

CHILDCARE/TEACHER EDUCATION

CLUSTER MINUTES

Wednesday, October 27, 2010

1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Lake Worth Campus-SS214

ITEM 1. What specific measures has your faculty instituted to reduce the incidence of plagiarism? Has the faculty noticed that plagiarism is increasing among students?

Discussion: All of the cluster members confirmed that there are statements in their syllabi regarding a policy on plagiarism; Early Childhood has consequences clearly stated. ECE faculty is grading assignments with “zero” where plagiarism is identified. The feeling was that there is an increase due to the widespread use of the internet. Dr. Coleman-Ferrell would like to see the difference across disciplines related to plagiarism; Education doesn’t have a huge problem. Sue Haines felt there is a need for education of students on what plagiarism is beyond using exact quotes. Susan Caldwell typically gives the 15-20 citing sources and plagiarism lecture before they do their writing assignments.

Data/data source:
(where appropriate)

Action: Continue to ensure that syllabi address plagiarism; educate students on what is plagiarism; and have stated consequences for plagiarism.

ITEM 2. Proposal to present EEX2010 Survey of Exceptionalities-D. Bressner

Discussion: Diane Bressner introduced a proposal to the cluster to add EEX2010 Survey of Exceptionalities (may change the title to “Introduction to Special Needs”. The college doesn’t currently offer a course in special education. It is currently not required at the college but is required at FAU when seeking a BA in Education/Special Education. This course would be good for our students seeking Teacher re-certification. The special needs course (EECC2271) that is part of the ECE AS degree can’t be used. It is equivalent to FAU’s course; 20 hours of field experience for this course. It is an elective for the AA degree. Dr. Coleman-Ferrell doesn’t want credit faculty left out of the pedagogy piece and approval of course content.

Sue Haines motioned to approval the proposal; Dr. Richmond 2nd the motion; Cluster approved the motion.

Data/data source:
(where appropriate)

Action: Curriculum Committee approval

ITEM 3. Proposal to integrate the Florida Core Competencies for ECE Practitioners into the Early Childhood Education program-Sheila Scott-Lubin

Discussion: AWI has recently approved the newly designed Florida Core Competencies for ECE Practitioners posted on the following website – www.floridaearlylearning.com. PD2 develop a roll out plan to get the Core Comps distributed throughout the county. Proposal to introduce the FI Core Competencies in our non-credit trainings and integrate the competencies into our ECE credit classes to reinforce the rollout of the State-wide competencies. Important that Early Childhood practitioner is knowledgeable about the core competencies and how they relate to the early childhood training taken at the college by the student.

Dr. Fawcett has the core competencies in one of the ECE credit courses that are required in the Childcare Center Management Director’s track; EEC2202 Child Care and Education Programming. Students are provided with information about the Florida Core Competencies at the beginning of class with explanation of how they should be used.

Data/data source:
(where appropriate)

Action: Cluster members requested additional clarification from Sheila Scott-Lubin on the meaning of “integrate” as it relates to the core competencies and ECE classes. Sheila Scott-Lubin will provide further clarification to cluster members for an electronic vote.

Item 4. Credentials of AA Faculty-Dr. Coleman-Ferrell

Discussion: Dr. Coleman-Ferrell expressed concerns that adjuncts are being hired that do not have any K-12 experience. There was a question if this was an HR or cluster issue. How do you teach if you don’t have K-12 experience; goes to pedagogical philosophy? Dr. Coleman-Ferrell stated that she won’t look at adjuncts that don’t have any K-12 experience considering the curriculum focal point of the Education courses is to present K-12 classroom material, K-12 curriculum design and K-12 classroom pedagogy. Susan Caldwell looks for experience as well when reviewing potential applicants. Dr. Fawcett says her education adjuncts have experience. Dr. Coleman-Ferrell commented that feedback received hasn’t been favorable because what we require at the college level does not mirror the K-12 district requirement of “highly qualified” teachers. Thus Dr. Coleman-Ferrell posed the question, is it not pedagogically sound and plausible to reflect the importance of experience by way of at minimum stating that K-12 experience is preferred in addition to the current credentialing requirements.

Dr. Coleman-Ferrell’s recommendation is for continued discussion about how we can appropriately reflect and convey its need without excluding practitioners who are clearly qualified by way of non-instructional methods. Please note that cluster discussion did take place regarding ways in which the credentialing requirements could be updated to reflect the need for related experience in a K-12 environment.

Data/data source:
(where applicable)

Action: Susan Caldwell stated that she would explore the process regarding ways to update the credentialing requirements for the next cluster meeting discussion.

Attendees:

Lucia Adrian	Kimberly Allen	Diane Bressner	Susan Caldwell	Dr. Coleman-Ferrell
Lillian Cortina	Dr. Fawcett	Susan Haines	Luisa Hernandez	Dr. Richmond

Submitted by: Sheila Scott-Lubin
Cluster Chair

Kimberly Allen

Scribe

c. Minutes Distribution List