

**GCEC Regular Meeting
Wednesday, February 10, 2016
5:30 p.m., UOG SOE Building**

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

GCEC Chair Hendricks called the meeting to order at **5:30 p.m.**, Wed, Feb 10, 2016 at the UOG - SOE, Room 213, Mangilao.

Commission Members: All Present

Others Present: Lourdes Benavente (GEB) and Mary Okada (GCC)

L Santos added under New Business

- D. FY 2017 Budget

Motion by M Santos and seconded by Baza-Cruz to approve the amendment to the agenda. APPROVED.

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by M Santos to accept the amended agenda. APPROVED.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

III. REPORTS

A. TREASURER'S REPORT

Ichihara-Rosario reported that as of Feb. 9, 2016, FY16 YTD Collection Fee was \$2,499, Expenditures were \$8,461.38, Total Collection Fee not loaded was \$91,904.24 and Total Funds Available were \$21,067.09.

Hendricks requested that staff keep track of all Fee Account expenditures that occurs because of inadequate funding. She expressed her concern that because many educators are now qualifying for Master Educator certificates (10 year term), the decline in the Fee Account collections coupled with inadequate funding levels will result in the erosion of the fund.

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by M Santos to approve the Treasurer's Report. APPROVED.

B. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

No report.

C. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

From Nov. 14, 2015 – Feb. 5, 2016, GCEC issued 117 certificates, including 2 Extensions. One (1) Extension request was denied. There were 269 walk-ins, 584 emails and 958 telephone calls with the following breakdown.

○ 197	20%	Others
○ 174	17%	Office info – location, office hours, etc.
○ 141	14%	PRAXIS
○ 129	13%	Renewal requirements
○ 125	13%	Initial info
○ 63	6%	SOE
○ 51	5%	DOE
○ 32	3%	Endorsements
○ 22	2%	Extensions
○ 16	2%	Reciprocity
○ 14	2%	Replacement certificates
○ 14	2%	Costs of Certificates
○ 8	1%	Educator file / records

OPERATIONS

L Santos attended the following:

- NASDTEC Webinar on Nov. 18
- NASDTEC Western Region conference call on Nov. 18
- Meeting on Bill 209 on Nov. 24
- Testified on Bill 209 on Dec. 7

L Santos responded to NASDTEC surveys for

- Hawaii – policies relating to alternative routes for licensures as well as STEM & multiple subject licenses
- Hawaii – policies and practices in regard to the adoption and use of teacher performance assessments
- Poll to amend NASDTEC by-laws to permit school districts and national accreditation organizations who are associate members to have read – only access to the Clearinghouse
- Pennsylvania – policies and procedures regarding the assessing of fees and fines in educator misconduct cases
- Georgia – policies and procedures for state wide exit surveys of educators
- Colorado – how jurisdictions around the country currently process licenses and renewals; information on online licensing systems
- Arkansas & North Dakota – on the use of basic skills exams for licensure

L Santos responded to an ETS telephone survey with Gary Ocher on Feb. 3.

L Santos explained that the denied extension request was for an applicant who was short one (1) credit to renew his Temporary certificate.

M Santos and Ichihara-Rosario requested for an annual compilation on the types of certificates issued and the content areas.

Motion by M Santos and seconded by Baza-Cruz to approve the Executive Directors report. APPROVED.

D. SUB-COMMITTEE

No reports.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. LIST OF PRAXIS II CONTENT TESTS

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

L Santos discussed the need to identify a content test and the need for certified SPED teachers at the Elementary level.

Ichihara-Rosario pointed out that Secondary SPED teachers specialize in their core subject and in SPED. M Santos added that they are usually teachers who completed an MA in SPED.

Hendricks discussed that the IDEA law requires secondary SPED teachers to have a degree in their content area and also in SPED. She added that the minimum requirement is a degree and a certificate of specialization. M Santos stated that this issue was tabled to examine what other states are doing in relation to the content and discuss whether the SPED test will replace PLT. Baza-Cruz asked that the issue be tabled.

M Santos explained that in the future, SPED will be an endorsement under Elementary or Secondary Ed. or one can complete an M A in SPED. One issue is to determine the appropriate test for Guam.

Baza-Cruz asked if the commission was only looking at Elementary SPED and also inquired about Secondary SPED.

M Santos explained that the current SPED test does not measure content so one issue is how do you measure content knowledge. One recommendation was to use the content knowledge test for English, Math, Science and Social Studies. So then how do you measure for SPED? “Then maybe the PLT is not a one size fit all answer. Then maybe you need the SPED assessment as opposed to the PLT.” She then asked if there was another test for SPED content.

Hendricks reiterated that the law requires certification in both areas and a certificate at the elementary or secondary level plus at least a SPED endorsement. She believes the commission needs to resolve the issue.

M Santos volunteered to work with Baza-Cruz to resolve this issue.

Hendricks tabled this item pending the recommendation of M Santos and Baza-Cruz.

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

M Santos stated that ACTF Director of Education Paul Sandrock informed her that ACTF does not have numerical scores but passing levels. For Japanese, it is Intermediate High for proficiency. She recommended that Guam adopt Hawaii's score of Intermediate Mid for both OPI and WPT tests.

Motion by M Santos and seconded by Baza-Cruz to accept the ACTF scores of Intermediate Mid for both the Japanese OPI (Oral Proficiency Interview) and WPT (Written Proficiency Test). APPROVED.

L Santos will work with ACTF for the adoption of the tests and inquire about review materials.

C. NASDTEC Educator Ethics course

L Santos reported that the PO has been processed but DOA has not issued the payment.

V New Business

A. Early Childhood certificates

a. PLT Early Childhood – Test #5621

L. Santos discussed that with DOE's Pre-K program, will GCEC continue to require the PLT K-6 or the PLT Early Childhood test.

M Santos recommended that the test should be examined since some educators may want to get an endorsement in Early Childhood by passing the test. Hendricks suggested and Cooper-Nurse volunteered to make the recommendations.

B. Bill 209-33

L Santos reported that the Speaker will be calling a meeting to discuss the proposed changes.

C. Requirement for Regional Accreditation

M Santos asked why foreign graduates are granted educator certificates based on a course by course analysis of their transcripts by a NACES member while graduates from non-regionally accredited American schools are excluded. A private school teacher has a teaching degree from Bob Jones (accredited by TRACS – Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools) and an MA from Northland (ACICS Accrediting Council for Independent Colleges and Schools). She asked if the foreign graduates had an advantage over the graduates from non-regionally American institutions. She questioned if this was fair.

Hendricks stated that the issue of fairness needs to be addressed. She inquired if the said schools that are non - regionally accredited institutions are CAEP or NCATE accredited.

M Santos added that the students received federal financial aid.

Okada explained that the issue is whether the schools are recognized by USDOE because this will determine if you have access to federal funds. All accrediting

institutions must apply with the USDOE to gain recognition. There is a list of requirements that must be met by the schools.

Hendricks mentioned that if the commission decides to make this change, then PL 31-50 must be amended. She expressed concern with the “fly by night” institutions.

Okada added that schools must comply with a whole timeline to maintain recognition.

Hendricks wants to make sure that GCEC is not discriminating is one issue.

Baza-Cruz added that the other issue is to make sure that the change will not compromise the integrity of the GCEC certificates.

L Santos will request for a NASDTEC survey regarding the requirement for completing an education prep program from a regionally accredited institution.

D. FY 2017 Budget

L Santos explained that the total budget request is \$474,815, including \$200,000 for Legal Fees as suggested by the oversight chair last fiscal year.

The only adjustment were the salaries because of the increments. The Contractual Services includes the contracts for copiers, off-island trainer, NASDTEC fees, media for advertising, webmasters, data storage and Legal Services.

Motion by M Santos and seconded by Baza-Cruz to discuss FY 2017 Budget Request. APPROVED.

Personnel Services decreased by \$1,485 because the new Admin. Assistant started at Step 1 while the previous Admin Asst. had a higher salary because she transferred from another agency.

L Santos explained that the \$200,000 request for Legal Services is for the lawyer and the investigator.

Motion by M Santos and seconded by Baza-Cruz to approve the FY 2017 Budget Request. APPROVED.

VI Ex-Officio

VII Announcements

M Santos questioned that if you were no longer a certified teacher then you could not be a certified administrator. Ichihara-Rosario replied that it was OK as long as they were only administrators. Hendricks inquired when the change occurred and pointed out that to become a school administrator, you had to be a teacher. M Santos added that if you were no longer a certified teacher, then you could not be a certified administrator. Hendricks has maintained both certificates all these years. Hendricks asked Benavente to look into this policy.

M Santos pointed out that some pages of the website needed to be updated.

Recess at 6:32 pm.

2.10.16

VII Executive Session

Resume at 6:53 pm.

IX Adjournment

Adjourned at 6:53 p.m.

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by M Santos to adjourn. APPROVED.

Next meeting scheduled for April 13, 2016.