

**ADVISORY BOARD ON TEACHER EDUCATION
AND LICENSURE (ABTEL) MEETING**

MINUTES

Meeting Date and Location: November 20, 2006
Richmond Marriott West Hotel
Glen Allen, Virginia

ABTEL Members Present:

Jeffrey Arco	Dr. Carole C. Grove	Susan Shoap
Rene Massey Ashjian	Rebecca Hill	Gloria Talbott
Cynthia D. Baird	Betty Hobbs	Rena' White
Lisa Bowman	Linda Kelly	Ann Y. Williams
Dr. Nancy Davenport	Mary Kolman	
Dr. William H. Graves, III	Cheryl Lightfoot	
Margaret Shibley Gray	Dawn Rees-Blakeman	

ABTEL Members Absent: Dr. Gwen E. Edwards
Robin Smith

Board of Education Liaison: Dr. Ella P. Ward

Ex-Officio Member: Dr. Gary Krapf
State Council of Higher Education for Virginia

Rebecca Waters for Dr. Susan Wood
Virginia Community College System

Patty S. Pitts
Virginia Department of Education

Department of Education Staff: Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver

Guests: Dr. David E. Coffman, Bridgewater College
Nicole Conners, Fairfax City public Schools
Dr. Raymond Holmes, Saint Paul's College
Betty Lambdin, Virginia Education Association
Dr. John Mattar, National Evaluation Systems, Inc.

Dr. Dorothy Sluss, The College of William and Mary
Barbara Warren Jones, Hampton City Schools

ORIENTATION FOR NEW ABTEL MEMBERS

Patty S. Pitts, acting assistant superintendent, Division of Teacher Education and Licensure, conducted the orientation session for new ABTEL members. The following new members participated in the session: Dr. Carole C. Grove; Dawn Rees-Blakeman; Susan Shoap; and Ann Y. Williams.

FULL BOARD CONVENES

- **Opening Remarks and Welcome**

Linda Kelly, chair of the Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure (ABTEL), called the meeting to order at approximately 9:00 a.m. and welcomed members and guests.

- **Introduction of Guests**

Linda Kelly introduced to the advisory board the following guests: Dr. David E. Coffman; Nicole Conners; Dr. Raymond Holmes; Betty Lambdin; Dr. John Mattar; Dr. Dorothy Sluss; and Barbara Warren Jones.

- **Approval of Agenda**

Dr. Bill Graves made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Gloria Talbott seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **Approval of Minutes**

Mary Kolman made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2006, advisory board meeting with the following correction: delete the title of “Dr.” from the name of Rebecca Waters. Dr. Nancy Davenport seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

- **Public Comment**

No individuals requested to speak during the public comment period:

- **Election of Officers: Chair and Vice-Chair**

Dr. Nancy Davenport, vice chair of the advisory board, presided over the election of chair of the advisory committee.

Rena' White made a motion to nominate Linda Kelly as chair of the advisory board. Ann Williams seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Linda Kelly presided over the remainder of the proceedings for the election of officers.

Rena' White made a motion to nominate Dr. Nancy Davenport as vice chair of the advisory board. Gloria Talbott seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **Election of a Member-at-Large to Serve on the Executive Committee**

Mary Kolman made a motion to nominate Lisa Bowman to serve as member-at-large on the executive committee of the advisory board. Gloria Talbott seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

- **Appointment of Chairs to the Teacher Education Committee and the Professional Licensure Committee**

Linda Kelly appointed Dr. Bill Graves as chair of the Teacher Education Committee and Cheryl Lightfoot as chair of the Professional Licensure Committee.

- **Review and Approval of 2006-07 Meeting Dates**

Rene Ashjian made a motion to approve the meeting dates as presented. Gloria Talbott seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously approved.

Patty Pitts announced that the advisory board will host a presentation by a local institution of higher education during the March 2007, meeting at the Richmond Marriott West Hotel, Glen Allen. The date for the May meeting will be set at the January, 2007, meeting of the advisory board.

PRESENTATIONS TO THE FULL BOARD

Report on the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-542-10 et seq.)

Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver, director of teacher education, Division of Teacher Education and Licensure, provided an overview of the Administrative Process Act (APA) as it relates to the promulgation of proposed new regulations for the *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-542-10 et seq.). Public comment for the proposed regulations began on October 16, 2006, and will continue through December 15, 2006. A schedule of public hearing dates and locations was presented. ABTEL members were encouraged to participate in the public hearings and to share information with other professionals as appropriate.

Report on the *Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel* (8 VAC 20-22-10 et seq.)

Patty S. Pitts, acting assistant superintendent, Division of Teacher Education and Licensure, provided highlights of proposed changes to the *Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel* (8 VAC 20-22-10 et seq.). Public comment for the proposed regulations began on October 16, 2006, and will continue through December 15, 2006.

Report on Professional Teacher's Assessment Requirements in Virginia Department of Education – Admission to Licensure

Patty Pitts discussed current assessment requirements for initial licensure. Information related to Department of Education (DOE) requirements for *Professional Teacher's Assessments* may be accessed at the following Web site:

<http://www.doe.virginia.gov/VDOE/newvdoe/teached.html>.

The Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA)

Dr. John Mattar, senior area director, Assessment Service Department, National Evaluation Systems, Inc. (NES), continued the discussion on key factors to consider in determining use of the Virginia Communication and Literacy Assessment (VCLA) as an assessment option for initial licensure and for entry or admission into teacher education programs.

Dr. Mattar explained the process used by NES to complete a test validation and standards setting study. He also provided advisory board members with a summary of a survey conducted for practicing teacher preparation faculty to determine how they rate the importance of skills tested on the VCLA as entry skills essential for admission into teacher education programs. This survey serves as a supplement for the one previously completed by teachers and teacher education faculty for the VCLA. Dr. Mattar reported that survey results were positive and similar to the initial ratings received on the VCLA.

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Teacher Education Committee and the Licensure Committee met from 12:00 noon to 1:30 p.m.

Working Lunch and Initiatives for the 2006-07 School Year

During the November 20, 2006, luncheon, Dr. Mark E. Emblidge, president, Board of Education, provided an overview of the major priorities set by the board for 2006-07, and committees established to address these priorities. High priorities include a focus on reducing high school dropouts, providing education for preschoolers, increasing the graduation rate, improving literacy in grades K-3, and addressing accountability (i.e., accreditation in K-12 schools).

Dr. Emblidge outlined the following major initiatives to be addressed by ABTEL during the 2006-07 school year:

1. Continue the Administrative Process Act for *Regulations Governing the Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia* (8 VAC 20-542-10 et seq.);
2. Continue the Administrative Process Act for *Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel* (8 VAC 20-22-10 et seq.);
3. Enhance oral proficiency for foreign language;
4. Enhance American Sign Language proficiency;
5. Revalidate selected Praxis II content assessments; and
6. Consider the use of the VCLA as an option for entry into teacher education programs. (Dr. Emblidge requested the advisory board delay any recommendation regarding this initiative until after the beginning of the 2007 school year).

FULL BOARD

REPORTS FROM THE STANDING COMMITTEES

Teacher Education Committee Report

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

- 1. The Teacher Education Committee made a motion that the full advisory board recommend to the Board of Education to grant continuing accreditation to the teacher education program at Bridgewater College, including editorials to remove weaknesses cited due to lack of documentation in the Unit Review Report and to note as suggestions those comments cited as weaknesses. The motion passed unanimously.**

Dr. Graves reported that the Teacher Education Committee has requested staff from DOE and the State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV) to develop strategies for enhancing the oral proficiency of foreign language teachers.

Professional Licensure Committee

Cheryl Lightfoot presented the report from the Professional Licensure Committee.

1. The Professional Licensure Committee discussed the issue of how to enhance the oral proficiency of foreign language teachers. The committee requested DOE staff to look at conducting a survey of colleges and universities in

- Virginia for the purpose of determining performance assessments used to determine oral proficiency of foreign language teachers.
2. The Professional Licensure Committee made the following motion regarding the use of a proficiency test for American Sign Language:
The Professional Licensure Committee made a motion that the full advisory board recommend to the Board of Education that the Sign Communication Proficiency Interview (SCPI) test, including the advanced level cut-score, be used for the American Sign Language endorsement. The motion passed unanimously.
 3. The Professional Licensure Committee received an update on the revalidation of the Praxis II English Content Knowledge, Language, Literature, and Composition Test (Code 0041) and the Praxis II content Knowledge Mathematics Test (Code 0061), conducted on November 2, 2006. The Department of Education is awaiting receipt of results of the studies from the Educational Testing Services.
 4. Members of the Professional Licensure Committee were encouraged to attend public hearings scheduled for *Regulations Governing the Licensure of School Personnel* (8 VAC 20-22-10 et seq.).

LIAISON REPORTS

The Virginia Community College System (VCCS)

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

1. The Teacher Education Articulation Agreement Peer Group meeting will take place as a part of the New Horizons Conference in Roanoke on March 28 – 31, 2007.
2. The statewide Career Switcher Marketing Campaign, supported by funding from the VCCS Teacher Quality Enhancement funded grant, is currently underway.

The State Council of Higher Education for Virginia (SCHEV)

Dr. Gary Krapf reported the following information regarding the work of SCHEV:

1. SCHEV has received approximately \$18 million over the next six years (2006-2012) to fund the GEAR-UP (Gaining Early Awareness and Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) access to college initiative. The target population for receipt of services includes individuals in underserved poverty regions in Virginia. Services will begin in January 2007, and will include cohorts of seventh grade students enrolled in 46 middle schools, representing 27 school divisions. The current GEAR-UP grant will be closed out by December 12, 2006.

2. Staff at SCHEV are reviewing issues as they relate to initiatives of access, accountability, academic quality, affordability, economic development, and P-16 integration (i.e., K-12).

Department of Education

Patty Pitts thanked ABTEL members for their attendance at the *Mary V. Bicouvaris Teacher of the Year Program* held on October 20, 2006, at the Virginia Crossings Hotel.

ADJOURNMENT

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure meeting adjourned.