



INSTRUCTIONAL FACULTY CONSORTIUM COMMITTEE (IFCC)

EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE EDUCATION MEETING MINUTES

Date: Thursday, September 23, 2021

Time: 10:00 am-12:00pm

Location: IFCC Meeting Recording

Meeting Facilitator: Dr. Nathalie Dames/Kay Wilson-Southeastern Technical College

Recorder: Gena Sapp, Augusta Technical College

Attendees: Kelly Smith North Georgia Tech
Christy Bivins, Dean, North Georgia Technical College
Linda Smith, Director of Child Development Centers, CGTC
Prima Seepaul, TCSG
Dr. Tonia Durden Georgia State University
Brandi Swann Care Solutions
Cinda Young Savannah Technical College
Gena Sapp, Augusta Technical College
Sandra Buckholts Southern Regional Technical College
Diane Griffin Lanier Tech
Kay Wilson Southeastern Technical College
Stephanie Wilkerson- Albany Technical College
Betsy Bouwhuizen, Augusta Technical College
Christy Mitchell Gwinnett Tech
Leslie McKenzie - Athens Technical College
Caroline Sowell, Augusta Tech
Tamika Brundidge, Chattahoochee Tech
Jen Rosenfelt - Gwinnett Tech
Angie Minish
Jim Gale - Atlanta Tech
Susan McKoy- Chattahoochee Tech
Susan Maude from DECAL
Mindy Sumner Southeastern Tech Vidalia
ArKimberly Robinson - Albany Technical College
Cristina Leville, Central Georgia Technical College
Diane McHughes, Southern Crescent Technical College
Tamara Rawlings-CGTC
Songelyn Smith
Lanna Mallette, Oconee Fall Line Technical College
James Peas Southern Crescent Tech
Paula Clifton, Ogeechee Tech
Tian Foss - CGTC Angie Minish North GA. Tech
Taylor Wheeler Oconee Fall Line Technical College

Maria Abercrombie, Chattahoochee Tech
Valerie Tisby- Wiregrass Technical College
Songelyn Smith Wiregrass GA Technical College
Kathy Weber Southern Crescent Technical College
LaVerne Pruitt Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Tracy Wimberley, Georgia Northwestern Technical College
Ruth Nimmer
Kalista Green, Coastal Pines Tech
Joyce Freeman, West Georgia Technical College
Rodithia Holloman (Carr) Augusta Technical College
Wanda Brubaker... Lanier Technical College
Carolyn Jones here from Southern Regional Technical College.
Sherry Lowery GPTC
Wendy Grey - West Georgia Technical College
Linda Travers GPTC
Lisa White, Athens Technical College
Linda Travers Georgia Piedmont Technical College
Rita Parmer, Columbus Technical College
Jennifer Dixon, GNTC
Jean Jones, GPTC

WELCOME AND CALL TO ORDER:

- Kay Wilson welcomed everyone and attendance was taken. If corrections or additions need to contact Kay Wilson so we have a clean record.
- Kay Wilson announced that Gena Sapp is our state recorder.
- If anyone knows of faculty that are no longer with TCSG, please contact Kay Wilson and/or Dr. Nathalie Dames so that they can be removed from the list serve.

Introduction: DECAL Scholars Evaluation Report

- Contact Dr. Nathalie Dames if we have any questions, she is here for us.
- Kay Wilson introduced Susan Maude as the DEAL Scholar specialist who will be presenting this morning. Please see attached ppt concerning DECAL Scholarships, Awards, and Incentives.

What's working at Southern Crescent Technical College

- Dr. James Peas from Southern Crescent Technical College spoke about their method of giving students information about Scholarships, Awards, and Incentives. Students are given information in Basics TCC, Specialization TCC, and Internship. Students fill out the forms and instructors help students fill the out the forms. Students enrolled in 1101,1103, 1105 may not be eligible for awards because they haven't worked a year. Because Dr. Peas received the incentive and awards during his education career, he knows what the students need to do and explains how the system works. Sessions are conducted online via Blackboard, Collaborate, and face-to-face. Students

then take the forms home to finish completing them. He explained that he adds a letter to student's employer explaining where the money is coming from and that it does not affect the center's money. Employee letter was included in the handout. He will send it out again.

- Dr. Peas discussed that Mercer University takes all courses one for one and he will give us contact information to partner with Mercer. His students can go in as a Junior and students can receive money while in school. He has approximately 540 students in their program and they are currently scheduling mini-mesters.

Project SEED and Articulation

- Dr. Tonia Durden of Georgia State University Birth-5 coordinator gave an update stating that TCSG and Care Solution have partnered to help with Project SEED. The focus of this program is on workforce development. The purpose is to increase the diversity of our workforce and to give students a means of earning a four-year degree in Birth to age 5. A part of the requirement is to be representative from a ethnically linguistically diverse background and to be currently employed in field. Participants receive a computer and full tuition after all financial aid and scholarships have been awarded. Students are in coaching groups that help the students with homelife, studying, and teaching. Any students who are graduating who may want to participate, the deadline is next week. Students must be able to travel to Atlanta.
- Georgia State also is offering a Birth-5 graduate degree starting in the spring and will be online. Bachelor's degree required and is the target populations. The program of study should take about a year.
- Georgia State is in the process of analyzing the program of study of the tech school to see what students need or already have so that students can transfer into the Birth-5 bachelor's program.
- Project SEED: <https://education.gsu.edu/2018/04/15/five-cehd-alumni-selected-for-georgia-states-inaugural-40-under-40-program/>

Q & A for DECAL

- Southern Regional requested DECAL to come see their students. Brandi reported that she will make that happen.
- Could Webex conferences work to give out information for Scholarships, Award, and Incentives? Dr. Peas reported that they do live sessions on Blackboard for students. Brandi can do this as well.
- Head Start teachers and Military Child Care do qualify for this money, however, exempt programs do not qualify.
- Waiting periods are addressed on individual basis. Are there some students that DECAL are unable to support, but will try to help students as much as possible and get them

back to work. DECAL will cover the 80% that Financial Aid does not cover. This includes TCC's as well.

- Some centers just want CDA but others want more. DECAL works with what the center is looking for. They do not tell the student what they must take.

Region Updates

North Region

Athens Technical College -

- Back to doing classroom observations for practicum and internship students.
- Hands Are Not For Hitting puppet shows in the Clarke County schools. We have done this for 12 years. We did not do it last year and are looking forward to doing these shows this year.
- Student associate is making seat pockets for 3 elementary school classrooms under the leadership of Leslie McKenzie.
- 2 Skill USA winners' last spring. One went on to the National competition. We are very proud of these students.
- Enrollment overall is down from normal.

Atlanta Technical College -

- Katie Day has retired.
- Jim Gale is overseeing the department.

Chattahoochee Technical College -

- Susan McKoy received her Doctoral degree in Early Child Care Education from Walden University. Congratulations, Dr. McKoy!
- Currently offering E-campus course through TCSG. We are now offering more Live Online Courses so we can better meet the needs of our working students who would like face-to-face contact with instructors (using WebEx or Blackboard Collaborate). 98% of our program are offered in 8-week courses.
- CTC NAEYC accreditation is up for renewal, but they will not be submitting for it.

Lanier Technical College -

- Dr. Wanda Brubaker joined our program last year in the midst of the pandemic, so we are glad to have her on board.
- I have started my EdD program in an online format at Valdosta State University and could really use the encouragement and some kind thoughts of encouragement sent my way as I start this challenge!
- Our enrollment is up 28% in spite of the pandemic, and we are now in the top 5 programs at LTC.
- Our pathway initiatives with local high schools have been very successful and helps us to increase amount of AA students that are continuing on to the university level.
- We made a relatively smooth transition to virtual delivery and are finding that our students are reluctant to come back to campus for face to face.

Georgia Northwestern Technical College -

- We are pretty much rocking along business as usual. Our online classes filled again far beyond our original projection. Our Hybrids-not so much. I imagine all other colleges have similar enrollment reports.
- GNTC is in the process of getting NACEP Accreditation. Curious if other TCSG schools have attained that already or are they also working on it as well.
- Our program is going to add additional guided electives in place of 2246 for students interested.

Georgia Piedmont Technical College -

- We have been maintaining our program (180+ students this semester) and are working now on our college's SACS accreditation.
- We have been able to connect with schools and centers to provide Practicum and Internship so are happy we can offer these classes despite COVID.

North Georgia Technical College -

- ECCE met their enrollment goal for fall at NGTC.
- Our NGTC ECCE Department was on the reality television show "The Seven Little Johnstons". Anna attended our ECCE program.
- Deitra Gray-ECCE student selected our college representative for Perkins Goal at NGTC. She also participated at state level, and we are very proud of her.

Gwinnett Technical College -

- Jennifer Roberts moved to a Dean position at GTC from ECCE.
- Christy Mitchel is now the Program Chair.
- Lani (pronounced "law nee") Douglas is our new full-time instructor. Below are some questions that Christy had since she is a new program chair.
 1. How do other colleges structure their practicum and internship BB shells. In calculating the total points do you weigh the hours so that in BB if a student doesn't complete the hours, they fail in the BB shell?
 2. Could we start some sort of form that we could all see what texts books each college is using for each class. So that when we want to change, we could have ideas.
 3. How do other colleges set up their total points column in BB? Is it a score, letter, percentage, or combination of these? We have it as a score and percentage. Does anyone just have it as a letter? Wondering if having it just a letter would cut down on students asking for extra credit when they see they are 10 points away from the next letter grade at the end of the semester.
 4. Service area for practicum and internships. What does service area mean and how far will you travel to do observations for practicum and internships? How many observations are done for each class every semester? They are not part of the course competencies so are they necessary? Most other degree programs with internships don't have a college representative going to observe the student. (Example: criminal justice)
 5. Does anyone have capstone projects instead of hours for practicum or internship and how does this work. Is this a different course number since the course competencies state the hours required? I think I heard that maybe one college is doing this?

6. Has anyone else gone through a reaccreditation process for NAEYC yet? If so, ours is coming up and wanted to know what to expect.
7. With COVID we are being hit hard with quarantines. Some of the students may be shy of the hours due to quarantines. Are other colleges having the same issue and are they allowing other options for hours?

Central Region

Ogeechee Technical College

- Increased enrollment
- Updated articulation agreements that allow easier transition from OTC to GSU
- ECCE was highlighted with a promotional Program Takeover video
- ECCE students were highlighted in a Non-Traditional Video
- We won the Kidd Kraddick's Overachieving Teacher National Prize Package

Southeastern Tech

- We were able to place 100% of our Practicum and Internship students this semester. (This has been somewhat of an issue due to COVID.)
- One of our degree students applied and was accepted for Project SEED (Supporting Early Educator's Development). Project SEED provides an innovative, fully funded teacher preparation experience for professionals interested in earning a degree in Birth-Five.

South Region

Savannah Tech

- Savannah Tech is still working on an articulation for an Associate of Science in Early Childhood Care and Education with Georgia Sothern's Birth to Kindergarten Bachelor's degree program. This has been complicated but I think we are on the home stretch.
- ECCE students were asked to apply as summer tutors for the Savannah Chatham County School District's EMBRACE program. This gave students an opportunity to be in classrooms over the summer with primary grade children to help mitigate the effects of having to be in virtual school for the previous year. All three of the ECCE students who applied were hired and had a wonderful experience.
- As we try to make sure everything is correct in both Banner and our new Navigate program I see a 202014 version of EC13 -Associate of Applied Science in KMS. Regarding the 202014 version are we still on hold? If so, when will it go into effect simply because we are working on an articulation?

Wiregrass

- Since we met last, all of the ECCE classes at Wiregrass have been converted to OER courses! Students seem to love it and they appreciate the extra financial aid they get to use instead of buying books.

South Georgia Tech

- South Georgia Technical College has added more online offerings as a result of COVID and have moved faculty meetings to virtual.
- Student success is our focus, and students have done well with all the adjustments that they have had to make.
- There have been quite a few job openings in childcare centers, Head Start programs, and as paraprofessionals in local schools.
- We are so proud that our students and graduates are filling many of these positions.

Southern Regional Tech

- Nothing interesting has really happened since we met last because COVID-19 shut us down, totally. Therefore, nothing to report in that respective. So, with that being said, COVID-19 is the reason that my major accomplishment was to get my students back involved in coming to campus for classes. I think they really got accustomed to being at home and working.
- So student involvement is improving.
- There have been some communication barriers that come from those students who do not check their student emails regularly. I try to tell my students to check at least twice a day, so what do others do to make sure students get the information we need to get to them?
- I would like to know the textbooks that others have for:
 1. Intro to Early Childhood
 2. Child Growth and Development
 3. Health, Safety, and Nutrition
 4. Curriculum and Assessment
 5. Creative Activities
 6. Math and Science for Children

There was discussion on how far away instructors travel to complete intern and practicum observations. Most colleges reported that they will travel within 2 hours. If anyone has an experience where they are not allowed to complete observations, it was suggested that perhaps the local advisory board committee could make a suggestion and encourage observations to take place.

After a discussion concerning hours for internship, it was established that there are no alternatives for hours for internship. Instructors do report that they may give IP if a student has not completed their hours. It was suggested that instructors work with students to help them find ways to complete their hours. Hours do not have to be in a classroom. There are other places that students could complete their internship hours.

Region Concerns

Instructors were advised to review Pre-/Co-recs for classes as they look in KMS to make sure these are correct and let Nathalie know if there are problems.

It was brought up concerns about the 2020 program of study revisions. It was decided that we will NOT using 2020 version of program of study.

CSPD meetings is focusing on reviewing courses, especially exceptionalities courses. If interested, let Nathalie know. If you want to join this group, let Nathalie know.

EI/ECSE is a Higher education consortium meeting. It was encouraged that instructors speak up to this group so that our voices can be heard.

Share and COVID

Region concerns---If there is something that comes about, reach out and ask for help especially new instructors. Everyone is here to help.

Courses in KMS have not been reviewed since 2010. Out of 17 courses, only 6 have been reviewed. We need to look at them to see if something needs to be updated and we need to change the date that it was re-visited. It was suggested that ECCE 1101, 1103, 1105 be looked at first to see what needs to be changed or updated. Nathalie can send out a sign-up list and get started. People need to sign up and bring report to the next IFCC meeting.

Textbook list and ppt/handouts need to be updated as well.

Anyone who has an articulation agreement with a four-year college/university, please send information to Kay and/or Nathalie.

DECAL is making changes to their program administration. We have update program administration but not personnel management.

Having no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

DISCUSSION SUMMARY:

[Comments/Notes]

Minutes Submitted By: Gena Sapp, IFCC Secretary