

ABE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes 11/17/99

Members Attending: B. Ash, D. Branco, H. Chernow, J. Koss-Cole, K. DeJesus, J. McCarthy, J. McGovern, S. Martin, S. Waldron, P. Veysey

DOE Staff Attending: R. Derfler, M.J. Fay, M. Gillon, S. Petrucci, G. Parafestas

SABES Staff Attending: C. Reid

Absent: R. Bickerton, M. Forry

Minutes Compiled By: M.J. Fay

Welcome to new advisory committee member Phillip Veysey who is representing the Mass. Federation of Teachers.

Agenda Item #:

1) Feedback from Interim Report

- The question was raised as to whether ACLS has taken an official position on the Interim Report.
- MCAE response handed out
 - Joan reported that the response was from the MCAE Board only, there wasn't time to disseminate it to the field
 - apparently not all career centers were included in the mailing (Joan and Mary Jayne to make sure information is complete)
- Jim reported that the Director's council agreed with the Bachelor's degree requirement
- Harneen will forward feedback to us from her roundtable discussions

2) Form of ABE Certification

Georgia Parafestas was present at the Advisory Committee meeting to inform and report on the status of the Deputy Commissioner Sandra Stotsky's work on the proposed certification regulations:

- the draft is being sent to the Board for its November 23 meeting, then it will be disseminated as a Concept Paper for public comment through the end of January 2000
- the draft of the regulations will be provided to the Board in February or March and public comment will be sought through May 2000
- the new regulations should receive final approval in June of 2000, effective date of implementation June of 2001
- the teacher tests will need to be modified to reflect the new requirements
- Bachelor's degree has to be in Arts and Sciences for all teacher and administrator certificates
- No Master's degree will be required for "professional" certification
- they are changing some of the terminology
 - "competencies" are being changed to "standards"
 - "provisional," "provisional with advanced standing," and "standard" are being changed to "temporary," "initial," and "professional"
- she recommended that everyone review the final draft of the regulations after the Board's input. (**Note:** Bob, Ruth, and Mary Jayne are working with the internal

- issues surrounding legal interpretation and other relevant areas that effect the ABE Certificate.)
- we should be represented at the November 23rd Board meeting
 - John reported that the original adult education law was written for public school teachers who wanted to get into ABE so they wouldn't lose their jobs and their pensions. The original intent was to make us (ABE) fit into that system.
 - there is a written response from Rhoda Schneider, DOE legal counsel, on the legal opinion (a copy of which is attached)
 - Ruth reported that the committee had voted that the BA was required, or its equivalent, but Joan didn't remember that it was a final vote because not everyone was there. Sally recalled that the committee had voted not to revisit the bachelor's degree issue.
 - A straw vote was taken to determine everyone's position on the certification options. The two most popular positions were:
 1. General ABE Certification with no specialization noted
 2. General ABE Certification with named specializations optionalHowever, the committee expressed some confusion as to the intent and consequences of each form and clearly wanted more information and discussion about what these would look like.

3) Certification Levels and Time Limits

(No discussion. Ran out of time.)

4) Next Meetings:

Wednesday, December 8, 1999 1-4 p.m. in room **3B**

Wednesday, January 6, 2000 1-4 p.m.

Lunch will be provided