

GCEC Regular Meeting  
Tuesday, August 13, 2013  
5:30 p.m., UOG, SOE Building  
MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

GCEC Chair Guerrero called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, August 13, 2013 at UOG, SOE Room 104A, Mangilao.

Commission Members

Present: Connie Guerrero, Margie LG-Artero, Roberta Abaday, Lisa Baza-Cruz, Gayle Hendricks and Jesse San Nicolas.

Absent: Lawrence Kasperbauer (Off-island)

Others Present: Leilani Figueroa (GDOE), Joann Muna (GCC Rep.) and Dr. John Sanchez (UOG SOE).

**Motion by Abaday and seconded by Hendricks to have an Excused Absence for Kasperbauer. APPROVED.**

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**Motion by Artero and seconded by Abaday to approve the minutes subject to any minor technical corrections. APPROVED.**

III. REPORTS

A. TREASURER'S REPORT

Santos stated that although GCEC requested for \$206,481, the Ways and Means budget that is currently under discussion at the Legislature funds the commission at \$191,227 and this will result in a \$15,254 shortfall. Santos will be requesting the Speaker to allow GCEC to carry over the FY 13 lapses.

Julie Mesngon, the newly hired Administrative Assistant, will start on August 26. She is a lateral transfer from the Guam Behavioral Health and Wellness Center. Camacho is waiting for DOA to provide her with the breakdown of Mesngon's salary.

Camacho reported that she there are funds to cover personnel cost until the end of the fiscal year. The Fees are used for operations.

**Motion by Abaday and seconded by Cruz to accept the Treasurer's report. APPROVED.**

B. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

No report. Guerrero expressed her gratitude for the support that the commission extended during her husband's illness.

### C. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

From April 3 to August 7, the Commission issued 526 certificates as follows:

- 69 Temporary Educator
- 68 Initial Educator
- 140 Professional Educator
- 152 Master Educator
- 17 Endorsements
- 35 Basic Chamorro
- 11 Basic Preschool
- 5 Professional Admin
- 13 Master Admin
- 2 Temporary School Counselor
- 5 Initial School Counselor
- 2 Professional School Counselor
- 2 Master School Counselor
- 5 Extensions Granted

There were 2 denied Extension Requests. The office received 1,450 telephone calls, 1,107 walk-ins and 1,550 emails.

### PRAXIS

Adoptions and their effective dates

- Early Childhood Ed PreK-2 (5024) – 1/1/14
- English Language Arts Content Knowledge (5038) – 9/1/13
- Math Content Knowledge (5161) – 9/1/13
- Family & Consumer Science (0121 /5121) – Immediately

Praxis II Educ. Of Young Children (5021/0021) is effective until Sept 1, 2014

Apr 22 – Sent Dr. Cruz, Emiliana Limtiaco & Audrey Certeza a package on history of the current Praxis I scores.

Santos attended the following:

- May 1 - Praxis Webinar
- May 2 & 8 - Praxis II content test meetings with Gayle Hendricks
- May 10 - Orientation for the Spring Education graduates on the certification requirements
- May 13-14 - Procurement training
- June 17 - Procurement Training
- June 15 - DOE Job Fair where 50 educators made inquiries

Santos submitted her Financial Disclosure Report to the Guam Election Commission

Responded to the following surveys from the

- National Association for the Education of Young Children – Birth to 8

- NASDTEC
  - South Carolina on Principal preparation & licensure
  - Preparing candidates & supporting practitioners in ethical understanding
  - Oklahoma on Technical Education programs
  - Maryland on Teachers for the Visually Impaired
  - Alabama on Certification of Speech Language Pathologists
  - Ethics
  - Resources
  - South Carolina on aligning teacher license & education preparation policies with Common Core State Standards (CCSS) and College Readiness Standards (CCR)
  - Hawaii on basic preparation requirements

Under New Business, Santos added 2 items:

- PL 32-031 Responsible Boards & Commission Education
- 17 Annual NASCTEC 2013 Professional Practices Institute on Oct. 23 – 25, 2013 at Boise, Idaho

**Motion by Abaday and seconded by Hendricks to accept the additions to the agenda. APPROVED.**

In order to determine the work flow of the staff, Guerrero requested for a graph of the weekly production. Santos replied that she will convert the data into a graph.

D. SUB-COMMITTEES

No Report.

E. LEGISLATIVE LIAISON

No Report.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Draft – RULES GOVERNING THE STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT FOR GUAM EDUCATORS

The draft document focuses on the concerns raised by Assistant Attorney General Shannon Taitano. Santos added a new subsection (i) to 17 GCA Chapter 27 Section 27008 relative to the General Powers and Duties of the Commission.

- (i) create an Ethics Review Sub-Committee that will investigate and issue subpoenas relating to violations of the Guam Rules Governing the Standards of Professional Conduct for Guam Educators.*

Santos explained that after Taitano approves the 2<sup>nd</sup> draft, GCEC would then conduct a Triple A hearing. After the hearing, the document will be sent to the Governor's Office for approval prior to transmittal to the Legislature.

Santos suggested that substantive changes to PL 31-50 should also be heard during the Triple A hearing and incorporated into the bill.

Both San Nicolas and Guerrero are requesting for written instructions from the Governor's Legal Office regarding the requirement to seek approval from the Governor's Office prior to submission of the draft to the Legislature.

**Motion by Abaday and seconded by Hendricks to approve the changes.  
APPROVED.**

#### B. REQUIRING PRAXIS II CONTENT TESTS

Since Abaday was off-island during the April meeting and read in the minutes that the Commission approved adding Praxis II content as a requirement for full certification. Hendricks explained that she is in full support of Laanan and made the motion to the commission. She added that this is already a UOG SOE requirement and that off-island teachers must demonstrate that they know their content area. Guerrero was also absent at the same meeting and she believes that UOG can establish their requirements since this is their prerogative. Guerrero and Abaday discussed how certified teachers can gain additional certification in another subject area either by taking 15 credits for an endorsement or perhaps passing the Praxis II content test. Hendricks inquired if Abaday and Guerrero were asking for a reconsideration of the vote. Abaday replied affirmatively and added that they should have had more time to study the issue. San Nicolas recalled that Laanan spoke to the commission more than once on this issue. He remembered that both Laanan and the Superintendent want to elevate the quality of teachers by demonstrating competency. Artero agreed with San Nicolas. Laanan presented the issue during the Feb. 12 meeting and was an agenda item under New Business. Sanchez pointed out that this item was in the April 9 Agenda under Old Business. Abaday stated that there was no committee formed to study this issue. San Nicolas stated that he was comfortable with the decision that was made. Guerrero asked where this would be added in the law. Santos replied that this would be a requirement for an Initial Educator Certificate and would not impact those that are already certified. Abaday is recommending that an alternative method for an Endorsement is to pass Praxis II content without taking 15 credits. Sanchez stated that the issue is

*“... how can we insure that the teachers have enough content knowledge to teach?” He added that the “... Title II reports that SOE must complete specifically asks about pass rates on state licensure exams and how can they ensure content knowledge. Without a content test, how then is GCEC assessing content knowledge. If is through a transcript, then describe the process on how you evaluate the transcript.”*

San Nicolas confirmed that he also recalls that Laanan and Sanchez share the same view. Abaday wants the issue of using the Praxis II content tests as an endorsement voted on in the next meeting.

Figueroa explained that Toni Muna Santos finally agreed to hire certified teachers who had endorsements in specific subjects when Santos and Abaday provided DOE with the needed clarification.

#### LIST OF PRAXIS II CONTENT TESTS

Hendricks proposed adding the Health Education content test. Currently, those who take the Praxis II Health are automatically given P E & Health. She emphasized that these are two different and distinct subjects. In the past, the UOG program was called *Health, PE, Recreation and Dance* so graduates obtained a certificate in all these areas. There are currently 2<sup>nd</sup> career students with Health backgrounds that have no desire to teach PE. The solution is to allow those that want to teach PE to take the PE test, those that want Health to take the Health test and those who want PE & Health to take the PE & Health test. Hendricks explained that now, UOG is only offering PE & Health, without Recreation and Dance.

**Motion by Hendricks and seconded by San Nicolas to add the Praxis II Health content test. APPROVED.**

Hendricks explained that there are students who want to teach Math but cannot pass the Math content test because they are not Math majors. Many are Business graduates or have Business related degrees and have not taken Calculus and Trigonometry. By allowing them to take the Middle School Math content test, they will be certified only to teach Math in the Middle Schools.

**Motion by Hendricks and seconded by San Nicolas to add the Praxis II Middle School Math content test. APPROVED.**

#### V. NEW BUSINESS

##### A. PETITION FOR DRIVER'S EDUCATION CERTIFICATE

Camacho explained that the petitioner does not have an official transcript or documentation on the Driver's Ed classes from AARP. The commission has been renewing the teaching certificates of those teachers with existing driver's education certificates. Abaday stated that there are 5 DOE teachers who have this added on their teaching certificates. Although the petitioner submitted a document from George Freese, a DOE teacher, Abaday pointed out that Freese has a teaching certificate to teach driving, not a certificate to be a driver's education instructor to teachers who want to teach driver's education. Abaday, Hendricks and Guerrero believe that GCEC cannot grant an endorsement without a transcript. Abaday added that there is no Hawaii score for the Praxis II Driver's Ed content test.

Hendricks commented that the public law must be changed because GCEC is not meant to license private businesses.

**Motion by Guerrero and seconded by San Nicolas for the Executive Director to write a letter**

- A.1. to the petitioner stating that an endorsement for driver's ed will be granted after the petitioner submits a official transcript with 15 Driver's Ed credits, and**
- A.2. to the Legislature to amend the existing law relating to the issuance of driver's education certificate.**

B. PL 32-031 RESPONSIBLE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS EDUCATION

Santos explained that the Governor's office will provide CDs that contain all the materials. Every Commission member must complete the training by Sept. 6 and agency heads must report compliance by Sept. 13.

C. 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL NASDTEC PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES INSTITUTE, OCT 23-25, BOISE, IDAHO

Guerrero, Artero and Hendricks expressed interest in attending the conference.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sanchez wants to work with both DOE and GCEC to assist Chamorro teachers who are experiencing difficulty completing their Bachelors degree because of the General Education requirements, especially MA 110 and Science courses. Some have already completed all the education requirements. Guerrero explained that she worked with Dr. Dungca in itemizing all the courses that were needed. Sanchez's proposal is to offer Gen. Ed. classes in Chamorro to assist these teachers. Camacho stated that there is a teacher who has completed 200 credits but has not yet completed a degree. Guerrero volunteered to assist Sanchez in this project. Hendricks is requesting DOE to provide a listing of teachers who have no bachelors. Figueroa stated that there are 91 Chamorro teachers and perhaps there are 40+ who have not received their Bachelors degree.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

VIII. Adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

*Next meeting scheduled for Sept 10, 2013.*