

Elementary Teacher Education Senate
September 1, 2016
Meeting Minutes

Present:

J.D. Cryer (Coordinator), Melissa Heston (Early Childhood Education), Denise Tallakson (Elementary Education), Lynne Ensworth (Middle Level Education), Kim Miller (Special Education), Aly Islam (Art Education), Sarah Vander Zanden, (Literacy Education, Alternate), Michelle Swanson (Music Education), Olly Steinhorsdottir (Mathematics Education), Amy Lockhart (Clinical Experiences), Ranae Dryer (Student Representative), Benjamin Forsyth (TEF Chair), Rob Boody (Director of Assessment), Chad Christopher (Coordinator of Secondary Teacher Education), J.D. Cryer (Coordinator of Elementary Teacher Education)

Absent:

Deockki Hong (Physical Education and Health Education), Merrilee Betts (Teacher Practitioner)

Guests:

Nikki Skaar (Assistant Director of Assessment), Chris Curren (Coordinator of Undergraduate Special Education), Vickie Robinson (Associate Vice President for Educator Preparation)

I. Welcome and Introductions

Benjamin Forsyth—Chair of Teacher Education Faculty
Melissa Heston—Early Childhood Education
Shuaib (Meach) Meacham—Literacy Education
Nikki Skaar--Assistant Director of Assessment
Chris Curran--Coordinator of Undergraduate Special Education Program
Vickie Robinson--Associate Vice President for Educator Preparation

II. Approval of Minutes

Minutes for April 28, 2016 approved: Benjamin Forsyth moved to approve, Melissa Heston seconded.

III. Office of Teacher Education Update

Julie Johnson—Record Analyst replacing Barb Hill
Chad Christopher—will continue as Coordinator of Secondary Teacher Education

Vickie Robinson's new role as Associate VP of Educator Preparation. She is now moving TESI forward and will be sending out information to the senates.

IV. Accreditation Kick-Off

Visitation Team --Sunday, November 12-Wednesday, November 15, 2017

Institutional Report--Due June 1, 2017

First Draft of IR --Due December 16, 2016

Writing of first draft by subcommittees--Fall semester 2016

Completion of Self-Study--Fall semester 2016

V. By-Laws Update Request

Establish a committee to review and revise.

- Need one Elementary Senator to help with process

VI. Mission/Vision/Belief Statements/Conceptual Framework

J.D. provided a history of the process:

- January-March 2015—Discussion in TEF meetings
- March 25—Katheryn East email to entire TEF to be looking at “The Big Picture of UNI’s Teacher Education Program
- Targeted TEF meetings on Big Picture April and May, 2015
- November 2015, TESI meeting to start work on Mission and Vision
- February 8, 2016—TEF meeting to introduce first drafts of TE Mission and Vision
 - Likes, Add, Jettisons...
- February 2016--Writing group established to create 1st draft of TE Mission/Vision/Belief Statements
- March/April 2016—Sent out to TEF for feedback and establish if main ideas were on target.
- May 2016-Katheryn emailed entire TEF to ask for a small group to develop a final draft that would be ready to go for the senate meetings in September
- Summer writing team finalized the draft of the Mission, Vision, Belief Statements and Conceptual Framework that was sent out to department heads/faculty
- April 28—Senates vote to “Accept the process with the understanding that there is still work to be done, namely more language regarding students and learning; these are living documents subject to change

Melissa asked if there were any big concerns or objections to the new version.

Kim explained concern from the Department of Teaching related to the area of Social

Justice. There was a belief that this was more of a political agenda rather than a key foundational component of our Educator Preparation Program. The concern stemmed from the details within the Conceptual Framework section of the draft. It was thought that this section was longer and read differently than the other sections.

Melissa commented that Social Justice is a major focus for education and it has to be addressed in order to impact inequalities.

Melissa explained other concerns from the Department of Curriculum and Instruction related to increasing the areas of Social Justice to include sustainability justice and religious justice. Additionally, there was a concern that technology was not listed as a major focus area.

Rob and Nikki discussed the Belief Statements vs. Candidate Outcomes. To connect this document to the overall Educator Preparation Assessment Plan we would have to operationalize these.

Benjamin proposed having an addendum to this document for Assessment. For that to work we would have two “sister” documents.

It was noted that Merrilee Betts (Teacher Practitioner Representative), who couldn't attend tonight because of assigned work at the AEA, wrote in that the Vision and Mission looked really good, especially the area on student-centered instruction. However, she also mentioned that while she understood that assessment is mentioned in the section of “How Candidates Learn about Content and Pedagogy”, there was a concern that the topic of what to do with that assessment (the analyzing of it and how it drives the teaching) needs to be addressed.

Melissa made a motion to approve, in principle, the current version of the Mission/Vision/Belief Statements/Conceptual Framework, with the understanding that further revision, condensing, and editing is done by a professional editor. Rob seconded the motion. 10 yes. 1 no. 0 abstained. Motion passed.

VII. Field Experience Placement Requirements

There is still concern with this document, specifically with item #3. Rob moved that the senate invite Dr. Terri Lasswell, Head of the Department of Teaching, to a future meeting to provide clarity about the process for making placements. Sarah seconded. Motion passed.

Per Melissa, Dept. of Teaching creates contracts for each school. All schools in this area should have a formal contract. You cannot place students in schools that you don't have a contract with. She feels a sub licenses and coaching licenses should count.

VIII. Update on Matters Arising at the State

IX. Upcoming Dates

Elementary Senate

October 13 (Joint) CBB 1 & 3
November 3 CBB 319
December 1 CBB 319
January 12 CBB 319
February 2 CBB 319
March 9 (Joint) CBB1 & 3
April 6 CBB 319
April 27 CBB 319

Secondary Senate

September 15 CBB 319
October 13 CBB 1 & 3
November 17 CBB 319
December 15 CBB 319
January 19 CBB 319
February 16 CBB 319
March 9 (Joint) CBB 1 & 3
April 20 CBB 319
May 4 CBB 319