Please mark your calendars.

## Announcements:

Thank you to all faculty for getting the Professional Staff Evaluation material submitted to your unit chairs. I am looking forward to reading about all of your accomplishments over this past year.

## State Education Discipline Council News:

The discipline council news is taken from the minutes of the November meeting. Another meeting is scheduled for February 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Technology Endorsements:** Melody Schopp gave an update on the six technology endorsements being discussed including K-12 Technology Teacher, K-12 Educational Technology, K-12 Distance Educator, Technology Integrationist, Technology Coordinator, and Technology Director. Melody reported questions from K-12 administrators wondering if this will result in increased requirements for those teaching/working with technology.

**Elementary Education Alternative Certification:** discussion held on the proposed elementary education alternative certification program. Interest was expressed that the campuses work on a collaborative effort similar to the recent secondary certification effort. Everyone should check to see what interest their campus has and this issue will be an agenda item for next time.

**ETS:** Melody will talk to them about the possibility of using the other elementary education content exam; she will find out what is needed to start conversations to make this happen. The other elementary content exam may fit our needs better because it includes questions for ACEI standards 2.5 - 2.8.

AAC Request to Review Common Courses: Sam Gingerich reported that EDC should review the common courses in education to see how similar/different from previous review. Sam also encouraged us to look at graduate courses in addition to the undergraduate courses. Last time, EDC got together with course catalogs to work on the project, some sub-groups got together, and everyone looked at course descriptions. Sam will send us a matrix of all undergraduate education courses as well as graduate courses to assist us in our review. The group will start working on this project at the next EDC meeting. For graduate programs, a representative from each group would complete this process.

## Dean's Council News

The deans have been working with Dr. Myers to complete the Board of Regents review of low-enrolled programs. The excerpt below is the summary that was submitted for our College. If the plan is approved by the BOR, the students in the paraprofessional degree would be allowed to finish their program and we would not recruit new students.

Black Hills State University College of Education Report to the SD Board of Regents Regarding Low-enrolled Programs

Although Black Hills State University has the third largest student enrollment in the state, four of the degree programs in the College of Education are the largest producing in the state with the M.S. degree in Curriculum and Instruction producing 154 graduates in four years; the B.S. Ed in Elementary Education program producing 255 students in four years; the B.S. in Wellness/Exercise Science producing 92 graduates in four years; and the B.S.Ed. in Special Education producing 73 graduates in four years. In short, we have niche programs which are highly productive.

Of the 10 degree programs in the College of Education, 8 (80%) are productive programs as defined by the measure of graduating 20 students for undergraduate programs and 12 students for graduate programs. One degree program was incorrectly highlighted as a non-productive program.

• The Early Childhood/Special Education program graduated 22 students in four years, not 12 as the low-enrolled report indicates. The low-enrolled report lists 0 students as 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> majors and that is where the error occurred. This is a popular second major combined with Elementary Education with 70 students currently enrolled.

We are proposing to eliminate 1 degree program, anticipating declining demand as grant funding is eliminated. This would be a 10% reduction in degree programs for the College of Education.

 The A.S. in Paraprofessional graduated 20 students in four years with tuition support through the Tri-State Rural Paraeducator Grant Project. The Federal rules for highly qualified paraprofessionals do not require a paraprofessional degree, as one anticipated. Practitioners can take an exam in lieu of coursework and there is no longer a viable demand for this program.

There are 2 degree programs (20%) we wish to justify as low-enrolled on the basis of critical need, also taking into account that they are new degree programs only approved in 2005. These are:

B.S. Ed in Composite Math and Science Teaching

B.S. Ed in Composite Science Teaching