

**GCEC Regular Meeting
Wednesday, November 18, 2015
5:30 p.m., UOG SOE Building**

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

GCEC Acting Chair Baza-Cruz called the meeting to order at **5:30 p.m.**, Wed, Nov. 16, 2015 at the UOG SOE, Room 213, Mangilao.

Commission Members

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

Absent: Gayle Hendricks (Excused)

Other Present: Doris Faisao & Katrina Perez (DOE)

L Santos added under New Business the following

- C. Speaker Won Pat's draft bill to amend PL 32-236
- D. 3rd Annual Ted Andrews Winter Symposium, San Diego, Feb. 3-4, 2016

Michelle Santos added Open Forum before Announcement

Motion by M Santos and seconded by Ichihara – Rosario to approve the amendments to the agenda. APPROVED.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

M Santos pointed out that in Page 3, B. Language tests – delete “for” and replace with “by” and “Currently, only Mandarin is the only approved modern language test...”

Motion by M Santos and seconded by Cooper-Nurse to approve the minutes with the recommended changes. APPROVED.

III. REPORTS

A. TREASURER'S REPORT

No report because staff has no access to the AS 400.

B. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

No report.

C. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

ACTIVITIES

From September 12 – Nov 13, 2015, GCEC issued 36 certificates, and 1 Extension was granted. There were 146 walk-ins, 478 emails and 627 telephone calls.

- 132 21% Others
- 104 17% PRAXIS
- 101 16% Office info – location, office hours, etc.
- 81 13% Renewal requirements
- 77 12% Initial info
- 35 5% SOE
- 24 4% Endorsements
- 19 3% DOE
- 14 2% Replacement certificates
- 14 2% Extensions
- 13 2% Reciprocity
- 11 2% Costs of Certificates
- 2 1% Educator file / records

OPERATIONS

- Sep 30 GCEC nominee, Allowyn Gem Boyd, was chosen as participant for the ETS MSSS for ESOL
- Oct 5 Appointment with AG legal counsels
- Oct 8 Deposition for GFT lawsuit
- Oct 21 Father Duenas Memorial High School Faculty orientation on PL 32-236 & Educator Misconduct
- Oct 29 GCC Student Convocation Career Fair – 42 attendees signed in
- Nov 6 GCC Advisory Committee Meeting
- Responded to NASDTEC surveys
 - Iowa – Policy on the use of illegal drugs and alcohol at school and school functions
 - Vermont – Policies on whether teaching experience is required for Principal and / or Superintendent endorsements
 - New Mexico – How other states provide approval and accreditation for their Educator Preparation Programs
 - Rhode Island – If states require teachers to earn an MA degree during their career or if this has been a requirement that states are moving away from
 - Interstate agreement
- Webinar
 - Sep 22 Cyber ethics for Educators
 - Sep 23 How to use PPAT to support teacher candidate
 - Nov 10 Best practices for supporting our military – connected teachers

D. SUB-COMMITTEE

No reports.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. LIST OF PRAXIS II CONTENT TESTS

a. Early Childhood - Test # 5024

L Santos explained that SOE Dean recommended that the correct content test was #5022. Since Aug. 2015, this test was replaced by # 5025 and this has been adopted by most states. M Santos stated that the Early Childhood faculty concurred and made the same recommendation.

Motion by M Santos and seconded by Ichihara-Rosario that Praxis II test #5025 will be the required for Early Childhood content test with a passing score of 156. APPROVED.

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

Baza-Cruz reviewed #5354 as the Special Ed. pedagogy content test and #5018 Elementary Ed content in the 4 areas (Reading, Language Arts, Social Sciences and Math). M Santos explained that Elementary Special Ed students did not have a content test and were not getting tested in their ability to teach the 4 content areas. In order to comply with the law, the students needed to be tested in the 4 content areas they would be teaching. Baza-Cruz asked about the Special Ed students who would be teaching grades 7 – 12. M Santos said that this is a separate discussion.

Currently, GCEC certificates are for Special Education Pre K-12. Ichihara-Rosario explained that in GWHS, they are moving towards inclusion. They have some resource room teachers. They used to have 20 and are now down to 10. They are now used as consulting resource teachers or are teachers to special ed. students who cannot be included in the general population. They are trying to move the special ed. students to the regular classrooms based on the administration's recommendation for inclusion.

M Santos explained that there are 2 issues. One is the need for a content test. The other is the need to certify for SPED teachers in Secondary Ed. Therefore, they need to be certified as a Secondary Ed teacher first and SPED is an add-on credential.

M Santos explained that in other states, if you are going to teach Secondary Ed. SPED, you have your content area first then you get SPED certification. Ichihara-Rosario concurred and discussed Hawaii's SPED certificates.

Cooper-Nurse explained that teachers need to know their content in order to align them with their programs.

M Santos explained that in the future, there will no longer be a degree in Special Education at SOE. A student will have to take additional classes to get the SPED endorsement.

Baza-Cruz explained that she has an Elementary Education Special Education degree from the 1980's. She asked which test would she take? M Santos explained that the teacher preparation program has changed. She explained that

it would depend on what tests were taken, where the internship / student teaching was done and the endorsement of the teacher preparation program. Baza-Cruz stated that they need to table this test for further research and to also examine what other states are doing with the SPED content test. M Santos stated that perhaps PLT is not a "one size fits all test" and to look for an appropriate test.

c. Spanish: World Language – Test # 5195

Santos reported that the passing score for Spanish is 168.

d. French: World Language – Test # 5174

Santos reported that the passing score for French is 162.

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

Discussion was tabled.

C. Basic Preschool Renewal requirements

Cooper-Nurse recommended to delete "*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*" be replaced by "approved by the administrator where they are employed."

Early Childhood certificates require a Bachelor's degree while a Basic Preschool certificates only requires an Associate degree.

Cooper-Nurse explained that in her school, of the current 4 DOE preschool teachers, 2 have a Basic Preschool certificate. Unless the law is changed, these teachers cannot renew their certificates because they are not working as Head Start teachers.

M Santos suggested "*...fifteen (15) clock hours of in-service professional development that is acknowledged by the site administrator...*"

Ichihara-Rosario suggested that they might use the same form that teachers are using.

Fran Camacho explained GCEC has always accepted Cathy Schroeder's letter stating that the teacher completed the 15 clock hours. She also discussed that 2 Charter School teachers want to renew their Basic Preschool certificates but are not teaching Preschool. One is teaching Kindergarten and the other in Second Grade.

Motion by Cooper-Nurse and seconded by Ichihara-Rosario to amend the law stating *...fifteen (15) clock hours of in-service professional development that is classroom focused and acknowledged by the site administrator...* APPROVED.

D. NASDTEC Educator Ethics course

L Santos reported that she will inform the commission members when payment has been made so they can take the course online.

V. NEW BUSINESS

A. Early Childhood certificates

- a. PLT Early Childhood – Test #5621
- b. Early Childhood Content Knowledge - Test # 5022

Discussion was tabled. M Santos stated that B is not an issue.

B. Travel Policy – May and June 2016

L Santos informed the members that there is a travel ban for May and June 2016. The 88th Annual NASDTEC meeting in Philadelphia is scheduled for June 5-7.

C. Speaker Won Pat’s draft bill to amend PL 32-236

Santos explained that except for Section 25 in Page 11, the other sections were approved during the March 30, 2015 work session. This is an existing law which allows judicial review of decisions made by GCEC relating to ethics issues. Santos will inform members when the public hearing is scheduled so they can testify and / or attend.

D. 3rd Annual Ted Andrews Winter Symposium, San Diego, Feb. 3-4, 2016

Santos pointed out that the subject matter does not really apply to Guam.

VI EX – OFFICIO

VII Announcements

VIII Open Forum

M Santos inquired about the requirement that the degree must come from a regionally accredited institution. A young lady completed a teacher preparation program from Northland and an M A in Secondary Ed from Bob Jones University. Northland is accredited by ACICS (Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools) and Bob Jones is accredited by TRACS (Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools). She stated that they are recognized by the federal government and they receive federal funds. The lady had all the necessary courses. Camacho stated that the regional accreditation requirement was a carryover from DOE. Foreign graduates are required to get a course by course evaluation of their transcripts from a NACES (National Association of Credential Evaluation Services) member. M Santos questions why we can accept foreign graduates but cannot accept those who graduate from an American institution when both are not regionally accredited. M Santos asks what option do graduates like her have. She suggests that the commission needs to look at this.

L Santos suggests that we can have a survey done through NASDTEC. Santos and Camacho added that regional accreditation is also used to determine which online university degrees / courses are acceptable.

Faisao explained that for reclassification, they look at the transcript to make sure that they were awarded a degree.

M Santos suggested that this is an issue that needs to be studied.

Perez added that when DOE is doing cross leveling, some DOE SPED teachers who may be teaching in elementary are not willing to move to the secondary level and vice versa. Perhaps the content area is the issue. The teachers explain that they have no experience with the different level. M Santos said that this is also a problem with ESL teachers.

VII Executive Session

IX Adjournment

Adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

Motion by M Santos and seconded by Ichihara-Rosario to adjourn. APPROVED.