

**GCEC Regular Meeting
Wednesday, September 16, 2015
5:30 p.m., UOG SOE Building**

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

GCEC Chair Hendricks called the meeting to order at **5:35 p.m.**, Wed, Sep. 16, 2015 at the UOG SOE, Room 213, Mangilao.

Commission Members

Present: Gayle Hendricks, Lisa Baza-Cruz, Elisabeth Ichihara- Rosario, Michelle Santos and Lisa Cooper-Nurse

Other Present: Joann Muna (GCC), Doris Faisao & Katrina Perez (DOE)

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion by M Santos and seconded by Ichihara-Rosario to approve the minutes subject to technical corrections, if necessary. APPROVED.

III. REPORTS

A. TREASURER'S REPORT

Ichihara-Rosario reported that the Personnel and Benefits is negative because BBMR has not released the rest of FY15 appropriations. BBMR will take any unused funds from the allotment to cover the shortfall. There are several vendors that have not been paid. DOA has processed the invoices but the checks have not been cut.

Since the UOG Business Office overpaid GCEC for the Fee Account, they have not issued any check for May, June and July. They will send a print out of the reconciliation. Year to date, the collection fee account is \$23, 806.

Hendricks directed staff to follow up with DOA regarding the overdue payment for the NASDTEC annual dues and to inform NASDTEC that the payment has been processed but the check has not been cut. She is disturbed because some commission members are attending the October NASDTEC conference.

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by M Santos to accept the Treasurers Report. APPROVED.

B. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

No report.

C. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

ACTIVITIES

From Apr 2 – Sep 11, 2015, GCEC issued 354 certificates, 6 Extensions were granted and 3 Extension requests were denied. There were 878 walk-ins, 1,778 emails and 2,254 telephone calls.

- 462 18% Renewal requirements
- 456 18% Office info – location, office hours, etc.
- 383 15% PRAXIS
- 334 13% Others
- 320 12% Initial info
- 161 6% SOE
- 133 5% DOE
- 63 3% Endorsements
- 61 2% Replacement certificates
- 58 2% Extensions
- 53 2% Costs of Certificates
- 52 2% Reciprocity
- 52 2% Educator file / records

OPERATIONS

- Apr 10 - GCC Advisory Committee Mtg.
 - Apr 15 - Telephone survey with Gary Orcher on Praxis services
 - Apr 21 - Telephone appointment with ETS Malik McKinley on Praxis changes
 - Apr 21 - Discussed recommended PL32-236 changes with Speaker Won Pat's staff
 - Apr 13 - Interviewed an applicant for the Admin Assistant position
 - May 1 - GCC Education Dept. Open House for Building E
 - May 13 - Attended Pro-Ethica webinar with all commission members
 - Jun 23 - Staff attended GDOE Job Fair and 65 attendees signed in
 - Aug 5 - 7 Training by John Grant
 - Aug 5
 - ✓ Radio interview with Ray Gibson on K 57
 - ✓ Courtesy call with Lt. Ray Tenorio
 - ✓ Meeting with GCEC commission members
 - Aug 6 – John Grant's "Code of Ethics" training for 31 Non-DOE teachers and 65 SOE students
 - Aug 7 - John Grant's "Code of Ethics" training for 111 DOE teachers and "Investigations" training for 126 Administrators and interested school personnel
- The total # of attendees were 207 for the Code of Ethics and 126 for Investigations.
- Aug 21 - Nominated Allowyn Gem Boyd for the Praxis Multistate Standard Setting Study for English as a Second Language
 - Sep 16 - Attended a NASDTEC Model Code for Educators webinar
 - Responded to NASDTEC Surveys
 - ✓ How to improve NASDTEC services and resources

- ✓ California – how to verify applicant’s identity and manages to personally identify info
- ✓ Georgia – compensation policy of teachers for acquiring advanced academic degrees
- ✓ Michigan – policy on the reinstatement of a license / certificate after a denial, suspension or revocation
- ✓ California - whether the jurisdiction has policies in place that take into consideration whether out of state applicants completed a nationally accredited teacher preparation program

Santos reported that in PL 33-66, FY16 Budget, total appropriation was \$281,822, an increase of \$23, 781 from the previous year. BBMR informed the agency that they are putting 15% (\$38,706.15) of the appropriation in Reserve.

The Aug 14, 2015 article in the Marianas Variety reported that oversight chair Underwood called on the Guam Education Board and GDOE Superintendent to “...re-examine the certification requirements for (Chamorro) teachers”. “She said that it was up to the Board of Education to review the curriculum and certification requirements.” Santos was informed by Sen. Underwood and Lisa Cippolone (Chief of Staff) that the oversight chair had no proposal to change the certification requirements for Chamorro teachers. Hendricks asked if this was the article where all teachers were required to incorporate Chamorro in their classes. Santos said yes and added that there is no bill that has been introduced relating to this issue.

D. SUB-COMMITTEE

No reports.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. LIST OF PRAXIS II CONTENT TESTS

Discussion will be under New Business

B. Language tests - The American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL)

M Santos reported that French, Japanese and Spanish were the languages requested by GDOE and DODEA students. Currently only Mandarin is the only approved modern language test for Praxis II. ETS offers Spanish and French language tests.

The ACTFL Japanese test is used for credentialing and the test has 2 parts, speaking and writing. Total cost is \$210. The oral interview will be done by telephone.

M Santos recommended that GCEC move forward with the Praxis II Spanish and French tests and the ACTFL Japanese test. She does not have the recommended passing scores.

Motion by M Santos and seconded by Baza-Cruz to accept with the Praxis II Spanish and French tests and the ACTFL Japanese test pending the recommended passing scores. APPROVED.

V New Business

A. Praxis II content tests

a. Early Childhood - Test # 5024

b. Special Education: Core Knowledge and Applications – Test # 5354

DOE Dean informed GCEC that the tests required for both Early Childhood and Special Education are pedagogy tests. The correct content tests for Early Childhood should be #5022 and for Special Education #5018.

M Santos will work on Early Childhood while Baza-Cruz will take care of Special Ed.

c. Health and PE: Content Knowledge – Test # 5857

Currently, GCEC has adopted individual content tests for Health # 5551 and Physical Education #5091. A Phys. Ed. & Health student wants to take the Health and P E Content Knowledge test. The recommended cut score for # 5857 is 160.

Hendricks stated that this should have been the test that students took because they graduate with a PE & Health degree. The PE test has been used as the content test for PE & Health graduates. Camacho explained that since there were students who only took Health classes, then they only passed the Health content test and were only certified in Health.

A discussion occurred relating to students who are currently student teaching in PE & Health as well as those who are in the process of taking the content test in preparation to student teaching during the 2016 Spring semester.

M Santos explained that passing a content test is one of the requirements for admissions to the MAT program. She explained that she has students taking PE or Health or both PE & Health because they want to. Camacho explained that she will refer to the dates when the students passed the test in relation to when the commission implements this new policy to determine compliance with the new policy.

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by M Santos to adopt the Health and PE: Content Knowledge with a cut score of 160 effective Oct. 1, 2015 for PE & Health teachers. APPROVED.

B. Basic Preschool Renewal requirements

L Santos explained that the current renewal requirement was designed for the Head Start Program. However, some certificate holders are now employed in non-DOE schools (Charter and Private schools) as Pre-K teachers. Consequently, they cannot renew their certificates because they cannot comply with the existing law which requires

“...fifteen (15) clock hours of Head Start specific in-service professional development that is classroom focused and regularly evaluated by the Head Start program of the Guam Department of Education.”

Motion by Ichihara-Rosario and seconded by M Santos for GDOE Head Start Program Director Catherine Schroeder to join the discussion. APPROVED.

Schroeder agrees that a change is needed because teachers who leave the Head Start Program cannot renew their certificates. She recommends amending both the Child Care Licensing law and the Professional Development Plan and the requirements for Continuing Education. Courses needed for renewals are available at GCC, CEDDARS and many online schools. She emphasized the need to remove the term “Head Start” and to require at least 15 contact hours per year.

Schroeder said yes to Hendricks’ question that if you removed the term “Head Start”, will GCEC continue to certify Head Start teachers. She also recommended to keep the wording that it be “classroom” specific or “child family” specific.

Ichihara-Rosario asked who would sign off on the hours / courses. The administrator? Schroeder replied that Head Start also offers courses.

Muna pointed out that there is a case that challenged the requirement that *“The degree must be from a U.S. regionally accredited post-secondary learning institution.”* She added that since GCEC is considering making changes that the case law should also be examined.

Schroeder suggested that Cooper-Nurse also work with the Guam Learning Council subcommittee on Professional Development.

Cooper-Nurse agreed to study the issue and report back to the Commission.

C. NASDTEC Educator Ethics course

The online course has 3 modules and can be taken separately. Cost is \$299.

M Santos expressed her desire to take the test. L Santos recommended that all commission members take the test.

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by M Santos for all commission members to take the course. APPROVED.

D. 19TH Professional Practices Institute, October 14-16, 2015 in Atlanta, Georgia
Ichihara-Rosario, Cooper-Nurse and Hendricks stated that they were interested in attending. Hendricks will also attend but pay for her expenses since has already attended two (2) previous PPI conferences that were paid by GCEC. Baza-Cruz recommended that L Santos also attend.

VI EX – OFFICIO

Faisao inquired about the Early Childhood Elementary Education certificates. Hendricks stated that the commission will work on the Praxis II Early Childhood Content test for the Early Childhood certificates. M Santos discussed that for Early Childhood certificates, the commission needs to consider requiring students to pass the PLT Early Childhood and an Early Childhood Content test.

VII ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hendricks cautioned the members that if the commission is amending the law on the Basic Preschool, it might also open other changes.

VIII EXECUTIVE SESSION

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

**Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by Ichihara-Rosario to adjourn.
APPROVED.**

Next meeting scheduled for Oct 21, 2015