

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

**MINUTES**

**Meeting Date and Location:** March 17, 2008  
Holiday Inn Select – Koger Center  
Richmond, Virginia

**ABTEL Members Present:**

Jeffrey Arco	Dr. William H. Graves, III	Susan K. Shoap
Rene Massey Ashjian	Dr. Carole C. Grove	Angela S. Turley
Cynthia D. Baird	Dr. Betty Hobbs	Rená White
Diane Bialkowski	Linda Kelly	Ann Y. Williams
Dr. Nancy M. Davenport	Valeria C. Porter	
Tracey Dingus	Dawn Rees-Blakeman	

**ABTEL Members Absent:** Mary Kolman  
Gloria Talbott  
Dr. Philip Worrell

**Board of Education Liaison:** Dr. Ella P. Ward

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

Bill Hightower  
Virginia Community College System

Patty S. Pitts  
Virginia Department of Education

**Department of Education Staff:** Dr. JoAnne Y. Carver  
Dr. James W. Lanham  
Mrs. Anne Wescott

**Guests:** Mary Gee, Lunenburg County Schools  
Dr. Catherine Fisher, University of Richmond  
Betty Lambdin, Virginia Education Association  
Tracy Powers Guth, Roanoke County Schools  
Dr. Patricia Stohr-Hunt, University of Richmond

## **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 and welcomed members and guests.

- **Introduction of Guests**

Guests were introduced to the Advisory Board.

- **Approval of Agenda**

**Tracey Dingus 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. Carol Groves made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2008, Advisory Board meeting with the following correction: correct spelling of Valeria Porter's name. Angela Turley seconded the motion, and the motion was approved unanimously.**

- **Announcements**

Linda Kelly announced that her second term on ABTEL would end on June 30, 2008, along with the terms of Rena' White and Dr. Nancy Davenport. They are not eligible for reappointment. Three other members are ending their first term on ABTEL and are eligible for reappointment: Jeffrey Arco, Betty Hobbs, and Mary Kolman. They are asked to contact Patty Pitts, assistant superintendent, division of teacher education and licensure, if they are interested in seeking a second term.

Patty Pitts provided an update on staffing in the Division of Teacher Education and Licensure. She announced the retirements of Dr. Melanie I. Biermann and Mrs. Jennifer Stuart, effective February 29, 2008. Questions regarding approved programs should be directed to Dr. Joanne Y. Carver, director of teacher education. Questions regarding the Career Switcher program should be directed to Greg Pels, national board coordinator, or Dr. James Lanham, director of teacher licensure.

- **Public Comment**

No individuals requested to speak during the public comment period.

## **PRESENTATIONS TO FULL BOARD**

### **Report on the 2008 Virginia General Assembly**

Mrs. Anne Wescott, assistant superintendent, division of policy and communications, Department of Education, presented a legislative update and summary of legislation passed during the 2008 session of the Virginia General Assembly. She provided a summary of the approved state budget as well as significant legislation relating to public education passed during the session. This legislation must still be signed by the Governor and is subject to change during the veto session scheduled for April.

### **Report on the University of Richmond's Approved Education Program**

Dr. Patricia Stohr-Hunt, department chair, and Dr. Catherine S. Fisher, program director, provided a PowerPoint presentation on the undergraduate education program and the post-baccalaureate teacher licensure program at the University of Richmond.

### **Overview of New Title II Higher Education Act Pass Rate Reporting Procedures for Virginia**

Dr. Joanne Y. Carver reviewed the new Title II Higher Education Act Pass Rate Reporting Procedures for Virginia that must be implemented by all colleges and universities with approved education programs. Pass rates for the Virginia Communications and Literacy Assessment, Virginia Reading Assessment, and Praxis II assessments are now reported as part of the Title II report; Praxis I results will no longer be reported to the United States Department of Education. Dr. Carver also reviewed the Institutional Data and Supplemental Data reports that must be completed annually.

### **American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence**

Patty Pitts discussed the planned presentation by the American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence scheduled for April. She provided background information regarding ABCTE's prior meeting with ABTEL, and encouraged members to review the print material and ABCTE's Web site prior to the April 21, 2008, meeting.

### **WORKING LUNCH**

### **PRESENTATIONS TO FULL BOARD**

The full Board reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

### **Overview of the Schedule for Review and Approval of Education Programs in Virginia**

Patty Pitts reviewed the timeline for the approval of education programs in Virginia and submission of required information by the colleges and universities for review. Significant dates are:

- 9/21/2007 – All programs were granted conditional approval under new state regulations.
- 7/15/2008 – Reports due on partnerships and collaborations based on prek-12 school

- needs.
- 12/31/2008 – All program matrices are due.
- 6/30/2009 – Biennial data reporting begins. [First biennial reporting is due June 30, 2009.]
- 12/31/2009 – Education programs receive one of the following three ratings by the Board of Education: approved; or approved with stipulations; or approval denied.

## **LIAISON REPORTS**

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

Bill Hightower reported that VCCS is hiring additional personnel to assist with the expansion of the Career Switcher Program. They also are engaged in a marketing campaign to promote the program using the EducateVa.com Web site. He reported that Teacher Education agreements continued to be developed. He also stated that the common curriculum for early childhood education would be submitted for approval to the Community College State Board. Early implementation could begin by the fall of 2008, with full implementation required by the fall of 2010.

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

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

1. NCLB grants for both K-12 and Higher Education are due shortly.
2. VaMentor.org is being discontinued by the fall of 2008 due to funding issues. A consortium of groups will be reviewing its use and seeking alternatives for those who made use of this site.
3. The Higher Education Budget passed in the recent General Assembly session represents an approximately 5% increase in funding, including \$155 million from the general fund and a \$1.5 billion capital outlay program.
4. A program to provide mentoring for students in schools with more than 50 percent free and reduced lunch is being implemented with the assistance of career coaches from VCCS. These coaches work to counsel students as they transition to high school by providing career coaching, dropout prevention, and mentoring. Twenty-five high schools are currently participating.

### **Virginia Department of Education**

Patty Pitts and Dr. JoAnne Carver reviewed the Teachers of Promise Program organized by the Milken Educators, Teachers of the Year, and James Madison University. Despite the loss of grant funding, an outstanding program was held again this year with 112 Teachers of Promise attending. The keynote address was provided by retired State Superintendent Dr. Jo Lynne DeMary. Twenty-seven of the thirty-seven colleges and universities with approved programs participated in the program.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The Advisory Board on Teacher Education and Licensure meeting adjourned.