ADVISORY BOARD ON TEACHER EDUCATION AND LICENSURE (ABTEL) MEETING

MINUTES

Meeting Date and Location: March 20, 2006
Virginia State University
Petersburg, Virginia

ABTEL Members Present:

Jeffrey Arco
Rene Massey Ashjian
Cynthia D. Baird
Lisa Bowman
Sharon L. Condrey
Dr. Nancy Davenport
Dr. Ronald E. Diss
Dr. William H. Graves, III
Margaret Shibley Gray
Linda W. Kelly
Cheryl Lightfoot
Jim Scott
Robin Smith
Gloria Talbott
Rena’ White

ABTEL Members Absent:

Rebecca Hill
Betty Hobbs
Mary Kolman
Sandra Smith-Jones

Board of Education Liaison: Dr. Ella P. Ward

Ex-Officio Member: Dr. Craig Herndon
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Dr. Rebecca Waters
Virginia Community College System

Dr. Thomas A. Elliott
Virginia Department of Education

Department of Education Staff: Anne Wescott
Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver
Patty S. Pitts
Thomas Suh
Dr. Patricia Burgess

Guests: Starr Allen, Commonwealth Scholar
Bonnie Atwood, David Bailey Associates
FULL BOARD MEETING

Linda Kelly, chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure, called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. and welcomed members and guests. Dr. Thomas A. Elliott, assistant superintendent for teacher education, licensure, and professional practice, Department of Education, thanked Virginia State University for hosting the advisory board meeting.

GREETINGS FROM VIRGINIA STATE UNIVERSITY

Dr. W. Weldon Hill, dean of liberal arts and education, welcomed advisory board members and introduced President Eddie Moore who greeted advisory board members and guests. President Moore introduced Starr Allen, commonwealth scholar, who is a senior in special education and completing her student teaching in Hopewell, Virginia. Ms. Allen welcomed guests and thanked advisory board members for their work on behalf of students at Virginia State University.

Dr. Eric Thomas, provost and vice president for academic and student affairs, briefly shared Virginia State University’s 20/20 Vision Plan. The 20/20 Vision Plan is the long-range plan for Virginia State University, intended to guide the course of the university for approximately the next 16 years-- through the year 2020.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS

On behalf of the advisory board, Linda Kelly expressed appreciation to Virginia State University for hosting the meeting. Guests were introduced.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA

James Scott made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Dr. Nancy Davenport seconded the motion, and the motion was unanimously approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Dr. Ron Diss made a motion to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2006, advisory board meeting. Lisa Bowman seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Kelly outlined the guidelines for public comment. The following persons spoke during the public comment period:

**Dr. Susan Magliero**, represented Association of Teacher Educators-Virginia (ATE-VA): Dr. Magliero’s comments supported the Teachers of Promise, Teachers for Tomorrow, Great Virginia Teach-In, and the Virginia Teaching Scholarship Loan Program initiatives. Her organization hopes these programs will continue even after the Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant ends.

**Dr. Patricia Shoemaker**, represented the Virginia Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (VACTE): Dr. Shoemaker thanked the Virginia Community College System, the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia, and the Virginia Department of Education for the work completed through the Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant. She also asked the advisory board to consider the expense and scheduling for students who need to take both the Praxis I, VCLA, and other licensing tests for the approved program and licensing.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE FULL BOARD

**The Virginia State University Teacher Education Program**

Dr. Weldon Hill, dean, introduced Dr. Delores R. Greene, associate dean. Dr. Greene provided a brief overview of the programs offered at Virginia State University and responded to questions from advisory board members.

**Report on the 2006 General Assembly Legislation**

Ms. Anne Wescott, assistant superintendent for policy and communication, Virginia Department of Education, made a presentation on “The 2006 General Assembly: Legislation Affecting the Teaching Profession.” She provided information on the status of bills and resolutions.
The TEAL II Initiative

Thomas Suh, Data Manager for Teacher Education, Licensure, and Professional Practice, Virginia Department of Education, and Dr. Paul Sale, dean of the College of Education and Human Development, at Radford University presented a report on the status of the TEAL II Project. This stage of the comprehensive data system is being developed by a consortium of state-approved teacher preparation programs under the coordination of the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV). When it is complete, TEAL II will be able to supply the number of undergraduates and graduates in the teacher pipeline at different stages of their preparation.

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Teacher Education Committee and the Licensure Committee met from 11:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

FULL BOARD

REPORTS FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEES

Teacher Education Committee Report

Dr. Bill Graves presented the report and recommendations of the Teacher Education Committee. The Teacher Education Committee made the following motion:

The Teacher Education Committee made a motion to continue program approval with stipulations at Saint Paul's College. The approval with stipulations is contingent upon continued progress at the college in the areas of: (1) alignment with the teacher education standards; (2) data development and annual maintenance of information on candidate progress; (3) service to the community through programs for non-traditional students; and (4) annual reports to the Department of Education on progress made based on the contingencies.

The motion passed with a vote of 14 to 0.

Dr. Bill Graves reported that the Teacher Education Committee will continue to review options to establish recognition honoring Dr. Mary V. Bicouvaris, Virginia’s first National Teacher of the Year.

The committee discussed the recommendation to consider Praxis I or the VCLA as the prescribed professional teacher’s examination for persons seeking entry into Virginia teacher preparation programs.

Professional Licensure Committee
Cheryl Lightfoot presented the report from the Professional Licensure Committee. The committee received information relative to the Board of Education’s first review of ABTEL’s recommendation regarding the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA). Dr. Ella Ward shared with the committee that the Board of Education may want to review the test data after one year instead of the ABTEL recommendation of two years, and the committee reported that it did not object. The Board of Education is anticipated to set scores on March 22, 2006.

The Professional Licensure Committee discussed testing requirements for special education teachers, including assessment for becoming highly qualified. The committee received an overview of other states’ requirements from Dr. Patricia Burgess, special education specialist, Department of Education. The committee recommended that Department of Education staff work with colleagues in special education to provide possible options for committee review at the next meeting.

The committee had an initial discussion on Praxis II revalidation and cut scores for Mathematics Content Knowledge (0061), Elementary Education: Content Knowledge (0014), and English Language, Literature, and Composition: Content Knowledge (0041).

**LIAISON REPORTS**

**The Virginia Community College System (VCCS)**

Dr. Rebecca Waters reported the following information on behalf of the Virginia Community College System:

1. The VCCS’s task force on General Education has been meeting for approximately one year. They are revising general education for associate degree programs.
2. The VCCS Teacher Education Peer Group, consisting of faculty and counselors who work with future teachers at the 23 community colleges, will be hosting a session at the New Horizon’s Conference in Roanoke in April. This session will provide an opportunity to update participants about the work of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure and the Department of Education regarding teacher education and licensure issues.

**The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)**

Dr. Craig Herndon reported the following information regarding the work of SCHEV:

The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia celebrated its 50th anniversary. The Web site, [www.schev.edu](http://www.schev.edu), highlights this momentous occasion. Dr. Nancy Cooley resigned her position with SCHEV to take a position at Old Dominion University; a
search is being conducted to fill the position. The acting director of academic affairs is Dr. Alan Edwards.

Department of Education

Dr. Thomas A. Elliott reported the following activities, supported by the Teacher Quality Enhancement Grant:

1. The Third Great Virginia Teach-In held March 18, 2006, was a success.
2. Approximately 600 students participated in the Teachers for Tomorrow Institute on March 17.
3. The Teachers of Promise Institute was held at James Madison University in March 17-18, 2006.

ADJOURNMENT

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure meeting adjourned.