

October 31, 2012

Educational Leadership Advisory Council Minutes

Those in attendance were:

Debra Folsom, Superintendent, Brooks County Schools
John Lairsy, Superintendent, Charlton County Schools
Tommy Pharis, Superintendent, Grady County Schools
Sam DePaul, Superintendent, Colquitt County Schools
Harold Chambers, Coastal Plains RESA Director
Peggy Stovall, Okefenokee RESA Director
Tim Helms, Southwest Georgia RESA Director
Don Leech, Associate Dean, Dewar COE
Steve Smith, Faculty, Valdosta State University
Leon Pate, Acting Department Chair, Valdosta State University

The Meeting was called to order at 11:30 by Leon Pate. Introductions were made as Sam DePaul and Time Helms were new member of the group. Over lunch, Dr. Pate gave the group an overview of the VSU Educational Leadership programs and discussed the doctoral program and the new Performance-Based concentration recently approved by the PSC to the group.

Dr. Pate advised the group of the recent PSC visit and program review. He outlined the findings from the review and briefed the group on the AFI for Standard 4, Diversity and the progress the unit had made toward creating an improvement plan to resolve the issue. The improvement plan involved a request for local systems to consider candidate diversity when recommending candidates to the program, modifications to the University /System/RESA/ Agency partnership agreement form, the need to update agreements with signatures by current superintendents, and reviewing the new forms to assure they support and encourage the selection of diverse candidates for the program by all groups. He also discussed changes in the Advanced Inventory of Leadership Activities (AILE) to include requirements for candidates to work with at least two different racial/ethnic groups in performing the activities in the AILE and asked for additional suggestions to strengthen the AILE.

Dr. Pate asked the group for suggestions, comments, strengths and needs that the VSU program had not addressed. Several spoke to the strengths of the program and how well program completers were prepared for jobs in their systems. Harold Chambers discussed the strong relationship his RESA enjoyed with the VSU Educational Leadership program and how superintendents in his RESA supported the program. Harold also mentioned the Local School Board Training program the VSU faculty offered for many years and asked that the VSU faculty resume that service to RESAs and local boards. The three RESA directors agreed to become a committee to research that possibility and report back to the group about how that service might be resumed for the next training cycle.

The Meeting adjourned at 1:30 PM.

J. L. Pate, Acting Chair