

**Joint Doctoral Program
End of Year Report
Academic Year 2006-2007**

Committee Members: Ruth Berry, chair, spring semester (UB), Warren Gleckel, chair, fall semester (BSC), S. G. Grant (UB), Mark Posluszny (BSC), Sharon Raimondi, (UB), Maria Runfola (UB), Sarita Samora (BSC), and Sunita Pagedar (UB, student representative).

The committee met on the following dates: 9/12/06, 10/8/06, 11/14/06, 2/13/07, 3/26/07, 5/8/07, and one summer date to be determined

I. Recruitment

1. Formal recruitment was held at the Graduate School of Education's Open House in November and the program was represented at several local, state and national conferences (CEC and NYCEC).
2. We continue to use the database for the purpose of (a) keeping track of the progress of new student applications to the program, and (b) keeping track of the progress of current students through the program
3. Status of applications for 2006-07: 9 applications were received. Of the 8 individuals who completed the application process, three were accepted into the program and five were rejected.

II. Status of the Higher Education Special Education Consortium, HECSE

1. Dr. Raimondi remains the contact person for the special education doctoral program and attended the annual meeting in Washington D. C. (January). She is also the NASDSE/IDEA representative for HECSE. She attended meetings in Washington, Albany, and Louisville, KY to represent this group.
2. Buffalo State College and UB continue to share membership dues for HECSE.

III. Special Education Courses

1. Work continued on updating course proposals.
2. In the Fall of 2006, Dr. Raimondi and Dr. Kevin Miller co-taught Issues in Special Education.
3. In the Fall of 2006, Dr. Raimondi and Dr. Maria Miller co-taught Curriculum and Instruction.
4. In the Spring of 2007, Dr. Raimondi and Dr. Kevin Miller co-taught Grant Writing.
5. Dr. Berry was on sabbatical for the Fall of 2006.

IV. External Funding

- The leadership grant finished its fourth year of funding. Students supported by this grant include:
 1. Cynthia Kerber-Gowan (full time)
 2. Martha Mercantini (full time)
 3. Tammy Pozentides
 4. Craig Reynolds,
 5. Awilda “SiSi” Ramos Zagarrigo
 6. Jen Borgolio
 7. Sabrina Jones
 8. Lori Anne Klienfelder – Cully
 9. Lisa Rafferty
- The OSEP Leadership Grant has received a no cost extension for an additional year. We were given permission to support two additional doctoral students with the condition that they finish in three years (a no cost extension tentatively given).
- Kevin Miller submitted an IES grant with Gail Fitzgerald (Missouri). This grant was funded and it is expected to support one full time doctoral student in the Spring of 2008.
- On September 19 and 20, Drs. Robert Gilmore and Louise Tripoli from OSEP conducted a site visit. Feedback was positive.
- A Summer Institute was held the week of June 26, 2006 in conjunction with UB’s Graduate School of Education and Buffalo City SETRC. Drs. Cathy Kea and Gloria Campbell-Whatley were the keynote speakers for Monday and Tuesday. Their topic was “Rethinking Teacher Education” and developing Culturally Responsive Syllabi. Dr. Alfred Tatum.
- Another institute is planned for this June.
- Dr. Herb Foster has established a scholarship fund for the Joint Doctoral Program in memory of his wife. It is expected that the first recipient will be awarded next spring or fall.

V. Outreach and Program Alliances

- Kevin Miller served as the Buffalo State representative for the Joint Doctoral Program. He will also serve as the Site Coordinator for the Department Exceptional Education under the Leadership Grant.
- Sharon Raimondi continues to serve as the 1.0 FTE representative to the Joint Doctoral Program. The Graduate School of Education at UB continues to fund her replacement at Buffalo State College.
- The program was allocated one graduate assistant position Lisa Rafferty. Ruth Berry also received a graduate assistant, but this individual was not in the special education doctoral program.
- Sunita Pagedar was funded by Dr. Clements’ math grant.
- Khaled Almuhareb continues to receive full support from his government.

- As part of the Leadership Grant, an Advisory Board was formed. They met once during the 2006-07 academic year.
- A summer institute will be offered the week of June 23. It is a joint collaboration with Buffalo City SETRC. Cathy Kea and Gloria Campbell Whatley will be the keynote speakers for Monday. Their topic is “Rethinking Teacher Education”. On Friday, Alfred Tatum closed the institute. His topic was “Teaching Black Adolescent Boys to Read”.

VI. Doctoral Internships at Buffalo State

- Martha Mercantini completed half of an internship during the Summer of 2006 at Buffalo State College. She worked with Dr. Schmidt.

VII. Goals for the 2007-2008 Academic Year

- Encourage students to publish more
- Offer Portfolio development for doctoral students
- Continue to recruit with the goal of increasing enrollment
- Have permanent numbers assigned to the three special education seminars courses that lack permanent numbers
- Conduct a program evaluation
- Continue with grant activities
- Continue to seek outside funding to support the program and future students

At the request of both Deans (Dr. Gresham and Dr. Rochon) a special committee was established to reexamine the Joint Doctoral Program. Drs. Gleckel, Posluszny, Jankowski, Grant, Runfola, Samora, Schmidt, and Zigo served on this committee. The recommendations are attached.

Dr. Rochon asked Dr. Raimondi to develop a memorandum of understanding incorporating the recommendations from this report. Drs. Berry, Miller and Raimondi developed this report that is attached. At this point, it has not been presented to either Dean.

VIII. Status of Students (as of June 14, 2007)

- **Students graduating: 0**
- **Students advancing from Stage 2 to Stage 3: 0**
- **Student advancing from Stage 1 to Stage 2: 0**

- **Students admitted to Stage 1: 2**
Colleen Ellis (August 2006 – Stage 1)
Angela Demars Patti (July 2006 – Stage 1)

- **Students continuing on level: 14**

- **Stage 3 - 4**

- Khaled Almuhareb (Stage 3) – 4th year
- Cynthia Kerber Gowan (2003 - Stage 3) – 4th year
- Sunita Pagedar (Stage 3) – 4th year
- Tamara Pozantides (2003 - Stage 3) – 4th \ year

- **Stage 2 - 1**

- *Kim Leavitt (Stage 2) – 4th year

- **Stage 1 - 9**

- Cathy Boehm (Stage 1)
- Jennifer Borgioli (July 2005 – Stage 1)
- Lori Ann Klienfelder Cully (Jan 2005 – Stage 1)
- *Gail Griggs Fuller (July 2004 – Stage 1)
- Laura Geraci-Crandall (May 2005 – Stage 1)
- Sabrina Jones (May 2005 – Stage 1)
- *Martha Mercantini (2004 - Stage 2) – 3rd year
- *Lisa Rafferty (July 2005 – Stage 1)
- *Awilda “SiSi” Ramos Zagarrigo (Fall 2003 - Stage 1)

- **Students completing residency 2006-2007: 2**

- Lisa Rafferty
- Lori Ann Klienfelder Cully

- **Students withdrawing from the program: 2**

- Sean Turner – switched to literacy
- Craig Reynolds – withdrew, family obligations

*These students will move to the next stage with the Doctoral Studies Committee meets this July.

TOTAL ACTIVE STUDENTS IN PROGRAM for 2006-07: 16

Students admitted for Fall 2006: 2

Colleen Ellis (August 2006 – Stage 1)
Angela Demars Patti (July 2006 – Stage 1)

Students admitted for Fall 2007: 3

- Melanie Di James
- Judith Dresnack
- Carley Morreale.

Student Status

	Student	Status	Residency	Advisor
1.	Khaled Almuhareb	Stage 3 –Presented his research component April 30.	03-04	Raimondi
2.	*Cynthia Kerber	Stage 3 – Still working on research component.	03-04	Raimondi Sept '03
3.	*Tamara Pozantides	Stage 3 (Dec '05) Switched advisors to Dr. Samora. Finished her research component this spring. Finished her last class, last semester.	04-04	Samora Sept '03
4.	Sunita Pagedar	Stage 3 – Working on her research component.	04-05	Raimondi
5.	Kim Leavitt	Stage 2 - She should defend her research component this April. She will present her dissertation this June.	03-04	Samora
6.	*Martha Mercantini	Stage 2 –She has completed her research component this spring. She is working on her dissertation proposal.	05-06	Berry Sept '04
7.	*Awilda 'Sisi' Ramos Zagarrigo	Stage 2-Has been moved to stage 2. She should defend her research component in March.	03-04	Samora Sept '03
8.	Cathy Boehm	Stage 1 - Working on Administrative Credential.		Berry
9.	Gail Grigg Fuller	Stage 1 – Presented Research Component. Beginning Dissertation.		Raimondi July '04
10.	*Laurie Ann Kleinfelder/Cully	Stage 1 – Dr. Raimondi is now her advisor. Failed Research Exam – asked to revise it.	06-07	Raimondi Jan '05
11.	Laura Geraci-Crandall	Stage 1 – Took her research component in June.		Raimondi May '05
12.	*Sabrina Jones	Stage 1 - Might go full-time 2007-2008.		Gleckel May '05
13.	*Jennifer Borgioli	Stage 1 – Will attend full time in Fall 2007-08.		Berry
14.	*Lisa Rafferty	Stage 1 – Passed Research Analysis Exam.	06-07	Raimondi July '05
15.	Angela Patti	Stage 1 –Will attend full-time 2007-2008.		Summer '06 Berry
16.	Colleen Ellis	Stage 1 –Will attend full-time 2007-2008.		Fall '06 Raimondi

*Grant

UB/BSC Special Education Joint Doctoral Program Task Force Recommendations

Based upon a review of the available information, the task force members have concluded that it is highly desirable that the UB/BSC Special Education Doctoral Program be continued if there is a commitment to making it a program of excellence. To ensure a doctoral program of the highest quality, the following factors/issues should be addressed:

I. Faculty

- UB should commit 2 FTE to the program.
- BSC should commit up to 2 FTE to the program.
- UB should recruit a senior faculty to manage, direct, and lead the program. This person should have a national reputation in special education, a solid record of scholarship and grantsmanship, and demonstrated leadership experience.
- The process for applying for graduate faculty status for BSC faculty should be streamlined.
- BSC faculty should be involved in mentoring students in all aspects of the program including chairing and sitting on dissertation committees.

II. Resources

- Sufficient resources should be available to provide competitive financial support packages to recruit high caliber full time doctoral students. This support should include funds for research and teaching assistantships, tuition, fees, and travel.
- Office space for doctoral students should be provided.
- The growth of the program should be discussed and the optimal student size should be determined.
- National (e.g. OSERS) and state (e.g. SUNY, VESD) agencies should be approached with the view toward garnering additional resources for the program.

III. Program Restructuring and Revision

- Develop program option emphases: scholar/researcher, scholar/practitioner, and scholar/administrator.
- Develop new content specific concentrations (e.g. Transition and Vocational Rehabilitation, Education of Gifted Students).
- Develop minors/concentration options for students in other graduate programs.
- The portion of the curriculum that is required of all students should be reviewed and revised as necessary.
- Develop competencies related to roles of graduates (e.g. research, publishing, conference presentations, teaching, advising, supervision, consulting, in-service, community service etc.).
- Develop competency based portfolio assessments as an option to written exams.

- Emphasize and facilitate faculty governance and ownership of the program.
- Develop an aggressive and comprehensive recruitment plan.
- Coordinate administrative functions between UB and BSC (e.g. published program information, admission materials, advertising, logo, letterhead etc.).
- Develop partnerships and close working relationships with State Ed and SUNY Central.

Task Force Committee Members:

Warren Gleckel

SG Grant

Tim Jankowski

Mark Posluszny

Maria Runfola

Sarita Samora

Raquel Schmidt

Diane Zigo



**Graduate School of Education
Department of Learning and Instruction
Joint Doctoral Program in Special Education**

Statement of Agreement and Understanding

TO: Dr. Ronald Rochon, Dean - School of Education, Buffalo State College
Dr. Mary Gresham, Dean – Graduate School of Education, University at Buffalo

FROM: Dr. Sharon Raimondi, Program Director - Joint Doctoral Program in Special Education
Dr. Ruth Berry, Director Area Wide Committee for the Joint Doctoral Program in Special Education
Dr. Kevin Miller, Buffalo State Faculty Representative for the Joint Doctoral Program in Special Education

DATE: March 19, 2007

RE: Memorandum of Agreement and Understanding for the operation of PhD in Special Education for Joint Doctoral Program between the University at Buffalo and Buffalo State College

This Statement of Agreement and Understanding was developed based on the recommendations from the Joint Doctoral Review Committee dated 2/16/06. The draft below reflects what we believe to be critical points to ensure that the program fulfills the Review Committee's expectations for a program of excellence. This Statement of Agreement and Understanding replaces the document revised and approved on May 2, 1984.

Memorandum of Agreement

This agreement is made between the Graduate School of Education (GSE) at the University at Buffalo (UB) and the School of Education (SOE) at Buffalo State College (BSC). Following are the commitments each institution will make to the Joint Doctoral Program in Special Education, housed in the department of Learning and Instruction (LAI) at UB.

I. Faculty

- A. UB will commit a minimum of 2 FTE to the program. These individuals will be selected from the Department of Learning and Instruction. One of these individuals will direct the Joint Doctoral Program in Special Education.
- B. BSC will commit a minimum of 2 FTE per year to the program. It is recommended that this individual be assigned on a full time basis to this program for a minimum of three year with opportunity for reappointment.
 - a. The Chair of the Exceptional Education Department, State University of New York College at Buffalo will provide the Dean of the School of Education, State University of New York College at Buffalo a list of faculty from the Exceptional Education Department who wish to participate in the program (mentor, advise, and/or teach courses).
 - b. The approved list will be forwarded to the Chair of the Department of Learning and Instruction and the Dean of the Graduate School of Education with a letter and vitae of those faculty from the Department who wish to participate in the program as per document *Policy for Appointments to Qualified Academic Rank*. Those faculty on the list will be proposed for adjunct professorships, commensurate with their rank, in the Department and Learning and Instruction for an initial period of three years.
 - c. Those receiving adjunct appointments who wish to chair and/or serve as one of the three primary members of a doctoral dissertation committee will apply for and subsequently hold membership in the Senior Graduate Faculty according to the Graduate School of Education procedures as stipulated in the Charter and Bylaws of the Graduate School, State University of New York at Buffalo.

II. Resources

- A. Each year, sufficient resources will be made available to provide graduate assistantships for at least three, high caliber, full-time, doctoral students; 2 supported by UB; 1 by BSC.
- B. As needed, office space for both faculty and doctoral students will be provided at UB and BSC.

- C. Privileges such as technology support, website access, e-mail, library access, and parking will be provided on both campuses for all faculty and students affiliated with the program.
- D. The target program enrollment with 4 FTE faculty will be 16 to 20 students with an effort to increase the number of full-time candidates.
- E. The director of the program will coordinate efforts to develop relationships with agencies such as the Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services (OSERS), New York State Vocational and Educational Services for Individuals with Disabilities (VESID), or other relevant agencies as deemed appropriate for procurement of additional resources to support the program.
- F. Both institutions will actively participate in the marketing of this program.

III. Governance

- A. An UB/LAI faculty member affiliated with the Joint Doctoral Program in Special Education will direct the program. The UB Program Director will coordinate related administrative functions between UB and BSC. This individual is to insure that all published program information such as admission materials, advertising, or letterhead reflect the logos and/or names of both institutions.
- B. At least 2 individuals from each institution who are involved in the program will serve on the Area Wide Joint Doctoral Committee. These individuals will be responsible for the overall monitoring and implementation of the program.
 - a. A committee comprised of two members from the Exceptional Education Department and two members for The Department of Learning and Instruction will function as the program area committee for the implementation of the special education doctorate.
 - b. All ad hoc standing committees appointed by the program area committee will have equal representation from the Exceptional Education Department and the Department of Learning and Instruction.
 - c. At least once a year, the representative faculty members of the program area committee shall report to their faculty and administration on the development, the accomplishments, and the recommended direction of planned growth of the doctoral program.
 - d. The faculty members participating in the special education doctoral program shall meet at least once an academic year to hear the report of the program area committee and to offer suggestions for the further development of the program. Needs, potential, and priorities will be considered at these meetings.

- C. The UB Program Director, in conjunction with the Area Wide Joint Doctoral Committee, is responsible for the review of all program degree requirements and admission decisions. The director will meet with the BSC Exceptional Education faculty at BSC at least once each academic semester and provide both institutions with an annual report.

- D. All personnel action, other than eligibility for participation in the program, shall remain the responsibility of the unit of the State University of New York in which the faculty member has a primary appointment. This does not, however, preclude the use of comment from other assessment information regarding the faculty member's performance in the doctoral program as evidence in personnel decisions within the department to the faculty member's unit.

IV. Amendments

- A. The process for amending this document will follow in order:
 - a. A majority vote of the Area Wide Joint Doctoral Committee of the Joint Doctoral Program in Special Education,
 - b. Approval by the Departments of Learning and Instruction, Graduate School of Education, UB and Exceptional Education, School of Education, Buffalo State College,
 - c. A mutual agreement by the Deans of UB's Graduate School of Education and Buffalo State's School of Education, and
 - d. Other units as appropriate on either campus.

- B. Proposed amendments will be circulated to participating faculty at least 30 days prior to consideration and review. Such amendments must be presented at a meeting of all participating faculty or by mail ballot.

_____ Dean, UB Graduate School of Education	_____ Date
_____ Dean, Buffalo State College, School of Education	_____ Date
_____ Chair, UB Department of Learning and Instruction	_____ Date
_____ Chair, Buffalo State College, Department of Exceptional Education	_____ Date

