

Alabama Association of Colleges for Teacher Education

**Spring 2013
April 15-16, 2013**

Meeting Title: Alabama Association of Colleges for Teacher Education

Deans' Luncheon, Executive Committee Meeting, and General Business Meeting

Meeting Date and Time: Monday, October 15, 2012, Noon until 5:30 PM

Meeting Location:

112 Liberal Arts/Education Building
Auburn University at Montgomery
7440 East Drive #17
Montgomery, Alabama

Members or Representatives Present:

John B. Hammett, Jacksonville State University
Gwen McCorquodale, Judson College
Louanne Jacobs, Birmingham-Southern College
Kathy Chandler, University of West Alabama
Susan Villaume, Auburn University
Jeanie Box, Samford University
Sue Gober, University of Mobile
Carolyn Corliss, University of Mobile
Carlton Morris, Tuskegee University
Peter Hlebowitsh, University of Alabama
Kathy Hildebrand, Troy University
Mary Piersma, University of Alabama at Huntsville
James Mbyrukira, Oakwood College

Meeting Called By: ALACTE Executive Committee

Type of Meeting: Open Forum

Facilitator: Dr. John Hammett

Agenda Topics:

Deans' Luncheon: Alabama Accountability Act of 2013 and Common Core State Standards

Discussion:

Following Dr. Hammett's welcome to members of the Executive Board and representatives from IHEs to the Deans' Luncheon, Dr. Hammett recognized Dr. Peter Hlebowitsh, Dean, College of Education, University of Alabama, and Dr. Kathy Hildebrand, Troy University as new members. Dr. Hammett asked the group to comment on the Common Core State Standards and The Alabama Accountability Act of 2013.

The Alabama Accountability Act of 2013 allows for flexibility contracts between the State Board of Education and local school districts. General concerns expressed were that "flexibility" implied the right to hire teachers that are not fully licensed. The Alabama Accountability Act of 2013 creates tax credits for families with students in a (chronically) failing school to attend a nonpublic school or non-failing public school and the group expressed fear that public education would become "for the have nots" and that funding is a major issue. There were also concerns that the Act creates tax credits for taxpayers (individuals and businesses) who donate to a nonprofit "scholarship granting organization" that provides scholarships for students to attend a nonpublic school or non-failing public school. The group noted that the tenor of conversations about the role of public education in Alabama is disconcerting.

Dr. Hammett invited the group to express "issues in relation to Alabama State Department of Education." Discussion points expressed related to (1) Pre-K education, (2) over regulation of Teacher Education Programs, and (3) Task Force for Teacher Licensure.

Action Item(s):

As an outcome of the discussion, Dr. Hammett commented that that each member contact their representative(s) about their concerns with the proposed agenda for schools prior to the Wednesday, April 17, 2013 vote. The president also stated that he planned to consult with Dr. Bice regarding his thoughts on issues raised during the discussion.

Closing Remarks:

Dr. Hammett encouraged members to voice their opinions/concerns/reactions to their respective legislators.

Meeting Title: Alabama Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, General Session for Members of ALACTE

Meeting Date and Time: Monday, April 15, 2013, 1:30-4:30 p.m.

Meeting Location:

222 Taylor Center
Auburn University at Montgomery
7440 East Drive #17
Montgomery, Alabama

Members Present: 27 of the 27 Institutions Participating

Meeting Called By: ALACTE Executive Committee

Type of Meeting: ALACTE Spring 2013 General Session

Facilitator: Dr. John Hammett

Agenda Topics:

Dr. John Hammett, President, ALACTE, welcomed members to the afternoon session and provided an overview of the planned agenda for the day:

1. Presentation by Dr. Thomas Bice, Superintendent of Education
2. Clinical Educator Preparation and Partnerships in Alabama by Alabama Alliance Advisory Committee

Prior to beginning the general session, Dr. Hammett thanked Dr. Lynn Mills for her help in organizing the meeting space on the campus of Auburn University at Montgomery.

Discussion:

1. Dr. Thomas Bice's address to the group focused on the misrepresentations of the Common Core State Standards by some Alabama citizens. He noted that business leaders and educators express a common concern that graduates lack intellectual curiosity and that a focus will be on defining a 'new' graduate and a "new picture of effective teaching." He acknowledged that "knowledge, skills, critical thinking, and dispositions are essential skills" required in the new picture. Increasing the graduation rate among Alabama students will provide positive effects to economic growth. For example, the goal of 90% graduation rate by 2020 will bring 2 billion dollars back into the economy.

Dr. Bice also noted the work of Regional Teams in the state by stating that 134 school systems have differentiated support systems and are now working “smarter and more efficiently.” Dr. Bice stated that his desire is to “chip away at bureaucracy” or any hindrance at SDE” that limits a new generation of well prepared teachers.

2. Clinical Educator Preparation and Partnerships presentation by Alabama Alliance Advisory Committee (***See attached PowerPoint and Handouts***)

Dr. Susan Villaume introduced the Alabama Alliance Advisory Committee and stated that the presentation for the meeting would focus on why Alabama’s participation in the Alliance is important. To explore this issue, different perspectives were presented by the following members (handouts and presentation materials are attached):

- A. Dean’s Perspective – John Hammett
- B. Regional In-service Director’s Perspective – Terri Boman
- C. ALSDE Perspective-Sherrill Parris
- D. ALSDE Teacher Education – Jayne Meyer
- C. Alabama Alliance Advisory Committee- Robin Litiker

In closing remarks, Dr. Meyer noted that “if there is a state regulation standing in the way from doing clinical practice in a better way, please let ALSDE know.” As a cautionary note, she remarked that teacher candidates “should not have hours of observing; get them involved.”

Action Item(s):

None

Closing Remarks:

Dr. Hammett thanked the membership, Dr. Bice, the Alabama Alliance Advisory Committee, Dr. Meyer, and Ms. Parris for their presentations, attendance and remarks.

Meeting Title: Alabama Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, General Session for Members of ALACTE

Meeting Date and Time: Tuesday, April 16, 2013, 8:30 AM -12:15 PM

Meeting Location:

230 Taylor Center
Auburn University at Montgomery
7440 East Drive #17
Montgomery, Alabama

Members Present: 27 of the 27 institutions had members present for the meeting

Meeting Called By: ALACTE Executive Committee

Type of Meeting: ALACTE Fall 2013 General Session

Facilitator: Dr. John Hammett

Agenda Topics:

1. Clinical Educator Preparation and Partnerships in Alabama by Alabama Alliance Advisory Committee
2. School Superintendents of Alabama (SSA), Dr. Eric Mackey, Executive Director
3. Office of Teaching and Leading, ALSDE, Dr. Jayne Meyer, Director
4. Business Meeting

Discussion:

1. ALACTE President, Dr. John Hammett, welcomed members to the meeting. Dr. Susan Villeneuve introduced Alethea Fletcher Hampton from Alabama State University who continued to lead the discussion on *Clinical Educator Preparation and Partnerships in Alabama*. Five key points of discussion were:
 1. Describe an ideal partnership for your institution.
 2. How closely does your current partnership align with your ideal?
 3. What resources or support are necessary to grow and sustain your ideal partnership?
 4. How can ALACTE and ALSDE help your partnership?
 5. Who benefits from your partnership?
 6. How does data track success of your partnership?
2. Dr. Eric Mackey, Executive Director of School Superintendents of Alabama, expressed concern to the group over interpretations by some citizens regarding Common Core State Standards. He invited deans to attend the June meeting of School Superintendents of Alabama.

3. Dr. Jayne Meyer, Director, Office of Teaching and Leading, ALSDE, formally introduced Dr. Jendia Grissett in her new role in Teacher Education/Teacher Testing. Dr. Meyer noted that Teacher Education was awaiting news from the State Board of Education's *Commission on Education Preparation and Entry into the Profession Task Force* about a revised Administrative Code.
4. Business Meeting
 1. Dr. Kathy Chandler was nominated and elected to the position of President-Elect.
 2. Dr. Carlton Morris was nominated and elected to fill the opening on the Executive Board.
 3. The Treasurer's Report will be posted on the ALACTE web site.
 4. Other Business: Dr. Hammett recognized Dr. Mary Piersma, University of Alabama at Huntsville, for her leadership to ALACTE. Dr. Piersma, who is retiring at the end of this academic year, will receive a plaque in honor of her years of service to ALACTE.

Action Item(s):

The summer meeting for ALACTE will be announced at a later time.

Closing Remarks:

Dr. Hammett thanked the membership for their attendance at the meeting. The meeting was adjourned.