

Elementary Teacher Education Senate Meeting
3:30-5:00 Thursday, November 5, 2015
319 CBB
Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions

Present:

J.D. Cryer (Coordinator), Tony Gabriele (Professional Sequence), Linda Fitzgerald (Early Childhood Education), Denise Tallakson (Elementary Education), Kim Miller (Special Education), Katlyn Andersen (Student Representative), Amy Lockhart (Clinical Experiences), Merrilee Betts (Teacher Practitioner), Trey Leech (Physical Education and Health Education-ALT), Chad Christopher (Coordinator, Secondary Teacher Education), Lynne Ensworth (Middle Level Education), Michelle Swanson (Music Education), Heather Gallavan (Mathematics Education—ALT), Melissa Heston (Literacy Education)

Absent:

Deockki Hong (Physical Education and Health Education), Olly Steinhorsdottir (Mathematics Education), Wendy Miller (Art Education), Dee Dee Heistad (Liberal Arts Core)

Guests:

Jim Wohlpert (Provost), Nick Pace (Dept. Head, Educational Leadership & Postsecondary Education), Cindy Diehl Yang (Director, Center for Educational Transformation), Rob Boody (Coordinator of Assessment), Becky Hawbaker (Coordinator, Student Field Experiences), Jody Stone (Professor, Chemistry & Biochemistry & Teaching)

II. Approval of September 17, 2015 Joint Senate Minutes

Lynne Ensworth moved to approve and Melissa Heston seconded. Minutes approved.

III. Approval Process and Update for the Teacher Education Strategic Initiatives (TESI)

Provost Jim Wohlpert described the charge from the Board of Regents is to:

- Create a plan that incorporates best practice (including from other ranked colleges of education) reflective of the future of K-12 education
- Initiate Action Plans with timelines

In so doing, we seek to:

- Strengthen what's strong & distinctive about UNI Teacher Education
- Address growth needs in a proactive, forward-thinking way that will further enhance UNI's legacy of leadership in teacher education

The tentative timeline is as follows:

Fall 2015:

- Identification of “Focus Areas” by faculty, staff Teacher Education Senates & others from across campus
- Formation of Focus Area teams to identify main points/issues/concepts for further action
- Presentation of initial main points to the Provost in December 2015

Spring 2016:

- Solicitation of input, engagement & feedback from internal & external stakeholders
- Sharpening of focus areas, priorities, action steps
- Anticipated development of formal document for submission to Board of Regents in June 2016

Provost Wohlpert stated:

- We want to elevate TE for national distinction – claim that UNI is Iowa’s Teacher College. We shouldn’t see this as imposed but rather to elevate what we are doing.
- \$500,000 is being requested for next year to support the development of a Teacher Education Strategic Plan.
- We need to let the Regents know the direction of how we would support TESI with the \$500,000.
- Nick Pace and Cindy Diehl Yang are leading this project and there are 45 faculty and staff members also involved. There were two separate all call meetings and the charge was heard from the Regents via Provost Wohlpert.
- The Provost indicated that the BOR wants the TE strategic initiatives to be bold and distinctive – elevate the work that UNI has done. We should take the awesome things we have done at UNI and elevate them. Public Relations may not know about this so we need to work with PR to showcase UNI in front of the legislature and the BOR.

Nick and Cindy stated:

- When this process started faculty and staff were asked to identify six focus groups and select the one they were drawn to and would like to engage in. Focus groups have been meeting to do a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities & Threats) analysis.
- All 45 faculty and staff members will be invited back next Monday & Tuesday to present the results of the SWOT analysis from the focus areas. At that point we should start talking about intermediate things to review. The intermediate and long-term items would be discussed later as other priorities get attention now.
- Nick and Cindy will meet with team leaders to provide the Provost and President the status of the strategic plan process.

Provost Wohlpert asked:

- Should the process for the approval of the TESI should go through the Teacher Education Senates?
- Does everyone want to have a session to provide feedback?

Senators discussed these questions. It was decided that the answer is yes if curriculum or policy is involved, then the approval should go through all senates. If curriculum or policy isn't involved, the TE Senates don't need to be involved in the approval process, but they should still be informed.

Cindy offered to be on the agenda of the TE Senate meetings each month to provide updates.

IV. State Completion Exam Recommendation Vote

J.D. presented the question for the State Completion Exam recommendation and the procedures for the State Completion Exam recommendation vote.

- "Starting in the fall of 2018, the UNI Teacher Education program will switch its licensure recommendation from the current Content and Pedagogy nationally normed assessment (Praxis II) to a nationally normed performance based assessment (edTPA)".
 - Vote of YES means we should switch to edTPA
 - Vote of NO means we should not switch and keep Praxis II.

Senators completed final discussion and debate. Lynne Ensworth called the question. Melissa seconded. Vote was taken. Results by department were:

Department	Senator	Vote
Professional Sequence	Tony Gabriele	No
Clinical Experiences	Amy Lockhart	No
Early Childhood Education	Linda Fitzgerald	No
Elementary Education	Denise Tallakson	No
Middle Level Education	Lynne Ensworth	No
Music Education	Michelle Swanson	Yes
Literacy Education	Melissa Heston	No
Art Education	Wendy Miller	Absent
Special Education	Kim Miller	Yes
Physical/Health Education	Trey Leech-alternate for Deockki Hong	No
Math Education	Heather Gallavan-alternate for Olly Steinhorsdottier	No
Teacher Practitioner	Merrilee Betts	No

Undergraduate Students	Katlyn Andersen	No

Final Results

- 10 votes no for switching to edTPA
- 2 votes yes for switching to edTPA

J.D. will present to the Teacher Education Executive Council the final results from the Elementary Teacher Education Senate that the recommendation is to continue to use the Praxis II as the State Completion Exam.

Melissa Heston moved to adjourn the meeting. Amy Lockhart seconded. Meeting adjourned at 5:00.

V. Upcoming Dates (subject to change)

Elementary Senate

December 3, CBB 319
 January 15, CBB 319
 February 4, CBB 319
 March 10 (Joint), CBB Rooms 1 & 3
 April 7, CBB 323
 April 28, CBB 319

Secondary Senate

November 12, CBB 319
 December 17, CBB 319
 January 22, CBB 319
 February 18, CBB 319
 March 10 (Joint), CBB Rooms 1 & 3
 April 14, CBB 319
 May 5, CBB 319