

CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL COUNSELOR PEAB
Meeting Minutes
Central Washington University
October 20, 2006

Members present:

Norm Walker, WSCA, ESD #105, Yakima
Tavis Peterson, AWSP, Chief Kamiakin Elementary, Sunnyside
Shannon Beireis, WSCA, Naches Valley High School, Naches
Joe Rodriguez, WSCA, Franklin Middle School, Yakima
Scott Schaeffe, (PEAB Program Administrator), CWU, Ellensburg

Others present:

Stephanie Stein, Psychology Department Chair, CWU
Robert Brammer, School Counseling Program Director, CWU

1. Informal Networking: Members began gathering at 8:00 for refreshments and conversation. Several of the counseling faculty members joined the PEAB during this informal networking session and introductions were made. Norm Walker brought the meeting to order at 8:33. Norm agreed to serve as PEAB chair today because Jennifer Brownlow was unable to attend the meeting.

2. Announcements:
 - a. Norm Walker advised that he has an alternate number available. People who wish to reach him can try his other numbers or (509) 853-3152 x300
 - b. Time for the December meeting is being extended from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm, due to the number of applicants. We will plan on ordering box lunches for the meeting. Norm will look into this.
 - c. November 2nd: Making Sense of Abstinence: Lessons for Comprehensive Sexuality Education - 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 - d. November 7th: Cory Jewell-Jensen, M.S. (Valley View Elementary, Ellensburg), Parent Workshop on Child Safety: "Advice from Child Molesters" 6:00 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. PROGRAM SPONSORS STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT CHILDREN/TEENS NOT ATTEND this meeting.
 - e. November 8th: Protecting Our Children: "Advice from Child Molesters" 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
 - f. November 27-28, at ESP, Training by WHYTRY for 2-day certification for middle and high school www.whytry.org. Whytry emphasizes a character education program that consists of ten visual analogies (pictures) that relate to specific problems and special challenges that at risk youth face in their every day lives. Each picture includes various solutions and questions, to help the youth gain insight in dealing with their own challenges. To help people achieve opportunity, freedom, and self-respect using education and interventions that motivate and create positive change. We offer hope and an answer to the question Why Try in life?

3. University Report:

- a. There are five candidates for PEAB in December 2006. Timing and scheduling is still needed for this.
- b. Stephanie stated that we need a rubric for evaluating the written comprehensive exams, one that judges whether the students are meeting the standards expected of them. This will help with the NCATE and Washington state review coming in May 2007. We may also want to add a basic rubric for the oral examination, stating a level of performance (e.g., unacceptable, passing, excellent).
- c. In March meeting, the role of the PEAB will be discussed as to how the board can help with the coming NCATE review.
- d. We are beginning a “Job Shadow” program for first year students. There are currently six students who are looking for counselors to follow.
- e. A copy of the new Conceptual Framework for the CWU School Program was distributed. Feedback was requested from the PEAB members. Stephanie suggested that copies of the CF be emailed to all members.
- f. Last year, graduate applications (transcripts, letter of application, and references) were brought to the board (with names and identifying information removed). Stephanie asked if such discussions were helpful. The board agreed that this practice should be continued.

4. Professional Certification Benchmarks:

- a. Norm Walker presented the Residency and Professional Level Benchmarks to the PEAB. They were approved in September 2006 but have not been finalized. Copies were distributed to members for review. Norm stated that the standards would continue to be “tweaked.”
- b. Key consideration: First year of work should be a training year, building experience. The professional development plan should be gathered over the first year but submitted after a year of experience. This is currently not described in the Standards but may be added.
- c. Implications for the CWU program: This is still unclear but will be an important consideration for implication. Norm said these were questions he would explore.
- d. Shannon Beireis stated that the standards might be too comprehensive, covering K-12 when most counselors are only employed at one school level and may not have opportunities unique to other levels.
- e. Stephanie Stein recommended that the various substandards be listed as examples. “The ultimate goal should be that they have met the standard of competency.”
- f. Robert Brammer added, “The guidelines may be introduced with the following, ‘Demonstrates of competence may include...’”
- g. Norm Walker added, “Maybe there should be a caveat—appropriate to work setting.”
- h. Shannon Beireis commented that Standard 8, Information Resources and Technology, should be amended. It should address that technological expertise may not be possible at low-income schools but that school

counselors are expected to have the same technological expertise as the teachers at that school.

- i. Joe Rodriguez commented about limited student classroom expertise and how school counseling students can gain more experience. Stephanie Stein and Robert Brammer commented on how changes in the program were needed to address this limitation. Norm Walker added that experience with special education students might help school counselors as well. Travis Peterson recommended using the text, *Classroom Management That Works: Research-Based Strategies for Every Teacher* by Robert J. Marzano, Debra Pickering, and Jana S. Marzano. Norm Walker also suggested books by Richard L. Curwin, EdD and the Solution Tree Website (<http://www.solution-tree.com>)
 - j. Norm Walker stated that implementation of the WASL (The Washington Assessment of Student Learning) and other state requirements are changing what school counselors do. They are expected to work with 504 management, attendance follow-up, individual student planning, etc. He cautioned that students should expect some “culture-shock” when exiting a program like ours that focuses on the ideal implementation of the ASCA model and then entering a real school setting with competing demands on counselor time.
 - k. Scott Schaeffle concluded the discussion by stating that the standards should reflect what school counselors do. Employers and the state need to realize that many of the activities in testing and record keeping that are increasingly handed off to school counselors are not related to their intended role within the ASCA model. Norm indicated that the state will ultimately have to decide whether the ASCA model will be fully adopted and whether the added responsibilities dumped on school counselors are appropriate. If so, clearly more counselors need to be hired for the schools to address the increased demands.
5. PEAB Tasks for 2006-07:
- a. The PEAB will review five school counseling candidates at the December 1st meeting. Stephanie asked if the board would like to review and edit the interview questions or the written exam questions. Several members said that this wasn’t necessary since we had completely revised both of these sets of questions last year.
 - b. Scott reminded that board that we would review Program Approval Standard #4 at our March meeting. This standard was included in the agenda for members to read.
 - c. Stephanie asked if the PEAB would like to review redacted files of applicants for the school counseling program at our March meeting. Several board members reported that this had been an interesting and useful experience last year and expressed interest in doing this again.
6. New Business: No new business was reported.

7. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:00. Our next meeting is December 1, 2006 at the ESD 105 in Yakima.