Present: Sherry Cox, Mona Ryan, Kathy Latrobe, Joyce Brandes, Sacra Nicholas, Stacy Reeder, Cheryl Walker-Esbaugh, John Covaleskie, Lauren Mathis, Kendra Williams-Diehm, Jiening Ruan, Donna Abraham, Michael Langenbach and Jamie Aldridge.

Approval of the Minutes
Upon a motion made by Joyce Brandes and seconded by Donna Abraham the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

I. Information/Discussion/Actions

* Requirement of signatures from students attesting to background - Michael Langenbach informed members that Kelly Lynch has submitted the MoU’s to about 40 districts with most of them signed and returned. There have been a few of the schools that have called in about item 8, which states “If the Facility requires a background check on the Practicum Student, said Facility will obtain and pay all costs of said background check.” Langenbach’s thoughts were that Legal Counsel wrote this in the MoU to protect the students. In most cases, he reported that once Kelly Lynch explained the idea, the schools were fine with signing the forms, but there were a couple of schools that did not approve. Kelly responded to those schools by telling them to just mark that item out, sign and return the form. Langenbach went to Legal Counsel to confirm that this would mean that the student would be responsible if a background check were requested. Because Langenbach got in touch with Legal Counsel they offered to show him what OUHSC does. He reported that their MoU is far more complicated than the one used in the College. Legal Counsel also informed him that Oklahoma has a statute that states that if you are on a sex offender registry or have been found guilty of a felony in the last ten years you cannot have anything to do with children under 18 years of age. Langenbach shared that he was not aware that this was the law. In light of that he put together a form for our students to sign before they are sent out to the schools for any field experiences, preferably when they sign the MoU, attesting to not being on a state or national sex offender registry or have been convicted of a felony within the last ten years. They are also signing to the understanding that they are responsible to disclose any changes to either while in their program. He reported to members that it only makes sense to have the students sign the form because if something were to happen the first thing to be asked is “Did anyone ask?” Langenbach informed members that at some point later on that this might be incorporated into the MoU, but right now he does not want to change the MoU. He also shared that a visit with Greg Heiser suggested the form would cover the professional programs. Jamie Aldridge asked if a line for the students to print their name be added to the form due to difficulty in reading some of the students’ signatures. Donna Abraham also suggested adding a line for student identification numbers for students having the same name or birth date. Donna Abraham then made a motion to approve the document with the recommended amendments. John Covaleskie seconded the motion and, with a unanimous vote from members, it passed.

* “Secrets of Successful Teaching: Lessons from Award Winning Teachers” - Donna Abraham shared with members information on the Holmes Conference that she and others attended in Charleston, South Carolina. She reported that in 2007 Jeb Bush set up a foundation for “Excellence in Education” that teamed up with the University of Florida to research what successful teachers did. Donna shared that the idea of the foundation is to find out what make an effective teacher. The study was not based on “highly qualified” teachers, but on effectiveness based on the Florida Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT). Donna reported that the foundation took 100 teachers who had the most gains on the FCAT in reading and math, 4th through 10th grades. In order to qualify, teachers had to be in low performing schools and poverty schools. She reported that the other component was that they were trying to see what teachers did to be highly effective despite of all the pressures of testing. The teachers in the group ranged from 3 years experience up to 30 years experience. The teacher were put into focus groups of about 10 and were interviewed and were asked 1) How do you use assessment data?, 2) How do you motivate students?, and 3) How do you handle disruptive students? They also asked teacher to bring their best and worst lesson they have used in the classroom. They took the lessons and helped the teachers discover what worked and did not work in the lessons. The findings of the research really aligned with what the teachers had said and the results of the research were put into the following areas. 1) Nurture an authentic relationship of respect
and caring, 2) Hold student to high expectations, 3) Convey an unwavering belief in your students’ ability to achieve, 4) Celebrate progress, but keep raising the bar, 5) Set Clear guidelines for conduct in the classroom, 6) Foster an atmosphere where it is safe to take academic risks, 7) Make your classroom an engaging place, 8) Tailor instruction to meet the needs of every student, 9) Use multiple methods throughout the year to assess students’ knowledge, 10) Adapt instruction based upon the results of assessments, 11) Relate learning to “real” life, 12) Orchestrate, don’t control, 13) Get beyond the basics of who, what, where and when and 14) Prepare events for formal testing, but focus on learning for life. Donna expressed that the results are all things educators know, but it is a good reminder. Donna shared with members the presenter’s name and e-mail address. The instructor’s name is Dorene Ross and her e-mail is dross@coe.ufl.edu.

II. Committee Updates

• Professional Sequence – No report.

• Student Advising – Sherry Cox shared with members the “OU Teacher Job Fair” is next Wednesday, April 7 from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. She reported they are still working on getting a lunch location for faculty and students to mingle before students go for interviews. Sherry told members that currently there were 18 schools signed up to participate in the Job Fair. She also reported that there have been a few schools that have pulled out, one being Moore Schools, due to economic reasons. Sherry reminded members that the morning session is the same day as the regular Career Fair, but that the Education portion is not being advertised to everyone. It was shared that it is the College’s responsibility to get as many students to attend as possible. She suggested that the more students attend, the greater likelihood of more schools attending in the future. Sherry also asked faculty to try to make an appearance at the Career Fair to mingle with the schools. Sherry informed members an e-mail will be sent out to let everyone know where the luncheon will be held.

Sherry asked members to help with a solution to a situation that has recently been occurring due to the economic times. She shared with members that we have a large number of TE-Plus students that graduated, but didn’t student teach. Sherry reported that in some areas it is not a problem because some of them did a portfolio. Sherry stated that if you go to the OCTP website it will show that the only group that is required to do a portfolio to reach certification is the teacher education students. So when these former students come back to do their internship to be certified to teach some are turned away because they do not have a portfolio. Sherry asked members to try to help with a solution to get these former students certified.

• Certification/residency/field experiences – Jamie Aldridge reported to members that internship requests were due in her office on Friday, April 2 and that she will be forwarding that information to the program areas next week. She also shared that the date for the Internship Closure meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 10th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the Sam Noble Museum. Her final announcement was concerning the new Title II report that she will be working on that includes a lot more detail than the reports in the past.

• EPD Priorities for 2009-2010 – Stacy Reeder asked that the portfolios be brought up again as far as if a portfolio will still be happening. She also shared that the portfolio handbook posted on the website is out of date and needs to be cleaned up to reflect changes that have been made.

• Other Business – Michael Langenbach reminded members that they should turn in a copy of their SPA reports by Monday, April 5th so they can see where they are. He told members he will return the reports back to them with the final review date will be in June at which time they should be ready to submit them electronically.

• Adjournment:
The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.