

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Meeting Minutes**

**Friday, March 6th, 2020 \* 11:30 am—1:00 pm**

**Oliva Child & Family Center (ELC 109)**

**Members Present:** Christyn Dundorf (Co Chair), Early Learning Consultant Group; Michelle Aguilar, ESD 112; Jamie Heiberlein, PCC Faculty; Jess Robertson, Alumni; Amelia Shelley, Fort Vancouver Regional Library District

**Members Absent:** Kristi Baker, SWCCC/ESD 112; Rashelle Chase, KinderCare Education; Kahlea Croft, YMCA of Columbia Willamette; Andrew Garland-Forshee, Portland Community College; Jane Lanigan, WSUV CDP; Debra Shope, ECOF John Swartz, Kiddie Academy

**Clark College**: Debi Jenkins, Department Head/Professor; Sarah Theberge, ECE Professor; Michelle Volk, Director of CFS; Michelle Mallory, Family Life Coordinator; Miles Jackson, Dean of Social Sciences; SueAnn McWatters, Program Specialist – Advisory Committees.

Co-Chair Christyn Dundorf called the committee to order at 11:40am and introductions were made.

**MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:**

*The minutes of April 26, 2019 were presented for approval. As quorum was not present, the minutes will be sent out via electronic approval. As of March 25th, 2020, the minutes have been approved.*

**NEXT MEETING DATE:**

The Committee will meet again on Friday, May 29th, 2020 at 11:30am.

**OFFICE OF INSTRUCTION ANNOUCEMENTS:**

***The following text is the spring quarter announcements from the Office of Instruction presented by Miles Jackson:***

The college is facing a $5.4 million deficit for next year. The budget committee is putting together recommendations on how to address them. They will then send them to the Executive Cabinet who will hopefully finalize and prioritize cuts by May 8th. The dilemma is how to protect the basic services and programs while also fulfilling the cut.

The college named its new President Dr. Karin Edwards. She will start in June 2020.

SueAnn McWatters spoke on the switch to ctcLink across the college. Everything is interconnected and so faculty, staff, and students are all on the same system.

**BAS ECE PRESENTATION**

Sarah Theberge updated the committee on the meeting with the state board. She spoke on the survey that was sent out to alumni and students about the importance of the BAS degree. Suspicions were confirmed that over 80% of alumni and students are interested in coming back and continuing on in enrollment for the BAS

Initially, the board was concerned about wages in early learning. They went back and did more research.

Sarah spoke on faculty and not having the full support. Debi Jenkins spoke on Lora Whitfield and her importance in the program. They are currently looking for someone to fill her role. Early learning is an important endorsement for hiring on a new tenure faculty member.

Debi Jenkins asked the committee what specialization would support the industry member’s work the most.

Sarah explained how the committee can help stay involved and help with continuing the work towards the BAS degree. There is a lot of information and timelines that the program will continue to send out to the committee to ask for feedback and suggestions. Right now, the statement of need was submitted to the Board of Trustees and then on to the State Board. They have given their feedback to make it stronger. The college is also reaching out to other programs for help (K12) to add some support and structure. If the members have any other connections, they would love to know. The hope is that this will start in Fall 2021.

Michelle Mallory spoke on how this BAS provides students to go another pathway for Early Learning. Some students don’t want a degree in child development but in early learning, so this BAS will hold both together and give them great foundations for both.

The committee spoke on child development and their social health.

**BAS ECE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Sarah Theberge spoke on the requirement for an advisory board. The state board will assign advisory members and then the program can add others as they see fit.

**ECE IBEST AND PARAEDUCATOR UPDATES**

Debi Jenkins spoke on ECE iBEST and their meeting with transitional studies. Lora Whitfield previously headed the courses and iBEST for ECE. Michelle Volk was the practicum piece and Sarah Theberge was the lab piece. They recently changed iBEST to align as a cohort model, however ECE students have a difficult because many of them are working. The current model that iBEST is trying to enforce is not working for the ECE program. Transitional studies is aware and are understanding of the situation. The challenge right now is that the support just isn’t there at the moment. There is a lot on the iBEST and faculty plate. For this summer 2020, ECE iBEST will not be a goal for the program.

The Perkins grant lost some funding last year. The issue with the para educator certificate is more of a money issue at the moment. Debi Jenkins is trying to make sure that everyone is compensated for the work that will be put into this new plan.

**ECE DIVERSIFYING WORKFORCE WITH ESD**

Debi Jenkins clarified their roles:

Michelle Volk is all things family and support.

Michelle Mallory is all things family life.

Sarah Theberge works on the ECE curriculum as well as the BAS curriculum. She also does the labs and community work.

Debi Jenkins is the division chair as well as the PPI guru.

Whenever PPI and community work overlaps, they work together.

Sarah Theberge explained their partnership with ESD to speak about the needs in the community on what they might need from the pipeline of teachers. She spoke with Mike Epstein??? Who is spearheading a taskforce that is set to look at diversification of the work force. The conversation will be around hand picking teachers to mentor from the different roles as para educators, families, and other areas. He invited Sarah Theberge to the conversation to help close those opportunity gaps. She attended the first meeting and there will be a second meeting sometime soon. It seems like a very well thought out initiative that the ESD is undertaking.

Michelle Mallory spoke on some of her students that want to work with families, however she is not aware of the educational requirements for those that want to be in early intervention, para educators, or family advocates. She asked the committee what information they might have about it?

Jamie Heiberlein spoke on PCC working on a 22 credit certificate that meets requirements.

**Action Item:**

* **Jamie Heiberlein will send the committee the PCC 22 credit certificate.**
* **Michelle Aguilar will look into the ESD requirements**

Jamie Heiberlein spoke on PCC launching their child mental health course. It will start spring quarter 2020. Debi Jenkins asked Jamie to share the readings that Jamie will be using. They put it under the human services side so it will have EC involved but most of it is focused on the parent/child relationship. It is an elective as an ECE or a human services.

Michelle Aguilar is hiring a mental consultant who is Master’s level with their licensure.

Meeting adjourned at 12:53pm.

Minutes prepared SueAnn McWatters