California Baptist University
Graduate Curriculum Committee
Minutes - October 3, 2005

Members Present: Jonathan Parker, Gayne Anacker, DawnEllen Jacobs, Bruce Stokes, Erica McLaughlin, Shawnn Koning, Shelly Rupard, Andy Herrity, James Lu, Darrell Passwater, David Pearson, Mary Crist, Gail Ronveaux, Sean Sullivan

Guest: Pat Kircher

- Gail Ronveaux opened with prayer.

- Gayne Anacker introduced Pat Kircher who presented a progress report on the development of the proposed MPA degree.
  - Dr. Kircher addressed the Committee’s previous concerns (March 2005 meeting) about course objectives as she reviewed the revised syllabi.
  - A+ grade options were removed from all courses.
  - Thesis elements were clarified to answer concerns about student ability to complete in the normative time. Twelve units of course time is actually devoted to various aspects of thesis preparation.
  - Separate course descriptions will be developed to distinguish MPA 598 and 599.

The report was accepted.

- James Lu presented a proposal to change titles of ENG 594/597/598 and course descriptions to more accurately reflect course content and expectations.
  - Mary Crist offered experiences from education thesis preparation in considering ongoing thesis credit for units towards their degree. The Education programs do not use SP for thesis.
  - Jonathan Parker urged program directors to be sure that catalogue descriptions explicitly state limits on repetition, timeline, etc.
  - “Students may enroll for a maximum of four semesters” will be added to course descriptions.

The proposal was accepted as amended. Dr. Lu will confer further with Jonathan Parker and David Pearson regarding a proposed fee structure for thesis candidates.

- Mary Crist presented a proposal for a new specialization in the Master of Science in Education.
  - Dr. Crist prefaced the proposal by giving the Committee information on problem-based learning from the Carnegie foundation to set the context for her proposed alternative to a thesis-driven degree.
  - The program will be a 32 semester Master of Science in Education with a specialization in Teaching and Learning with Induction Program.
The proposed program will be action research/problem based to coordinate with the induction programs required to clear teaching credentials.

- KIN 560, EDU 565, ETC 505, ETC 520, EDU 550, EDU 520, EDU 542, EDU 521, and EDU 522 are existing courses which have all been approved by CCTC for candidates to use in clearing their credentials.

- Dr. Crist clarified that institutions of higher learning no longer recommend candidates for Professional Clear credentials; school districts are now responsible for this. The exception is when a school district cannot provide an approved induction program for their beginning teachers. The district must certify the lack of a program, thereby releasing the candidates to pursue the Professional Clear credential through the university. CBU has an approved program to serve teachers in these circumstances.

- Corona Norco Unified School District approved the program in concept last week. School of Education approved the proposal last Wednesday.

- Requirements which are substantially met in BTSA (Beginning Teacher Support and Assessment) work will be documented through district certificates. Uncertified work will need to be completed with CBU instructors.

- The program allows teachers to meet BITSA requirements and get credit towards a degree.

- The 4 core courses will be taken in their entirety through CBU.

- EDU 520, which is now a 1-2 unit course, will be replaced by a 3/1 course. A new course number will be assigned.

- The program is proposed for a January 2006 start.

- Syllabi for one-credit labs will be approved when they are developed.

The proposal was approved.

- Bruce Stokes presented a proposal to re-name the MFT concentrations.

  - The MS Counseling Psychology concentration currently titled “Marriage and Family Therapy” would be changed to “Professional Counseling” in sensitivity to MFT licensing concerns.

  - The concentration currently titled “Church Based Counseling” would be changed to “Professional Ministry” to designate the program requirements to admit only professional ministers as recognized in CA.

  - The proposal clarifies the distinction between the concentration for professional counselors and the concentration for professional ministers.

  - The proposed course titles better distinguish course content programmatically and to mirror what other similar programs such as Wheaton and Masters are doing.

The proposal was approved.

- The meeting was adjourned at 3:50 pm.