

COMMITTEE ON ACCREDITATION MINUTES

August 21, 2003

California Commission on Teacher Credentialing
Sacramento, California

Committee Members Present

Frederick Baker
Diane Doe
Dana Griggs
Irma Guzman Wagner
Edward Kujawa
David Madrigal
Ruth Sandlin
Sue Teele
Donna Uyemoto
Michael Watenpaugh

Staff Members Present

Larry Birch, Administrator
Beth Graybill, Interim Director
Phil Fitch, Consultant
Cheryl Hickey, Consultant
Jim Alford, Consultant
Rod Santiago, Consultant
Marilynn Fairgood, Consultant
Jan Jones Wadsworth, Consultant
Teri Ackerman, Analyst/Recorder
Marla Miles, Secretary

Committee Members Absent

Lynne Cook
Karen O'Connor

Others Present

Tom Humphries

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Committee on Accreditation was called to order by Ed Kujawa, Co-Chair, at 10:10 a.m. on Thursday, August 21, 2003.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Co-Chair Ed Kujawa reviewed the agenda for the August meeting. It was moved, seconded (Teele/Watenpaugh) and carried to approve the agenda as presented. At this time Administrator Larry Birch introduced new committee member, Dana Griggs, Assistant Superintendent of the Ontario-Montclair School District. Dana will be taking the place of Dennis Jory, who has retired.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The minutes of the May 2003 meeting of the Committee on Accreditation were reviewed. It was moved, seconded (Teele/Guzman Wagner) and carried to approve the minutes as corrected. (A corrected copy will be provided for COA members.)

CO-CHAIR AND MEMBER REPORTS

Co-Chair David Madrigal welcomed everyone back to the COA. He noted that due to budget constraints statewide it is going to be a tough year for all. Ed Kujawa agreed, citing declines in the number of people entering the teacher education programs at his institution. He noted that more students appear to be enrolling in the part-time program. Irma Guzman Wagner agreed, noting that CSU enrolment targets that were set last spring have been drastically cut back.

Ruth Sandlin spent three weeks this summer in Australia as part of a conference on Teacher Education. She added to the above comments by stating that her institution's teacher education enrolments are closed and that new applicants are not being accepted.

Sue Teele announced that she will complete the writing of a book on reading in ten days at which time it will be "off to the publisher." She will keep the COA updated as developments occur.

Diane Doe noted that although new teachers are anxious to work, the majority of teachers being hired by districts are special education teachers as opposed to multiple and single subject teachers. It has been a hard time for new teachers.

STAFF REPORT

Administrator Larry Birch noted that the COA is also in the midst of budgetary woes due to lack of state resources. He mentioned that the Commission on Teacher Credentialing has been dealing with required reductions in both staff and expenditures and can appreciate the monetary woes of the IHE's and districts since the Commission is going through the same thing.

ADOPTION OF THE 2003-2004 WORKPLAN

Larry Birch, Administrator, provided an overview of the proposed COA workplan for the upcoming year. The workplan has been modified from previous years so as to adapt to the changes made necessary by current budgetary restraints. It was moved, seconded (Baker/Sandlin) and carried to adopt the workplan for 2003-2004 as presented.

ADOPTION OF THE EIGHTH ANNUAL ACCREDITATION REPORT

An overview of the Eighth Annual Accreditation Report of the Committee on Accreditation was presented by Larry Birch, Administrator. It was moved, seconded (Teele/Uyemoto) and carried to adopt the report as written for presentation at the November Commission meeting. The report will be presented to the Commission by David Madrigal and Ed Kujawa, 2002-2003 Co-Chairs.

REPORT OF PROGRAM AND INSTITUTIONAL ACCREDITATION RECOMMENDATIONS

Administrator, Larry Birch presented the items in this report.

Programs of Professional Preparation for Multiple and Single Subject Credentials – SB 2042 Program Review

It was moved, seconded (Watenpaugh/Sandllin) and carried to grant initial accreditation to the following programs of professional preparation contingent on the previous or subsequent approval of each program's responses to Program Standard 13 by the AB 1059 Review Panel:

Azusa Pacific University
Multiple Subject
Multiple Subject Internship
Single Subject
Single Subject Internship

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo
Multiple Subject
Single Subject

John F. Kennedy University
Multiple Subject
Multiple Subject Internship
Single Subject
Single Subject Internship

Mills College
Multiple Subject
Single Subject

Patten University
Multiple Subject
Multiple Subject Internship
Single Subject
Single Subject Internship

St. Mary's College of California
Multiple Subject
Multiple Subject Internship
Single Subject
Single Subject Internship

Simpson College
Multiple Subject
Single Subject

University of California, Berkeley
Multiple Subject
Single Subject

University of San Francisco
Multiple Subject
Single Subject

Whittier College
Multiple Subject
Multiple Subject Internship

It was moved, seconded (Uyemoto/Guzman Wagner) and carried (Madrigal recused) to grant initial accreditation to the following program contingent upon the previous or subsequent approval of that program's responses to Program Standard 13 by the AB 1059 Review Panel:

Project Pipeline (Sacramento County Office of Education)
Multiple Subject Internship
Single Subject Internship

It was moved, seconded (Guzman Wagner/Doe) and carried (Sandlin and Griggs recused) to grant initial accreditation to the following program contingent upon the previous or subsequent approval of that program's responses to Program Standard 13 by the AB 1059 Review Panel:

California State University, San Bernardino
Multiple Subject
Multiple Subject Internship

Blended Program(s) of Subject Matter Preparation and Professional Preparation for the Multiple and Single Subject Credential Programs

It was moved, seconded (Teele/Guzman Wagner) and carried to grant initial accreditation to the following program of professional preparation contingent upon approval of both the subject matter and professional preparation programs:

San Francisco State University
Liberal Studies (Child & Adolescent Development)/ Multiple Subject Credential

It was moved, seconded (Baker/Griggs) and carried (Teele recused) to grant initial accreditation to the following program of professional preparation contingent upon approval of both the subject matter and professional preparation programs:

University of California, Riverside
Mathematics/ Single Subject Credential

Programs of Professional Preparation for the Pupil Personnel Services Credential

It was moved, seconded (Griggs/Uyemoto) and carried to grant initial accreditation to the following programs of professional preparation (New Standards):

California State University, Long Beach
School Psychology
School Psychology Internship

California State University, Dominguez Hills
School Counseling
School Counseling Internship
Child Welfare and Attendance Specialization

Loyola Marymount University
School Counseling

University of Redlands
School Counseling

It was moved, seconded (Teele/Sandlin) and carried to grant initial accreditation to the following program of professional preparation for the Pupil Personnel Services Credential (New Standards):

California State University, Hayward
School Counseling

It was moved, seconded (Watenpaugh/Guzman Wagner) and carried to grant initial accreditation to the following program of professional preparation for the Pupil Personnel Services Credential (Old Standards):

Point Loma Nazarene University
School Counseling Internship

Programs of Professional Preparation for the Administrative Services Credential

It was moved, seconded (Sandlin/Uyemoto) and carried to grant initial accreditation to the following program of professional preparation for the Administrative Services Credential:

University of California, Berkeley
Professional

Report on Experimental Program and Request for Extension

It was moved, seconded (Baker/Doe) and carried to grant a three year extension to the following experimental combined program of professional preparation:

University of California, San Diego
Multiple Subject BCLAD Emphasis (American Sign Language/ASL)
Education Specialist: Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Recommendations Regarding the Withdrawal of Professional Preparation Programs

It was moved, seconded (Sandlin/Uyemoto) and carried to withdraw the following program at the request of the institution, effective June 30, 2004:

California State University, San Marcos
Multiple Subject Internship

NOMINATION/ELECTION OF CO-CHAIRS FOR 2003-2004

Co-Chair Kujawa turned the meeting over to Administrator, Larry Birch, to conduct the election. Nominated as Co-Chairs for the 2003-2004 year were the 2002-2003 Co-Chairs, David Madrigal and Ed Kujawa. Both graciously accepted the nomination for an additional year as Co-Chairs. It was moved and seconded (Doe/Watenpaugh) to make an exception to the two year term limit for Co-Chairs and that Ed Kujawa and David Madrigal serve as Co-Chairs for the 2003-2004 accreditation year. Both were elected by a unanimous vote.

ITEMS RELEVANT TO POSSIBLE MODIFICATIONS OF COMMISSION ACCREDITATION POLICIES AND COA ACCREDITATION PROCEDURES

Oral report on the August 2003 Commission Meeting

Beth Graybill, Interim Director of the Professional Services Division, presented the report and served as facilitator, along with Administrator Larry Birch. Beth reviewed the decisions made at the August meeting of the Commission regarding the phasing out of emergency permits and reflected on the ramifications this will have regarding the COA and the Commission. She also discussed other changes that will need to be made to the credentialing

process so that California aligns with the NCLB Act. Committee members discussed problems (both potential and current) that these changes will effect.

Summary of the Ready to Teach Act and Implications for Accreditation

This item was presented by Cheryl Hickey who covered proposed changes to be made in the Reauthorization of Title II of the Higher Education Act, especially related to reporting requirements regarding teacher preparation in order to align with the NCLB requirements. The proposed wording calls for a “Description of proposed criteria for assessing the performance of teacher preparation programs in the State, including indicators of teacher candidate skills and academic content knowledge and evidence of gains in student academic achievement.” The COA discussed implications this will have for the accreditation process.

Report of Results and Recommendations of the Reading Standard Review Study

Jim Alford presented an overview of the Reading Standard Review Study focusing on two issues: the Program Review procedure with regard to accreditation visits and the Reading Standard differentiation between expected skills for novices and those expected of experienced teachers. Committee members discussed the ramifications of reading specialization only being required of those teaching grades K-3 or 4-6 rather than teaching of reading skills being required of teachers throughout K-12, no matter what subject they are primarily teaching. There was also discussion involving the report findings of RICA pass rates differing from accreditation reports in which the Reading Standard has been “met with concerns”.

The COA was concerned as to what Commission and COA responsibilities are regarding this report. Questions were asked regarding design of the study, whether team members had been trained in the accreditation process and how the recommendations made in this report fit with what the COA is supposed to do. It was agreed by all that the content specific teachers need to also know how to teach reading.

Accreditation Retrospective and Results of the Accreditation Survey/Comparison of Selected States

In May 2003 several members of the Commission staff were asked to examine specific accreditation issues not covered in the original AIR report. Rod Santiago and Marilyn Fairgood presented the findings along with a comparison of California’s accreditation practices to those of 11 other states. The report included a detailed summary of accreditation team recommendations, visit costs and accreditation methods used.

Findings of the American Institutes for Research Report

The committee discussed the recommendations made by AIR giving emphasis to potential changes to be made to the Accreditation Framework, the current impossibility, due to current budgetary constraints, of providing additional team training and orientation and standardization of the formats of not just the IHE required documentation, but the possibility of providing a “boilerplate” for the accreditation teams to use in their report writing so that all reports follow the same criteria and are measured uniformly by members of the COA.

COA Discussion of the Implications of the Above Items for Accreditation Policies and Procedures

COA members discussed the possibility that NCLB is in fact causing some states to lower their standards just so there can be a national “uniformity”. It was also brought up that instead of “tweaking” things bit by bit, that the COA determine what their real goal is and why they are here. It was suggested that the questions to be addressed are:

Why is there a Committee on Accreditation?

What are all of the pieces we do that do work?

Why do we have the COA and how does it tie into accreditation in general?

How do we react with the Commission in general?

It was suggested by the committee that these items be put on paper and that if there is no October meeting, that subcommittees be formed and meet in order to address these questions. Beth Graybill stated that she would check with the Commission’s legal counsel to see if there is any violation of the Bagley-Keene Act in having subcommittees meet away from the general COA meetings.

Committee members stated that if they were to meet after October, that they would be put in a reactive mode rather than a proactive one. It was agreed that the COA has something to say and is not serving as a “rubber stamping” entity.

Beth Graybill thanked both the COA and Commission staff for their work in preparing the presented information.

In closing, it was agreed that the AIR report doesn’t say that something major, such as “doing away with the COA” is required. Ed Kujawa wished Bon Voyage to Fred Baker who will be spending the fall and winter in Italy. Fred assured everyone that he would still be available through e-mail. Both Co-Chairs stated that they will do all they can to remain proactive with any accreditation changes.

ADJOURNMENT

Ed Kujawa, Co-Chair, adjourned the meeting of the Committee on Accreditation at 4:59 p.m., Thursday, August 21, 2003.