

Elementary Education and Special Education Advisory Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, April 18, 2012  
4:00-5:00 Stevens Hall, Room 567

In attendance—Linda Armstrong, Russ White, Madonna Choat, Julie Box, Connie Jones, Pam Chaney, Mary Maschal, Lisa Highfield, Debbie Christopher, Kim Morris

4:00 Dr. Armstrong opened the meeting, welcomed all committee members, and indicated the purpose of the meeting (agenda items).

Agenda Item 1: Members reviewed the data driven decisions that have been made as a result of this advisory group in the last two years.

- P-12 involvement has increased with the input from committee members. Committee members noted that there might be more opportunities and incentives to partner with schools in these economic times.
- Dual certification for Elementary K-6 and Collaborative Special Education K-6 has been approved at the university and state level. The department is offering the first courses toward this certification in Spring 2013. Special Education faculty from P-12 and UNA desired more collaboration as this program progresses...more “pick your brain” sessions needed.
- Field-based courses were discussed in terms of the positive results for teacher candidates, pupils, teachers, and faculty. Challenges were briefly addressed but the overall consensus was field-based courses are beneficial to all constituents.
- Based on the recommendation from this council, Special Education Program Coordinator, Dr. Chaney, is completing a syllabus on assessment for EdS candidates. Once approved by the department faculty, this course will go through appropriate college and university curriculum committees before sent to the state department. The department is offering the approved course Summer 2013.

Agenda Item 2: Members brainstormed Standard 3/Clinical Practice NCATE standard statements. They came up with examples of how candidate learning is integrated into the school program and teaching practice, how the candidates are involved in a variety of school based activities in a variety of settings. The committee developed a short list of unit and school-based faculty participation in professional development activities. The consensus was this component could be strengthened. One idea for consideration: Invite a UNA faculty member to school-based curriculum committees, and consider having a P-12 representative on the COE curriculum committee. At the fall meeting, this will be an agenda item.

Agenda Item 3: Members brainstormed how unit and school partners could help each other. Suggestions: Partner with other agencies (i.e. Riverbend) and partners make lists of individual expertise areas and provide the lists to partners.

4:59 Meeting Adjourned