

MINUTES

Funeral Service Education Advisory Committee

Date: Thursday, May 3, 2007
 Time: 6:00 p.m.
 Place: Baker-Gaines Central Campus Room 127
 Recording secretary: William Thompson

Members present: Mr. Al Sharpe; Mr. Eason Andrews; Mr. Gary Cooper; Dr. Harold Toliver; Mr. Martin Powers; Dr. Charles Blackledge; Mr. William Thompson

Members not present: Dr. Leroy Riddick; Ms. Annie Jones; Mr. Carl Lynaum; Ms. Agnes M. Harris Hunter; Mr. Perry Pinkard; Ms. Tammie Pugh; Ms. Sarah Spivey; Mr. Dennis Trahan; Ms. Eunice Willis; Ms. Kathryn Griffin; Mr. Phil Skeen

Guest: Ms. Marsha Mickles

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION
Special Dedication	The FSE Advisory Committee with grateful appreciation acknowledged Ms. Linda Burrell for her outstanding service to the FSE program through her position as librarian for the Baker-Gaines Central Campus.	This meeting by unanimous consensus was dedicated to the memory of Ms. Linda Burrell (August 31, 1956 – April 29, 2007).
1. Call to order		William Thompson called meeting to order
2. Meditation		Gary Cooper offered meditation
3. Approval of 10/26/07 minutes	None	Minutes approved by consensus.
4. Other business		
4a. Summary report of Planning Activity completed 10/26/06	W. Thompson summarized <i>Linking Work and Education: Funeral Service Education Advisory Committee Members' Suggested Goals for the Funeral Service Education Program and Advisory Committee at Bishop State Community College.</i>	By consensus, the committee approved the document for use in planning and evaluation processes undertaken by the college and the FSE program

4b. NBE pass rate	W. Thompson stated that 1 person attempted and passed the National Board Exam for a 100% pass rate and that this student utilized resources made available through recommendations of the FSE Faculty Committee. The FSE Faculty Committee was initiated as a means to assist students' completion of the FSE program.	The Advisory committee recommends that the scope of the FSE Faculty Committee be broadened to assist students who are unsuccessful in any course required in the FSE curriculum.
4c. Items from the floor	Viability issues related to the FSE program were discussed with great concern. Anecdotal accounts were shared that raised questions related to "conflicting values" between Alabama law and the practice of funeral service, the educational component of funeral service, and industry's cry for licensed personnel while hiring relatively few apprentices. Differences between Bishop and Jefferson's State's FSE programs were discussed.	The Advisory Committee recommends that: 1) College officials proactively address recommendations recorded in the 2006 State Program Review document reviewed by the Advisory Committee as well as findings from the summary report, <i>Linking Work . . .</i> ; 2) State funeral directors' associations, Advisory Committee, and the college work collaboratively; 3) College officials support initiative toward state-wide curriculum in FSE.

5. Presentation – Ms. Marsha Mickles	Ms. Mickles gave a thorough overview of library services including its physical capacity, hours of operation, Consortium affiliation, Alabama Virtual Library, and presented a hard copy of holdings directly related to and supporting instruction in FSE.	Advisory Committee members completed the Library/Learning Resources Survey. Mr. Thompson will present findings at the November/2007 meeting.
6. Adjournment		Meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.