

On behalf of Prof. Qaasim and myself, I would like to thank the committee members for their valuable and insightful input at this meeting – the encouragement and updates as to what is happening in the “field” continue to be very important to our program at Shoreline!

Betty

Shoreline Community College
Education Program Advisory Committee Notes
Nov. 28, 2007 2:00 – 3:00

In attendance: Jennifer Kelty (private industry), Barbara Matlock (ECEAP/UW Experimental Ed.), Leslie Keller (DEL), Yun Kim (Head Start/Community Member), Betty Peace-Gladstone (Education faculty), Berta Lloyd (Dean of Prof./Tech)

Following introductions and a brief review of previous minutes, the following business was discussed:

1) I-BEST program. The education program is considering submitting an I-BEST grant and starting a program at Shoreline for English Language Learners. Prof. Tasleem Qaasim has been working on the grand and a new 5 credit course, EDU 100 Intro. to the Early Education Profession. This course would be co-taught with an ESL instructor and would cover the STARS basic training, an introduction to child care and early childhood program models, as well as expanded content on child development, behavior management, and curriculum development (focus on math, science and literacy). A discussion ensued regarding the concerns that Betty and Tasleem have about initiating an I-BEST program:

➤ Concern about the I-BEST requirement to create a certificate program that will establish a pathway to a degree, when the child care industry does not, in general, award salary and/or job position advancement for entry level employees until they have completed 45 credits. The advantages of increased quality of child care that results when entry-level people have more training was acknowledged, as was the fact that there are an increasing number of child care centers (especially non-profit and City of Seattle subsidized centers) that do offer small increments in pay as a result of college credits earned.

➤ Because I-BEST is a tuition-driven program, both of the Education faculty and the interim ESL director have concerns about calling upon people who are generally low-income to pay tuition for a program that will not offer them salary or wage advancement with the completion of a short certificate. If the program could support a part-time case manager to assist students with identifying and accessing scholarships or grants, this concern could be addressed. To date, the way to fund such a position has not been identified.

➤ Inadequate faculty time or other infrastructure support to manage a new program that is likely to require more intense student advising and “case management” for low-income ELL students. The Education program faculty have been discussing the need for

a program coordinator with administrators at Shoreline to allow our program to continue to grow in new directions; with all of the current initiatives in Early Education, the two full-time faculty are stretched thin.

2) Washington Early Learning Math/Science Initiative – Prof. Betty Peace-Gladstone submitted a grant proposal to enhance Math and Science focus in our program, and, if funded, seed money will be provided to develop a new Math in Early Education course and enhance our existing curriculum courses with stronger science content. The grant will also fund training for our on-campus child care staff to receive training in enhancing math and science activities and learning in their classrooms, so they can serve as a demonstration site for student learning on campus. Betty is hopeful that the new class will meet the Math graduation requirements for our AAAS students; the process for approval of this goal has begun.

3. ELN and Evening program – we have been offering courses in the evening in the Rainier Valley to support Seattle Early Learning Network students/child care professionals in their goal to complete a degree in early education. We have also added some evening courses to our campus course schedule to find out if there is a demand for on-campus evening programs, as there was in the past. Betty is the “point person” at Shoreline for this effort.

4. Seattle Early Reading First grant update – Shoreline will be involved with the new SERF grant, being the college designated to offer credit for a series of literacy-based classes. This will begin in the Winter of 2008. Tasleem is the “point person” at Shoreline for this grant.

5. Dual Language Classes – as a part of the ELN support work we are doing, we have been offering classes in a dual language approach (English and Spanish) in support of students pursuing their Bilingual/Bicultural Education AAAS degree with us.

6. Sabbatical Plans – Prof. Tasleem Qaasim will apply for sabbatical for the 2008-2009 school year, to pursue several areas of study related to special education and multicultural education. If approved, this will mean an increase in the need for part-time faculty for at least one year. If possible, Prof. Peace-Gladstone will be applying for sabbatical for the following year, so we are working toward developing a plan for continuity of part-time faculty and division support in anticipation of two years of change in our department due to sabbaticals.

7. Need for Program Coordinator – In light of the topics discussed above and the next one to follow, it is becoming increasingly apparent that our program is in need of at least a part-time program coordinator. To manage these new and off-campus initiatives, and to be able to do the recruitment and outreach that is needed to not only maintain but continue to expand our program, we need additional support.

8. Barb Matlock discussed the new B.A. in Child and Family Studies at the UW. She discussed the intent of the program, their upcoming desire to work with community

colleges for articulation possibilities for transfer students, and the multi-disciplinary nature of the program. Betty had met early in the fall with the director of this new program to discuss a possible transfer degree between our two programs, but has not heard any further. Barb indicated that it is her understanding that this program will approach the community colleges soon about this topic.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:00