

# MINUTES

## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS COMMISSION

DHR Board Room

Two Peachtree Street

Atlanta, Georgia 30303-3141

March 13, 2003

The Georgia Professional Standards Commission (PSC) met on Thursday, March 13, 2003, at 9 a.m.

### **Members Present**

Terri DeLoach

Amy Denty

Angela Finn

Mary Gomez

Pamela Hertzog

Joseph Cadray

Gwenda Johnson

Elizabeth Kidd

Gary Walker

Maria Miller

Tony Natson

Smith Pass

Janet Scott

Sylvia Hooker

### **Members Absent**

Dottie McClain

Pamela Nutt

Sue Sehgal

Pamela Thomas

### **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
- Gayle Wooten, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Dr. Edie Belden, Professional Association of Georgia Educators
- Penney McRoy – New Staff Member
- Mike McGouigle, Georgia Association of Educators (GAE)
- Jim Sehorn, Inspector General

### **III. ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Chair Denty called for approval of the agenda.

**MOTION:** (DeLoach / Finn) To approve agenda.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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

**MOTION:** (Finn / DeLoach) 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.

## 1. Angela Woods - Educator (Case # 01-7-147)

Chairperson Scott announced that the Angela Wood, who requested a Review Hearing set to be heard at 10:00 a.m. on March 13, 2003 meeting has withdrawn her appeal. The EERC's motion was to accept the recommendation to accept the motion to withdraw the appeal. Chair Denty called for approval of the recommendation to accept the motion to withdraw the appeal.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

2. Ms. Scott reported that the Committee reviewed 52 *Probable Cause* cases during its March 12, 2003, meeting and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee with the exception of cases #7 and #32:

<b>PC #</b>	<b>Case Number</b>	<b>STANDARD(S)</b>	<b>EERC Recommendation</b>
<b>1</b>	02-10-1177 APPLICANT	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Denial
<b>2</b>	02-12-1324	Criminal Acts Public Funds and Property Professional Conduct	Revocation
<b>3</b>	02-12-1342 Parapro	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
<b>4</b>	02-12-1382 APPLICANT	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Denial
<b>5</b>	03-01-1399	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Suspension for Two Years
<b>6</b>	03-01-1409	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Revocation
<b>7</b>	03-01-1459	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Revocation
<b>8</b>	03-01-1497 APPLICANT	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
<b>9</b>	03-01-1500 APPLICANT	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Denial

<b>PC #</b>	<b>Case Number</b>	<b>STANDARD(S)</b>	<b>EERC Recommendation</b>
<b>10</b>	03-01-1503	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Year
<b>11</b>	03-01-1525	Criminal Acts	No Probable Cause
<b>12</b>	03-02-1570 APPLICANT	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
<b>13</b>	03-02-1574 APPLICANT	Criminal Acts Professional Conduct	Denial
<b>14</b>	02-10-1168	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Extend Probable Cause Determination until May 8, 2003
<b>15</b>	02-12-1320	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Revocation
<b>16</b>	02-12-1323	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct Improper Remunerative Conduct	Revocation
<b>17</b>	02-12-1340	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct <del>Public Funds and Property</del>	Suspension for Two Years
<b>18</b>	02-12-1359	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct Criminal Acts Failure to Make a Required Report	Revocation
<b>19</b>	02-12-1380	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspension for Three Months
<b>20</b>	03-01-1397 Parapro	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Reprimand
<b>21</b>	03-01-1405	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Reprimand
<b>22</b>	03-01-1420 Parapro	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Reprimand
<b>23</b>	03-01-1428	Abuse of Students Professional Conduct	Suspension for Two Years
<b>24</b>	03-01-1469	<del>Abuse of Students</del> Professional Conduct	Reprimand
<b>25</b>	03-01-1402	Alcohol or Drugs	Suspension for Two Years
<b>26</b>	02-12-1387	Misrepresentation or Falsification Abandonment of Contract Professional Conduct	Suspension for Six Months
<b>27</b>	02-12-1386	Public Funds and Property Professional conduct	No Probable Cause
<b>28</b>	03-01-1429	Improper Remunerative Conduct	Reprimand
<b>29</b>	03-01-1398	Confidential Information Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
<b>30</b>	02-12-1375	Abandonment of Contract	No Probable Cause
<b>31</b>	02-12-1376	Abandonment of Contract	Suspension for Six Months
<b>32</b>	02-12-1377	Abandonment of Contract	Suspension for Six Months
<b>33</b>	02-12-1383	Abandonment of Contract	No Probable Cause
<b>34</b>	03-01-1408	Abandonment of Contract	Suspension for Six Months

<b>PC #</b>	<b>Case Number</b>	<b>STANDARD(S)</b>	<b>EERC Recommendation</b>
<b>35</b>	02-08-537	Failure to Make a Required Report	No Probable Cause
<b>36</b>	02-11-1283	Failure to Make a Required Report	Reprimand
<b>37</b>	02-12-1381 APPLICANT	Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>38</b>	02-12-1384	Failure to Make a Required Report	No Probable Cause
<b>39</b>	02-12-1385	Failure to Make a Required Report	No Probable Cause
<b>40</b>	03-01-1425	Failure to Make a Required Report	Warning
<b>41</b>	03-01-1483	Misrepresentation or Falsification	Warning
<b>42</b>	03-01-1524	Failure to Make a Required Report	Suspension for One Week
<b>43</b>	03-02-1589	Misrepresentation or Falsification	No Probable Cause
<b>44</b>	03-02-1607	Failure to Make a Required Report	No Probable Cause
<b>45</b>	03-02-1608	Misrepresentation or Falsification	No Probable Cause
<b>46</b>	02-10-992	Professional Conduct	Reprimand
<b>47</b>	02-12-1321	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause
<b>48</b>	02-12-1369	Abuse of Students	No Probable Cause
<b>49</b>	03-01-1547 APPLICANT	Professional Conduct	Extend Probable Cause Determination until May 8, 2003
<b>50</b>	03-02-1616 APPLICANT	Action Taken in Another State	Denial
<b>51</b>	02-12-1379	Professional Conduct	Suspension for One Year
<b>52</b>	02-8-506	Abandonment of Contract	Suspension for Six Months

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**Abstention:** Amy Denty on case #51

**Cases #7**

Gary Walker introduced case #7.

**MOTION:** (Finn / Hooker) To amend the EERC recommendation from Revocation to 2 Year Suspension.

**ACTION:** Approved

**Cases #32**

Dr Joseph Cadray asked for a discussion on this case. Following the discussion, Chair Amy Denty called for accepting the EERC recommendation for a Suspension for Six Months.

**ACTION:** Approved

3. Ms. Scott reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 7 *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>
02-08-365	Criminal Acts; Professional Conduct	Denial	Accept
01-08-291	Criminal Acts; Professional Conduct	Denial	Accept
02-04-1678	Misrepresentation or Falsification	Denial	Accept
01-05-1629	Misrepresentation or Falsification	Suspension – 1 Month	Accept
	Failure to Comply with Monitoring		
	Professional Conduct		
00-12-886	Professional Conduct	Revocation	Accept
	Public Funds and Property		
02-02-1370 &	Public Funds and Property	Suspension – 1 Year	Accept
02-09-728	Professional Conduct	No Probable Cause	
01-04-1458 &	Professional Conduct	Suspension – Reversed and Reduced to 5	Review
01-05-1740	Failure to Comply with Monitoring	Days with Credit Already Served	

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

4. 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>
02-12-1390	Stacey Thornton	Right to Reapply	Revocation (Abuse of Students)	Deny
01-08-397	David Faulk	Motion For Stay	Suspension – 2/28/03 – 11/9/03 (Action Against Out-of State Certificate)	Deny

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

5. Ms. Scott reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 2 *Petitions-Waiver 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>
02-07-309	Sally Sparkman	Waive Rule and allow Educator to Petition for the Right to Reapply Early	Denial (Criminal Acts; Professional Conduct) (Failed to provide GCIC to Investigator)	Grant
00-08-171	Gregory Oliver	Waive Rule and allow Educator to Petition for the Right to Reapply Early	Denial	Deny

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

6. Ms. Scott reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 21 *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>
02-8-659	Warning	Criminal Acts; Professional Conduct	Accept
02-9-763	Warning	Misrepresentation or Falsification; Failure to Make a Required Report	Accept
02-9-933	Reprimand	Misrepresentation or Falsification; Failure to Make a Required Report	Accept
02-9-959	Warning	Misrepresentation or Falsification; Failure to Make a Required Report	Accept
02-10-978	Reprimand	Professional Conduct	Accept
02-10-986	Revocation***	Misrepresentation or Falsification; Criminal Acts	Accept
02-10-1043	Warning	Criminal Acts; Professional Conduct	Accept
02-10-1159	Suspension – Six Months	Abandonment of Contract	Accept
02-11-1224	Warning	Professional Conduct	Accept
02-11-1227	Reprimand	Misrepresentation or Falsification	Accept
02-11-1231	Suspension – One Week	Abuse of Students; Professional Conduct	Accept
02-11-1238	Suspension – Six Months	Abandonment of Contract	Accept
02-11-1282	Warning	Misrepresentation or Falsification; Failure to Make a Required Report	Accept
02-11-1285	Warning	Misrepresentation or Falsification; Failure to Make a Required Report	Accept
02-11-1291	Warning	Misrepresentation or Falsification; Failure to Make a Required Report	Accept
02-12-1322	Suspension – Two Years	Alcohol or Drugs	Accept
02-12-1343	Reprimand	Criminal Acts; Misrepresentation or Falsification	Accept
02-12-1363	Warning	Professional Conduct	Accept
02-12-1364	Reprimand	Abuse of Students; Professional Conduct; Criminal Acts	Accept
02-12-1373	Revocation***	Criminal Acts; Professional Conduct	Accept
03-01-1490	Revocation***	Criminal Acts; Professional Conduct	Accept

**\*\*\*Indicates Educator/Applicant Voluntarily Accepted a Sanction of Revocation or Denial Prior to the Probable Cause Determination**

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

7. Ms. Scott reported that the Educator Ethics Review Committee reviewed 7 *Negotiated Settlement Agreements* and brought the following recommendations on behalf of the Committee:

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<b>Case Number</b>	<b>Probable Cause Finding</b>	<b>Negotiated Proposal</b>	<b>EERC Recomm.</b>
02-6-2242	Reprimand	Warning	Reject
02-07-050	Revocation	Dismissal	Accept
02-07-194	Reprimand	(No Probable Cause) Warning	Accept
02-07-128	Revocation	Dismissal	Accept
02-08-678	Warning	(No Probable Cause) Dismissal	Accept
02-04-1834	Reprimand	Reprimand	Reject
01-09-519	Revocation	Suspension – 5 Months Monitoring – 3 Years	Reject

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

8. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Preliminary Investigative Determination Report* consisting of 72 new complaints received during the months of February 2003 and March 2003:

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

9. The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of the *Extensions to Investigations Report* consisting of 12 cases.

**PSC ACTION:** Approval

10. The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of *Final Disciplinary Decisions by College/University Preparation*.

11. **STUDENT LOAN SUSPENSION / REINSTATEMENTS**

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 13 *Student Loan Suspensions* and 16 *Student Loan Reinstatements*.

12. **FINAL DECISIONS BY OPERATION OF LAW**

The Commission reviewed the report, which advised of 16 cases closed by *Operation of Law*.

13. **APPLICATIONS FOR CERTIFICATION REPORT**

The Educator Ethics Review Committee recommended approval of 42 cases on the *Applications for Certification Report*.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**B. Educator Preparation Standing Committee**

Committee Chair, Pamela Hertzog, presented the report of the Educator Preparation Standing Committee.

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1. The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the Brewton-Parker College progress report demonstrates satisfactory progress and stipulations be removed.

The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the Clayton College and State University progress report demonstrates satisfactory progress but provisos are to continue. A progress report is due in one year. In addition, the Standing Committee requests a progress report on the revision of the conceptual framework be forwarded to the Commission in six months.

The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the Georgia Southern University proviso report demonstrated progress. All provisos are to continue except for Standard III.C: Professional Assignment of Faculty, which may be removed. A report addressing the remaining provisos is due in three months.

The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the Georgia State University proviso report demonstrated progress. All provisos may be removed except for Standards I.A: Conceptual Framework, II.C: Monitoring and Assessing Progress, and IV.A: Governance and Accountability of the Unit. A report addressing the remaining provisos is due in one year.

The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the Mercer University report demonstrates on-going progress. The Panel further recommends that the University file a report within three months to more clearly address the information requested by the Commission in its November 22, 2002 letter. All requested information is to be forwarded in a matrix format to be provided.

The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the conditions specified to be addressed in the January 15, 2003 report by Oglethorpe University were satisfactory and these conditions may be removed.

The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the Piedmont College progress reports demonstrated some progress. The attached summary of standards that were met with weaknesses or not met has been updated to show recommended changes. A progress report on the remaining standards with weaknesses or not met is due in three months.

Amy Denty called for accepting Educator Preparation recommendations for Brewton-Parker College, Clayton College and State University, the Georgia Southern University, Georgia State University, Mercer University, Oglethorpe University and Piedmont College.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

Abstentions: Angela Finn for Georgia State University, Tony Natson for Georgia Southern University, Gwenda Johnson for Brewton-Parker College and Georgia Southern University.

**MOTION:** (Scott / Miller) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the Shorter College progress report demonstrates satisfactory progress and stipulations be removed.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**MOTION:** (Miller / DeLoach) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the Spelman College stipulation report demonstrated progress but all stipulations are to continue. A report addressing stipulations is due in three months.



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**PSC ACTION:** Approved  
Abstention – Mary Gomez

**MOTION:** (Pass / Miller) The Standing Committee for Educator preparation recommends that the State University of West Georgia proviso report demonstrated progress but all provisos are to continue. A report addressing the remaining provisos is due in three months.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**MOTION:** (Walker / Johnson) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends that the West Georgia RESA stipulation report does not warrant removal of stipulations. A report is due in three months.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved  
Abstention – Smith Pass

**MOTION:** (DeLoach / Miller) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends Developmental Approval for the following Georgia Teacher Alternative Preparation Programs (GATAPP).

Developmental Approval

- Columbus State University
- Georgia Southern University/First District RESA
- North Georgia College and State University
- Wesleyan College/Bibb County School System

Developmental Approval with Areas for Improvement (to be addressed within three months)

- Georgia College and State University
- Middle Georgia RESA

**PSC ACTION:** Approved  
Abstention – Dr. Joseph Cadray

**MOTION:** (Walker / Kidd) 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

- Mill Springs Academy
- Pace Academy
- Paulding County Schools
- Tattnall Academy
- Trinity School
- Wesleyan School

Approval with Stipulations (to be corrected within three months)

- Bartow County Schools
- Rockdale County Schools
- Southwest Georgia RESA

Denial

- Institute of Computer technology

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**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**MOTION:** (DeLoach / Gomez) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends approval of the State InTech Course and test out option and associated policies and procedures for meeting the special Georgia technology requirement.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**MOTION:** (Gomez / Natson) The Standing Committee for Educator Preparation recommends the following decisions for agencies seeking removal of stipulations placed upon Technology courses by the Commission.

Remove Stipulations

- Aquinas High School
- Coffee County Schools
- Columbus State University
- Decatur City Schools
- Dekalb County Schools
- Henry County Schools
- Thomas County Schools
- Thomasville City Schools

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

## **VI. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT**

The Executive Secretary presented the following:

**A.** We have approved the Computer Skill/Technology Course Requirement. Courses that have either been approved or are pending approval for the purpose of meeting the Computer Skill/Technology requirement are listed on our website.

**B.** Six commission members appointment will expire in July 1, 2003. Four of these commission members are eligible for reappointment (second term). Dr. Toth will try to schedule an appointment with the Governor recommend that they be reappointed.

**C.** Registration of the GATAPP service mark has been approved. The slogan, "Use your head, follow your heart" is still in process.

**D.** The State Department of Auditors has issued a draft follow up report for the Ethics Division.

**E.** Last month a meeting was held to discuss the preparation of Special Education Teachers in Georgia. Dr. Phil Gunter, Department of Special Education, College of Education, Valdosta State University will give a report on the recommendations at our April commission meeting in Valdosta.

**F.** At our last commission meeting we had a lengthy discussion on "Who is qualified to teach Reading?" A special committee has been set up and we hope to have recommendations by mid-summer.

**G.** The U.S. Department of Education is reviewing Georgia's consolidated plan for implementing the "No Child Left Behind Act" including the PSC's definition of a highly qualified teacher. State Superintendent Kathy Cox said

that we were “in front” in our efforts.

**H. Albany State University Request for Delay of Onsite PSC/NCATE Continuing Review**

**MOTION:** (Walker / Natson) To delay the onsite PSC/NCATE continuing review scheduled at Albany State University April, 2003 until April 10-14, 2004, with the following provisions:

- Albany State University shall submit quarterly progress reports on the development and application of the conceptual framework and the Georgia 2000 standards 1-6 as the basis of operation for the professional education unit and preparation programs. The progress reports will be due on the following dates: June 1, 2003 – The initial progress report will focus on the College of Education’s Assessment System, (standard 2) including a specific description on the relationship between it and the conceptual framework plus a detailed timeline for implementing the data collection system. Directions and instructions for future progress reports will be provided by the Commission following its review of each report. The progress reports will be due on the following dates: September 1, 2003, December 1, 2003, and February 1, 2004. The progress reports are in addition to the reports and regular preparations required by NCATE and the PSC for an onsite continuing review.
- Albany State University shall submit program reports for all initial and advanced preparation programs to be included in the continuing review by October 1, 2003 to the PSC. The PSC educator preparation staff will provide directions on the preparation of these reports.

**PSC ACTION:** Approved

**I.** Vickie Brantley, Director of Educator Ethics, presented Rule 505-6-.01, The Code of Ethics for Educators (Draft). A handout was given.

**J.** Directions to the Clubhouse Inn and Valdosta State University were given out for our April commission

**K.** Discussion on House Bill # 515 and 516 (hand-out was given).

**L.** Praxis I test – This is a basic skills test. The following question was proposed to all commission members: “Should someone who comes from another field or another state be required to take the Praxis I if they already hold a Masters degree? An open discussion followed.

**M.** Praxis II tests – The following question was proposed to all commission members: “Should an experienced out of state educator have to take the Praxis II test?” An open discussion followed.

**N.** In-Field/Out-of-Field/Minor Part of the Day - The following question was proposed to all commission members: “Are you qualified to teach Social Studies for 1 class a day when your major is in English?” At present, you cannot unless you have 20 hours of semester work. An open discussion followed. The “Minor Part of the Day” rule will be discussed at the April commission meeting.

**O.** Vocational Education – A steering committee has been set up to assist the PSC in adopting new rules and regulations for preparing and certifying Vocational teachers. They will meet on Wednesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. Dr Toth mentioned that many sub-committees or steering committees have been set up and Maria Miller requested that we send out an email to commission members informing them of these committees so that they could have the option of attending.

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**O.** Fran Watkins introduced Penney McRoy, Education Specialist. She joined our staff in February, 2003.

## **VII. CHAIR'S REPORT**

The Chair, Amy Denty, presented the following:

**A.** She was misquoted in the Atlanta Journal Constitution regarding the James Hope case. She spoke with them and they allowed her to write a letter to the editor correcting the quote. The Gwinnett County Superintendent thanked her for taking the time to correct the quote and also thanked the commission for the stance that they took.

**B.** The PSC sponsored with several others, the Georgia Association of Accomplished Teachers Awards and the newly National Board Certified Teacher were recognized. Rick Eiserman, Angela Finn and Janet Scott also attended. The newly National Board Certified Teachers were able to learn about the opportunities and responsibilities that they have.

**C.** Attended a listening session at the Governors mansion. Round table discussions were held on what was working and what was needed in K-12 education. Dottie McClain also attended.

## **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION:** (Pass / Hertzog) To adjourn the meeting.

**PSC ACTION:** The meeting adjourned at 12:07 pm.