

**GCEC Regular Meeting
Thursday, October 13, 2016
4:30 p.m., UOG SOE Building**

I. CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

GCEC Chair Hendricks called the meeting to order at **4:34 p.m.**, on Thursday, Oct. 13, 2016 at the UOG - SOE, Room 213, Mangilao.

Commission Members: All Present

Others Present: SOE Dean Sanchez (UOG)

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

III. REPORTS

A. TREASURER'S REPORT

Santos reported that there is no report because GCEC had no access to the AS 400 since it is the end of the fiscal year.

B. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Hendricks sent GCEC a copy of her response letter to Kin Fernandez regarding his request to lower the standards.

C. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Sep 26 Appeals Committee meeting
- Sep 26 meeting with SOE Dean Sanchez on the TEAC/NCATE Accreditation and TEACH Grant Program Eligibility
- Oct 4 telephonic monthly meeting with Sen. Underwood's chief of staff and discussed GCEC's concern regarding a GDOE funded lawyer and investigator.
- Oct 5 Work session with Dr. McManus
- Oct. 6 meeting with the Speaker regarding GCEC's concern with the GDOE funded lawyer and investigator. She will speak to the Vice-Speaker and the AG regarding finding a solution for GCEC's need for a lawyer and investigator.
- Oct 12 teleconference with the NASDEC Western region members
- NASDTEC surveys
 - Massachusetts - transcript evaluation procedures for foreign equivalency
 - Idaho - Occupational therapist / Physical therapist credentials
 - New Mexico - policies and practices where it has been determined that a credential has been issued in error
 - South Carolina - how jurisdiction credentials content area teachers and specific teaching permissions for math
 - Arkansas - policies regarding issuance of paper certificates

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by Ichihara-Rosario to approve the Executive Director's report. APPROVED.

D. SUB-COMMITTEE

No reports.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

A. Early Childhood certificates

Issue was resolved earlier. Ichihara-Rosario stated that for SPED in Hawaii, both content and special education certification are required for elementary and secondary educators. She added that Hawaii's Early Childhood is not under the Hawaii Dept. of Education.

L Santos explained that the PRAXIS listing has been updated to reflect the approved changes.

B. Bill 209-33 to amend PL 32-236

Hendricks stated that GFT did not provide GCEC with the requested information. Baza-Cruz confirmed that GFT only provided the law. Based on her analysis, the earliest hearing is 4 months. With the GCEC law, she believes that GCEC should not wait for another entity's decision. GCEC's responsibility is to make sure that "... *the teacher in the classroom is qualified and has no issue(s).*" GCEC should handle ethics complaints according to the current law. M Santos mentioned that CSC also deals with the employer's administrative mistakes. She emphasized that GCEC is a separate and independent entity with different processes. L Santos added that many times, the agency loses because of the 60 day rule. Based on Baza-Cruz's review, she recommended that GCEC maintain the current position.

Motion by Baza-Cruz and seconded by Ichihara-Rosario for GCEC to maintain its current rules and regulations relating to ethics violations and will not support any changes to the existing law. APPROVED.

C. Middle School Science

M Santos recommended that Guam adopt the cut score of 150 since most states have implemented this score.

Motion by M Santos and seconded by Cooper-Nurse use the cut score of 150 and add Middle School Science to the list of subject areas for certification. APPROVED.

D. Chamorro Language Certification

Sanchez explained that "...*certification will resolve the issues and ensure consistency among the certified Chamorro teachers from now on.*" M Santos pointed out that ED 319 (Children's Literature) is no longer part of the program and HI 121 (World History) should not be Specialty Requirement for Chamorro Language and Culture.

Based on M Santos' analysis of the catalogue and program requirements, she recommended the following changes.

- 1) Delete ED 403 and add the option of ED 605 in case they want to be an MAT student
- 2) Delete ED 487 and allow ED 606
- 3) Delete ED 454 and ED 630 and allow ED 609 and ED 637
- 4) Delete ED 629 and replace with ED 608
- 5) Add ED 698
- 6) Add ED 481G and ED 616i since both are methods

- 7) ED 265 and HI 211 are both required for certification so delete them from the Specialty Requirements list
- 8) The following courses are acceptable – ED 280, ED 385 ABC, AN 320, CM 494, CM 101 / 102, CM 201 / 202 and CM 340.

L Santos inquired about the content test. Sanchez replied that because there are no content standards for Chamorro, it is difficult to develop a content test. He added that UOG “...*can look at developing a Chamorro content test.*” Cooper-Nurse mentioned that there is a push for a Chamorro immersion school. Hendricks asked if there are students now that will be impacted by these changes. Camacho replied that those who have Temporary or Basic certificates could be impacted. Hendricks wants to make sure that the changes should not impact any student. Sanchez suggested that GCEC “grandfather” those who took the courses that will be deleted.

Motion by Ichihara-Rosario and seconded by Cooper-Nurse to adopt the recommended changes for the Chamorro Language and Culture evaluation and will accept courses that will be deleted if taken prior to January 2017. APPROVED.

E. PRAXIS II Special Education / Early Childhood

During the meeting with McManus, Hendricks learned that there are no students in the pipeline that will be affected with the changes in the PRAXIS II test so she believes that there is no need to any action. M Santos discussed that it would not be fair to require 3 tests - Elementary content, Special Ed and PLT. For a Special Ed endorsement, the requirement is 15 SPED credits or the PRAXIS II test. Hendricks asked if GCEC will certify a teacher in SPED K-12 if the person passed their Elementary content and SPED PLT. M Santos pointed out that this issue is similar to the ESL situation. The MA in SPED is K-12. Sanchez discussed that SPED and ESL should have the same treatment. Baza-Cruz expressed her concern with a teacher who has no field experience in SPED that is teaching because of an endorsement. She believes that field experience is vital because SPED students have many requirements. M Santos pointed out that GCEC has a responsibility to make sure that a teacher is properly trained, especially since a Guam teacher can take their certificate to another jurisdiction based on reciprocity. Ichihara-Rosario discussed that due to the teacher shortage, the administrators are under pressure to accept any teacher. Sanchez suggested that GCEC should think about the need for field experience when serving a specific population (e.g. ESL, SPED). Hendricks asked if there is a need to change the language for PLT’s. Cooper-Nurse expressed her concerns relating to the needs of the population. Based on issues raised, M Santos recommended to table the issue.

V. NEW BUSINESS

1. ELL (English Language Learners)

Ichihara-Rosario questioned why GCEC is still using ESL (English Language Learners) instead of ELL. While some states are using ELL, others are still using ESL. M Santos pointed out that this might be a semantic issue. Sanchez suggested that Guam should wait for an official position from the national organization.

VI Ex-Officio

Sanchez stated that they are currently working on the MAT Elementary program and that could be have ready by April.

VII Announcements

10.13.16

IX Adjournment

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

Adjourned at 5:29 p.m.

Next meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 16, 2017, 4:15 pm.