

# MINUTES

## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

DHR Board Room  
Two Peachtree Street  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3141  
December 11, 2003

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, December 11, 2003, at 9 a.m.

### Members Present

Gary Bechtel (via tele-conference)	Dottie McClain	Dr. Craig Smith
Terri DeLoach	Maria Miller	Dr. Gary Walker
Amy Denty	Janet Scott	
Mary Gomez	Bo Slack	

### Members Absent

Carolyn Lee Hart	Gwenda Johnson
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### I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Denty called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the U.S. flag and a moment of silence.

### II. RECOGNITION OF VISITORS

Chair Denty recognized the visitors.

- Margaret Elliott, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Edie Beldon, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Bill Ware, Brenau University
- Bobby Stephens, MRESA
- Andy Mathews, Griffin-Spalding Schools
- Dianne Holt, Douglas County
- Shari Williams, Douglas County
- Lonnell Flanigan, CCSU
- Judy Byrd, Fayette County
- Brenda Edenfield, Wayne County
- John Hooper, GSSA
- Beth Roberts, GAICTE/Oglethorpe University
- Jacqueline McDowell, Berry College
- Laurie Jossey, Brewton-Parker College
- Ron Colarusso, GSU
- Gayle Wooten, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Ernest Middleton, Clark Atlanta University
- Eleanor Main, Emory University
- Phil Gunter, Valdosta State University
- Joseph Cadray, Emory University (former Commission member)
- Cindi Chann, Georgia Southern
- Pat Nobbie, Gov. Council on Dev. Dis.
- Mary G. Cooper, GSU
- Mike McGonigle, GAE
- Ann Duffy, Board of Regents
- Candace Norton, Forsyth County School System
- Alice T. Colbert, Shorter College
- Kent Layton, UWG
- W. Carpenter, Berry College

**III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Chair Denty called for approval of the agenda.

**MOTION:** (Miller / McClain) To approve agenda.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chair Denty called for approval of the minutes from the November 13, 2003, Commission meeting.

**MOTION:** (DeLoach / McClain) To approve the minutes.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**V. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**A. Ethics and Professional Conduct --Recommendations and Actions on Cases**

Commissioner Janet Scott, Chair of the Educator Ethics Review Committee (EERC), gave a preliminary review of the Cases.

- Ms. Scott reported that the Committee reviewed 43 *Probable Cause* cases during its December 10, 2003, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee excluding cases # 15 and 29:

<b>PC #</b>	<b>Case Number</b>	<b>STANDARD(S)</b>	<b>EERC Recommendation</b>
<b>1</b>	03-09-390	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Revocation
<b>2</b>	03-09-341	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Revocation
<b>3</b>	03-09-386	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Reprimand
<b>4</b>	03-09-411	Misrepresentation or Falsification Criminal Acts Failure to Make a Required Report	Revocation
<b>5</b>	03-10-441 Paraprofessional	Misrepresentation or Falsification Criminal Acts Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Revocation
<b>6</b>	03-10-491	Criminal Acts Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	No Probable Cause
<b>7</b>	03-10-493 Applicant	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Reprimand
<b>8</b>	03-10-443	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause

<b>PC #</b>	<b>Case Number</b>	<b>STANDARD(S)</b>	<b>EERC Recommendation</b>
<b>9</b>	03-10-458 Applicant	Abuse of Students Criminal Acts Professional Conduct Failure to Make a Required Report	Denial
<b>10</b>	03-09-379	Alcohol or Drugs Professional Conduct Criminal Acts	Revocation
<b>11</b>	03-09-422	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Month
<b>12</b>	03-09-410	Misrepresentation or Falsification Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
<b>13</b>	03-10-444	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Suspension for Six Months
<b>14</b>	03-09-393	Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Suspension for Six Months
<b>15</b>	03-10-438	Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Suspension for Three Months
<b>16</b>	03-09-333	Abandonment of Contract	No Probable Cause
<b>17</b>	03-09-384	Abandonment of Contract	Suspension for Six Months
<b>18</b>	03-09-409	Abandonment of Contract	No Probable Cause
<b>19</b>	03-09-413	Abandonment of Contract	Suspension for Six Months
<b>20</b>	03-09-414	Abandonment of Contract	Suspension for Six Months
<b>21</b>	03-10-439	Abandonment of Contract	Suspension for Six Months
<b>22</b>	03-08-297	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>23</b>	03-09-385 Paraprofessional	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>24</b>	03-09-378 Applicant	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>25</b>	03-10-457	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Extend Probable Cause Determination through February 12, 2004 Letter of Intent Reprimand
<b>26</b>	03-10-473	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	
<b>27</b>	03-08-273	Professional Conduct Criminal Acts	Extend Probable Cause Determination through February 12, 2004
<b>28</b>	03-08-284	Professional Conduct Confidential Information Misrepresentation or Falsification Public Funds and Property	
<b>29</b>	03-08-296	Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Year
<b>30</b>	03-09-391 Paraprofessional	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause

<b>PC #</b>	<b>Case Number</b>	<b>STANDARD(S)</b>	<b>EERC Recommendation</b>
<b>31</b>	03-10-487 Applicant	Action Taken in Another State Misrepresentation or Falsification	Denial
<b>32</b>	03-09-408	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>33</b>	03-10-477	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>34</b>	03-10-503	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>35</b>	03-10-640	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>36</b>	03-10-654	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>37</b>	03-10-656	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>38</b>	03-10-657	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>39</b>	03-11-660	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>40</b>	03-11-665	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>41</b>	03-11-667	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>42</b>	03-11-669	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>43</b>	03-11-671	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

Abstention on Case #13 – Bo Slack

**Case #15**

**MOTION:** (Miller / Walker) To amend the EERC recommendation from a three month suspension to a six months suspension.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

To adopt case #15 as an amended motion.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**Case #29**

**MOTION:** (Scott / Walker) To amend the EERC recommendation from a 1 year suspension to a six months suspension.

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**PSC ACTION:** Approved

To adopt case #29 as an amended motion.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

2. Ms. Scott reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 8 *Initial Decisions* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<b>Case Number</b>	<b>Ethical Violation</b>	<b>ALJ Initial Decision</b>	<b>EERC Recomm.</b>
02-11-1284	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning	Accept
02-02-1424	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct Criminal Acts	Revocation	Accept
02-08-522	Failure to Make a Required Report	Warning	Accept
02-12-1320	Abuse of Students	Revocation	Accept
03-03-1887	Professional Conduct Misrepresentation or Falsification		
02-07-090	Criminal Acts Failure to Make a Required Report	Revocation	Accept
02-09-849	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Denial	Accept
02-10-1139	Criminal Acts Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Revocation	Accept
02-12-1372	Criminal Acts Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Revocation	Accept

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

3. Ms. Scott reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 2 *Petitions-Certificate Issues* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<b>Case Number</b>	<b>Educator</b>	<b>Nature of Petition</b>	<b>Previous Decision (Violation)</b>	<b>EERC Recomm.</b>
03-07-044	Alfredia Cox	Right to Reapply	Denied - Certification - August 10, 2000 Denied - Right to Reapply Early - February 1, 2001 Denied - Right to Reapply - November 14, 2002	Denial
03-08-270	Rebecca Mealey	Right to Reapply	Revocation - February 5, 1998	Grant

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

4. Ms. Scott reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 15 *Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<b>Case Number</b>	<b>Sanction</b>	<b>Violation</b>	<b>EERC Recommendation</b>
03-6-2406	Reprimand	Professional Conduct	Accept
03-07-099	Warning	Professional Conduct	Accept
03-08-186	Suspension for One Week	Professional Conduct	Accept
03-08-282	Reprimand	Misrepresentation or Falsification Professional Conduct	Accept
03-08-293	Warning	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Accept
03-09-323	Suspension for Six Months	Abandonment of Contract	Accept
03-09-349	Reprimand	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Accept
03-09-380	Revocation	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Accept
03-09-389	Warning	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification Criminal Acts	Accept
03-9-397	Warning	Alcohol or Drugs	Accept
03-09-400	Warning	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Accept
03-09-427	Reprimand	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Accept
03-10-463	Warning	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Accept
03-10-470	Warning	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Accept
03-10-475	Warning	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification	Accept

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

5. Ms. Scott reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 3 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

<b>Case Number</b>	<b>Violation</b>	<b>Probable Cause Finding</b>	<b>Negotiated Proposal</b>	<b>EERC Recomm.</b>
03-1-1560	Misrepresentation or Falsification: Testing Professional Conduct	Suspension for Six Months	Reprimand	Accept
03-07-116	Failure to Make a Required Report Misrepresentation or Falsification: CH	Warning	Warning	Accept
02-05-1998	Professional Conduct Public Funds and Property	Suspension for Six Months	Suspensions for Two Months	Accept

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

6. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 69 new complaints received during the months of November 2003 and early December 2003:

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

7. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Extensions to Investigations Report* consisting of 19 cases.

<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Case Number</u>	<u>Case Number</u>
03-09-383	03-10-535	03-11-676	03-11-702
03-08-259	03-10-615	03-11-677	03-11-703
03-10-446	03-10-647	03-11-686	03-11-704
03-10-514	03-10-649	03-11-689	03-11-710
03-10-526	03-10-655	03-11-692	

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**8. APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended to approve a no probable cause determination on 53 cases reflected on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

**9. REVIEW HEARING EXTENSIONS**

The Commission reviewed the *Review Hearing Extensions Report* concerning 8 hearing cases. An Administrative Law Judge has rendered Initial Decisions on each case referenced in the report. The report indicates Orders that have been issued by the Commission to extend time by 30 additional days to preserve the Commission's time to conduct review hearings.

**10. STUDENT LOAN SUSPENSION / REINSTATEMENTS**

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 10 *Student Loan Reinstatements* and 13 *Student Loan Suspensions*.

**11. FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF RULE / LAW**

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 8 cases now closed without an appeal for a hearing before an Administrative Law Judge. The report also advised the Committee that there were 2 cases closed without an appeal for a review hearing before the Commission.

**B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee**

Committee Chair, Mary Gomez, presented the report of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

**1. MOTION:** (DeLoach / McClain) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends the following for agencies seeking approval for technology courses to meet the special Georgia Instructional Technology requirement:

Approval -The Bedford School – Integrated Technology for Teachers: A Skill-Based Course

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Provisional Approval - St. Martin's Episcopal School – Ed Tech Savvy (report addressing Areas for Improvement due January 21, 2004)

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

2. **MOTION:** (Walker / Scott) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends removal of the Stipulations for Coweta County Schools – Technology Integration Program (TIP).

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

3. **MOTION:** (Miller / Walker) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends Developmental Approval with Areas for Improvement for the Central Savannah River Area RESA Professional Education Unit and Georgia Teacher Alternative Preparation Programs (GATAPP) listed below. Areas for Improvement are to be addressed in the annual report.

Early Childhood

Middle Grades

Secondary Fields: Business, English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies,

Special Education Fields: Interrelated, Behavior Disorders, Intellectual Disabilities, Learning Disabilities

P-12 Fields: Art, Foreign Language, Physical Education

4. **MOTION:** (Walker / Scott) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends the following regarding Areas for Improvement for the Clayton County Public Schools' Georgia Teacher Alternative Preparation Programs (GATAPP).

- The Area for Improvement on Standard 6 (budget) may be removed.
- The Area for Improvement on Standard 3 will remain. The Panel recommends additional time be allocated for clinical practice. A report addressing changes in program procedures related to clinical practice is due May 7, 2004.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

5. **MOTION:** (Miller / Walker) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that although progress is demonstrated, the Stipulation remains for Middle Georgia RESA's Georgia Teacher Alternative Preparation Program (GATAPP). The professional development plan should be more focused on describing expected performances under the "Criteria for Measurement of Progress".

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

6. **MOTION:** (Walker / DeLoach) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends progress is unsatisfactory; stipulations continue for West Georgia RESA's Georgia Teacher Alternative Preparation Program (GATAPP). A report correcting all areas of concern is due January 21, 2004.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

7. **MOTION:** (DeLoach / Miller) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation acknowledges the Georgia



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College & State University decision to discontinue the Georgia Teacher Alternative Preparation Program (GATAPP).

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**8. MOTION:** (Slack / DeLoach) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends the following for Reinhardt College: (a) Developmental Approval for the Professional Education Unit, the Early Childhood Education and Middle Grades Education initial preparation programs, and the Reading Endorsement program; and (b) Denial of Approval for the Health and Physical Education initial preparation program. Areas for Improvement are to be addressed in the annual report.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**9. MOTION:** (Miller / DeLoach) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends Developmental Approval for the Reading Endorsement program for Bibb County Schools.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**10. MOTION:** (Walker / Slack) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recognizes that progress is being made on the revision of the conceptual framework at Albany State University. Additional quarterly progress reports addressing the continued re-development of the conceptual framework are due as previously scheduled by the Commission.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**11. MOTION:** (Scott / Walker) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that although the Clayton College & State University interim progress report demonstrates progress, the Proviso remains.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**12. MOTION:** (Miller / DeLoach) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the Georgia Southern University progress report demonstrates progress and that provisos for the Business Education and Technology Education programs be removed. The Committee further recommends that although the Music Education report demonstrates progress, the Proviso will remain. A report addressing the remaining Proviso is due October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**13. MOTION:** (Walker / DeLoach) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that progress is being made at Paine College. The Committee further recommends that the annual report include additional clarification on the areas for improvement listed below.

- Provide the number of field experience hours required and how these field experiences support candidates' development of content and professional skills.

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- Describe how the disposition checklist is shared with program candidates and its impact on program success.
- Provide information documenting how the conceptual framework is fully articulated throughout the programs and the results of assessing its impact.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**14. MOTION:** (Walker / Miller) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends Developmental Approval for the Paraprofessional Preparation Programs listed below.

Albany Technical College, Athens Technical College, Atlanta Technical College, Augusta Technical College, Central Georgia Technical College, Chattahoochee Technical College, Central Savannah River Area RESA, Coosa Valley Technical College (Provisional Developmental Approval), Columbus Technical College, East Central Technical College, DeKalb Technical College, Flint River Technical College, Georgia Military College, Griffin Technical College, Gwinnett Technical College, Heart of Georgia Technical College, Lanier Technical College (Provisional Developmental Approval), Northwestern Technical College, Moutrie Technical College (Provisional Developmental Approval), Ogeechee Technical College, Okefenokee Technical College, Sandersville Technical College, Savannah Technical College, Southwest Georgia Technical College, Swainsboro Technical College, Valdosta Technical College, West Central Technical College, West Georgia Technical College

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**15. MOTION:** (Walker / DeLoach) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends the following Paraprofessional Preparation Programs be denied approval and that approval applications be re-submitted by January 15, 2004 for reconsideration:

- Appalachian Technical College
- Atlanta Metropolitan College
- Bainbridge College
- Dalton State College
- Darton College
- Middle Georgia Technical College
- Southeastern Technical College

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

## **VI. REVIEW HEARINGS**

- |                        |                                |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Roderick Ivan Moore | - Educator (Case # 02-01-1351) |
| Wayne Magnum           | - Hearing Officer              |
| Penny Hannah           | - PSC Attorney                 |
| Tamara Rorie           | - Attorney                     |

**MOTION:** (Slack / McClain) To go into Executive Session and allow PSC staff (Vicky Brantley and Lisa

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Hartzler) to remain.

**ACTION:** Approved

**MOTION:** (Scott / Miller) To come out of Executive Session and reconvene the Regular Session.

**ACTION:** Approved

**MOTION:** (DeLoach / Walker) To adopt the Administrative Law Judge's Initial Decision - Default Order of Dismissal and **ORDER** that the Respondent's application for a Georgia Educator Certificate be **DENIED**. The denial shall become effective immediately. The Statement of Matters Asserted is deemed admitted and is hereby incorporated as Findings of Fact.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

## **VII. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT**

The Executive Secretary presented the following:

**A.** The ethics division closed 89% of their cases. As of last week, the certification division had 77 cases that have not been addressed.

**B.** Briefly discussed the "Proposed Change to Rules for Certification of Education Personnel in Georgia" which was given to the commissioners at their standing committee meetings.

**C.** A Public Hearing will take place on January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2004 regarding the proposed certification rule changes. At this time, people will be allotted 5 minutes to voice their opinion. They should also have this in writing so that they can leave it with the commission.

**D. MOTION:** (Walker / DeLoach) In order to bring the rules for certifying educators in grades P-12 in line with recent federal and state legislation, I recommend that we initiate rulemaking to repeal/amend/adopt PSC rules, Chapter 505-2 Certification.

**ACTION:** Approved

**E.** It was decided that the PSC website will list the commissioners contact details.

## **VIII. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair, Amy Denty thanked everyone on the commission for having the opportunity to serve as chair. FD expressed his gratitude for the way Chair Denty has conducted herself and for her time.

Chair Denty wished everyone a very happy holiday season.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** (Miller / Walker) To adjourn the meeting.

**PSC ACTION:** The meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

