

Elementary Teacher Education Senate Meeting
3:30-5:00 Thursday, April 7, 2016
323 CBB
Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions

Present:

J.D. Cryer (Elementary Teacher Education Coordinator), Benjamin Forsyth (Professional Sequence), Amy Lockhart (Clinical Field Experience), Melissa Heston (Early Childhood Education-ALT), Denise Tallakson (Elementary Education), Clay Edwards (Middle Level Education-ALT), Islam Aly (Art Education), Kim Miller (Special Education), Olly Steinhorsdottir (Mathematics Education), Merrilee Betts (Teacher Practitioner), Renae Dryer (Undergraduate Student), Katheryn East (Chair, Teacher Education Faculty), Chad Christopher (Coordinator, Secondary Teacher Education)

Absent:

Michelle Swanson (Music Education), Soyhun Meachum (Literacy Education), Deockki Hong (Physical Education and Health Education), DeeDee Heisted (Liberal Arts Core), Lynne Ensworth (Middle Level Education), Linda Fitzgerald (Early Childhood Education)

Guests:

Rob Boody (Coordinator of Assessment)

II. Approval of February Senate Minutes

Denise moved to approve the minutes and Amy seconded. Minutes approved.

III. Curriculum Process

Consent Agenda Items

- GEOG 1310- Maps and Map Interpretation
 - Change Name to Digital Earth
- PEMES 2030- Teaching Physical Education with Technology
 - This was approved in the last curriculum cycle, but a typo on the form made it 2 credits instead of the 3 credits they wanted.

Melissa moved to approve and Ben seconded. Motion passed.

IV. Feedback for:

a. UNI Educator Preparation Program Vision and Mission

- As Chair of the Teacher Education Faculty, Katheryn East has been leading this charge.
- J.D. received some feedback and asked everyone if they had anything else to add. The only concern stated from the senate was some wordsmithing.

- There will be a vote in April for Elementary on this.

b. Field Experience Placement Requirements for All UNI Teacher Education Field Experiences

- Discussion took place around the difficulties that are happening related to making placements
- Early Childhood had concerns related to guideline 2 asking for a contract to be on file between the school and UNI, guideline 5 stating all mentor teachers must have a standard license, and guidelines 10 and 11 requiring faculty members to be involved with keeping, maintaining, and uploading placement records to the UNITED system. Is the entry of this data by faculty a good use of their time?
- Questions were raised if students should be required to have a background check prior to field experiences that take place before Level I (so outside of the Teacher Education Program). Should there be a university-wide policy regarding background checks?

V. Updates

a. TESI

- Listening Tours happening
- Listening Posts happening
- April 22 will be the next full group meeting. Items to be discussed at the meeting will be:
 - Updates on Focus Areas
 - Consider high priority areas
 - Identify potential pilot projects for fall
 - Identify individuals to work this summer on pilot projects
 - Possible funds to support work in the summer to develop fall pilots
- A member asked if there is a summary of information? J.D. said there would be Google Docs created for each opportunity. The final copy will come from Cindy or Nick.

b. 2015-2016 Annual Report Update

- Assessment
 - In November, Classroom Assessment professors met with TE External Advisory Board
 - Classroom Assessment team has met and come to consensus on a number of topics for their courses
 - In March, Classroom Assessment professors presented these ideas at the TEF meeting
- Classroom Management
 - During the fall semester, Becky Hawbaker led a team in developing a curriculum proposal for a course to be used during the “off” half semester of the Level II clinical experience that puts focus on classroom management.
 - In March, at the Joint Teacher Education Senate Meeting, this proposal was accepted

- The course will be piloted in the fall of 2016
 - Educational Technology
 - Educational Technology team has worked with the Department of Curriculum and Instruction faculty over the course of the entire year.
 - In April, Educational Technology professors met with the Secondary Methods team
 - In April, Educational Technology professors met with TE External Advisory Board
 - In April, Educational Technology professors presented these ideas at the TEF meeting
 - The College of Education hired the Center for Social and Behavioral Research to complete two studies:
 - Findings from In-Depth Principal Interview
 - Perspectives of and about New Teachers: Findings from New Teachers & Instructional Coaches.
 - Governance
 - Governance Survey has been distributed. Closing date is April 8, 2016
 - Course-load/Class size Survey has been distributed to Department heads and cluster area leaders
- c. 2016 Data Day (Held March 28—26 people in attendance)
- Data Exploration
 - 2015 Employer Survey
 - 2015 Alumni Survey
 - 2014-2015 Student Teaching Results
 - Small group collaboration to interpret, reflect, and write
 - Identified areas of improvement
 - Collected feedback to use for creation of 2016-2017 Annual Report to State
 - Feedback from Data Day
 - We need to engage in a new Curriculum Mapping process to locate gaps and redundancy in our overall Educator Preparation Program.
 - We need to review and revise the current evaluation forms and rubrics used in our program to not only have the required InTASC standards but also include the areas we want to improve in as a program.
 - We need to integrate specific areas of growth for our program into student teaching semester-seminar times.
 - We need to consider any disconnects between research-based best practice and what is currently modeled in school settings.
 - We need to develop a mechanism for continuous improvement in our program that connects to current practices in the P-12 grade setting.

There is a concern that our senate and TESI group are going in different directions. We need to prioritize and decide if TESI or the Teacher Education Senates are going to make decisions. Will TESI come back to senates after the April 22 meeting to report or should we tell TESI what we need? We should share the information we received from Data Day with TESI.

- d. 2016 IACTE Spring Conference
 - Federal TE Regulations
 - There will be a change with TEACH Grant moving to a loan forgiveness program. This would start in 2021
 - It looks like there will be a Teacher Preparation Rating System starting in 2021 to coincide with the TEACH Grant move
 - School Administrators of Iowa/Iowa State Education Association/Iowa Association of School Boards
 - Be willing to have hard conversations with teacher candidates
 - Help us in encouraging teachers to host teacher candidates
 - Teacher Leadership Compensation
 - Great to Influential Report—Teacher leadership begins at the Teacher Prep level
 - End of Program Assessments
 - UNI-Praxis II, U of Iowa—edTPA, ISU—ETS-PPAT
- e. Executive Council – Self Study
 - Iowa Department of Education representatives came to campus on March 7, 2016
 - Provided UNI with Self-Study Process for Accreditation
 - Organize this spring so we can start working right away in the fall
- f. Teacher Education Faculty
 - Katheryn East has held several productive meetings this year
- g. Chair of Teacher Education
 - Election of Teacher Education Faculty Chair took place
 - Dr. Benjamin Forsyth voted in as new Chair of TEF
 - Senate recognized Katheryn for all of her work done as Chair of the UNI Teacher Education Program

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

VI. Upcoming Dates (subject to change)

Elementary Senate

April 28 CBB 319

Secondary Senate

April 14 CBB 319

May 5 CBB 319