

Elementary Teacher Education Senate
3:30-5:00 Thursday, December 4, 2014
319 Curris Business Building
Minutes

I. Welcome

Present: J.D. Cryer (Coordinator, Elementary Teacher Education), Tony Gabriele (Professional Sequence), Linda Fitzgerald (Early Childhood Education), Merrilee Betts (Teacher Practitioner), Denise Tallakson (Elementary Education), Chad Christopher (Coordinator, Secondary Teacher Education), Katheryn East (Chair, Teacher Education Faculty), Kim Miller (Special Education), Katlyn Anderson (Student), Michelle Swanson (Music Education), Matt Webb (Mathematics Education)

Absent: Ellen Neuhaus (Liberal Arts Core), Lynn Ensworth (Middle Level Education), Sohyun Meacham (Literacy Education), Amy Lockhart (Clinical Experiences), Deockki Hong (Physical Education and Health Education), Chris Schulte (Art Education)

Guests: Rob Boody (Coordinator of Assessment), Becky Hawbaker (Coordinator, Student Field Experiences)

II. Approval of minutes for October 16, 2014 Joint Senate Meeting

- a. Denise moved to approve minutes and Kim seconded. Minutes approved.
- b. Nov. 6 – Elementary Minutes
Linda moved to approve minutes and Denise seconded. Minutes approved.

III. Old Business

- a. edTPA and Praxis II/Licensure
 - Update from Teacher Education Faculty Meeting (held on 11/17/14) where issue was discussed.
 - Discussed benefits and concerns of both tests (handout provided)
 - Reviewed Chapter 79: 15 (7)
 - Reviewed data for pass rates for each test
 - Reviewed the cost associated with each test
 - Rob informed us that this spring we would be sending 100% of edTPAs to Pearson since TQP is paying for it. This will give us more information and data to ponder.
 - The feeling is that we need more time to evaluate the data associated with edTPA from this fall and next spring scores before we can make a vote on which test to use for licensure purposes.

- The recommendation is for senate members to continue talking with their respective departments about their thoughts related to edTPA and Praxis II.

b. Alumni Survey Data

- Rob provided a copy of the Report on the Teacher Education Alumni Survey of Spring 2014.
- About 200 surveys were sent out to graduates from the 2012-2013 school year, at the end of their first year of teaching. Received 58 responses.
- 26 questions on the survey, all mappable to the InTASC standards, plus technology.
- 5-point scale used. 5=Very Well prepared/1=Poorly Prepared
- Most scored between 3.5 and 4.00 (Most closer to well prepared (4) than moderately prepared (3).
- Overall, grads felt we did a pretty good job of preparing them but there's room for improvement.
- Top five areas: Follow ethical practices as a teacher (4.53), Reflect on your own teaching and make adjustments in response to this reflection (4.32), Respect learners as individuals (4.11), Accept feedback offered by colleagues and others, and make appropriate adjustments in response to the feedback (4.02), and Work in a collegial manner with other school personnel (4.00).
- Bottom five areas: Use technology to support learning in a way that engages students (2.40), Construct and implement a classroom management plan that effectively uses time, space, and materials to facilitate student learning (3.13), Initiate connections with other members of the school community, including students, parents, and staff (3.26), Seek out professional development opportunities and apply the acquired knowledge to teaching (3.31), and Integrate technology into instruction in ways that facilitate student learning (3.38).
- Our student representative feels that she has a good handle on these lower items but feels other students may not be in the same boat.
- A member asked what senators should do with this information? Rob said this information could be used to inform conversations as a whole.
- Having a large group "Teacher Education Data Day" was mentioned. The idea is continuous improvement.

c. Current reality of faculty load, class size, and teaching style

- The Accreditation Report of 2010 indicates that, due to budget reductions and a lack of hiring new faculty, "Faculty are concerned that the results will be larger class sizes, lecture-oriented teaching, and a loss of modeling best practice. Further, this will cause a loss of time available for scholarship and, thus, program improvement."

- At the current time (12/4/2014), due to lower student enrollment, these areas are not concerning. However, if enrollment does go back up, these same concerns will be in place.
- Faculty believes that upper administration still needs to hire more faculty members. In reality, not much has been done to address this concern.

IV. New Business

a. U.S. Department of Education has proposed a new set of regulations for Teacher Preparation Programs (Handout provided for details regarding the proposal)

- Main areas discussed:
 - Regulations will allow states to develop system to identify high and low performing teacher preparation programs.
 - States will ask for more outcome measures in order to improve teacher preparation programs. Outcome measures will include:
 - Student achievement (K-12)
 - Employment (placement and retention)
 - Customer satisfaction (graduates and principals)
 - Program review and accreditation
 - Content/pedagogical knowledge, clinical practice and rigorous entry/exit requirements.
- AACTE is putting together a response in order to write feedback.
- It was mentioned that we should have a rigorous assessment system for ourselves; we can then show the process by which we are trying to improve and affect change.

b. Teacher Education Assessment Subcommittee Member Needed

- Michelle Swanson can no longer serve on this subcommittee so we will need a new Elementary member.

V. Update on matters arising at the State

a. Year Long Student Teaching Pilot

- We are wrapping up first semester. Level III was strong for both candidate and classroom teacher. Both feel students are in good position for student teaching next semester.

VI. Update on Teacher Education Executive Council

- Review Governance Structure
- Classroom management course for secondary was discussed
- It is nice to have the Provost continue as the Chair of this committee. He is doing a fine job and seems to understand Teacher Education.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00

VII. Upcoming dates (subject to change)

Elementary Senate

Secondary Senate

January 15
February 5
March 5
April 2
April 30

December 18
January 22
February 19
March 5
April 16
May 7