Meeting of the Educational Research Center
Joint Advisory Board
Wednesday October 14th, 2008
Board Room 2nd Floor
Room 2.140
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Committee Members Present: Susan Brown for Commissioner Paredes, Lizzette Reynolds for Commissioner Scott, Thomas Bailey, Don Barfield, Belinda Biscoe, Harlan Howell, and Jim Parsons

Committee Members Absent: Daniel Solorzano, Janis Somerville, Carla Stevens, and Michael Nettles

Agenda/Comments

The meeting convened at 9:13 a.m.

Acting for the Commissioners, THECB Assistant Commissioner Susan Brown opened the meeting by asking attendees to introduce themselves.

I. Review and Consideration of Approval of the Minutes from the September 3rd meeting

The board unanimously voted to adopt the minutes of the September 3, 2008 meeting.

II. Discussion of State Research Priorities

This item was moved to the end of the meeting for discussion. Jim Van Overschelde directed the board to a handout in their packets labeled "Top Educational Research Priorities for Texas". The document was based on conversations with staff from the offices of the Commissioner of Education, Governor, Senate Education Committee, and House Public Education Committee and was provided as a reference guide for the board and ERCs as a guide for future research.

III. Review and Consideration of Joint Advisory Board Forms for Scoring Protocol for Education Research Center (ERC) Research Proposals

After discussion, the board voted to approve Version B of the Joint Advisory Board Forms for Scoring Protocol for Education Research Center (ERC) Research Proposals. The policies associated with these forms were approved with the forms.

IV. Review and Consideration of Approval of revisions to JAB and ERC Policies

The board was referred to the packet handout that identified an addition to ERC policies, 1.5(d)(4), and a revision to JAB policies, 2.5(a). After discussion, the board voted to adopt the policy changes as presented.

V. Review and Consideration of Approval of New Research Projects

The board reviewed and voted approval of the following new research proposals:

TAMU College Station - Closing the Gaps for English Language Learners

UT Dallas - The Relationship of Autism to the Distribution of Hazardous Air Pollutants in Texas

UT Dallas - Achievement Effects of Bilingual Education: A Regression Discontinuity Approach

UT Dallas - E3 Alliance, Proposes a Series of Questions by Identifying Variables that affect successful progression from 5th through 10th grade.

The following research proposals were determined to lack adequate description/specification to be approved. The board asked that the proposals be resubmitted prior to the December board meeting:

UT Austin – Benchmarking Success: A Review of Programs Closing the Gaps for African American Males in Texas Institutions of Higher Education.

UT Austin – Changing of the Guard: Principal Leadership, Teacher Quality and Student Achievement in Reconstituted Low-Performing Texas Schools

The research project "A Historical Analysis of College Access for First-year Latinos at the University of Texas-Austin from 1936 to 2007" submitted by UT Austin was withdrawn since it did not require confidential data provided by the Educational Research Center.

VI. Review and Consideration of Approval of Each ERC's procedures for Internally Reviewing Research Proposals Before Submission to the JAB

The board indicated the ERC should revise the document prior to the next JAB meeting. The Board wanted as a minimum all the information provided on the Texas A&M version. The revised version will be the basis by which new research proposals will be reviewed for the December JAB meeting. The board will review the revised document at the next meeting.

VII. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:47 p.m.