

**Elementary Teacher Education Senate**  
**3:30-5:00 Thursday, January 16, 2014**  
**319 Curris Business Building**  
**Minutes**

I. Welcome & Take Roll

**Present:** J.D. Cryer (Coordinator, Elementary Teacher Education), Sohyun Meacham (Literacy Education), Tony Gabriele (Professional Sequence), Denise Tallakson (Elementary Education), Rip Marston (Physical Education and Health Education), Ellen Neuhaus (Liberal Arts Core), Chad Christopher (Coordinator, Secondary Teacher Education), Linda Fitzgerald (Early Childhood Education), Matt Webb (Assistant Professor, Mathematics), Merrilee Betts (Teacher Practitioner), Kim Miller (Special Education)

**Absent:** Jean Schneider (Middle Level Education), Wendy Miller (Art Education), Michelle Swanson (Music Education), Amy Lockhart (Clinical Experiences), Katheryn East (Chair, Teacher Education Faculty)

**Guests:** (Director of Assessment), Dwight Watson (Dean, College of Education)

II. Approval of minutes for December 5 2013

Tony moved to approve the minutes and Kim seconded. Minutes were approved.

III. Update on matters arising at the State (Cryer)

- a. UNI chosen for Year-Long Student Teaching Pilot project

J.D. is the Principal Investigator. UNI will work with Waterloo, Hudson and Linn-Mar to establish this. We have been to student teaching orientations to inform and recruit potential candidates. There will be meetings this spring to plan for implementation next fall.

IV. Update on Teacher Education Executive Council (Cryer)

- a. Reports from Teacher Education Advisory Boards  
We will review the reports as we didn't get to them during the last Senate meeting.

V. Old Business

- a. Praxis I/Praxis Core Cut Scores

We have the opportunity to go back and look at our current Praxis scores and potential scores and what the needs and adjustments are.

J.D. asked Rob if he had any details to add but Rob didn't at this time.

It was mentioned that we need to check with ISU and UI to communicate our plan moving forward.

Someone asked if there was data from other Regents institutions. J.D. said no, we have national, state and UNI data.

Rob said an adjustment needs to be made. The cut scores were not set with student data but rather with data from professors and that's how the cut scores were created.

b. edTPA—vote to establish ESAs into our assessment system

This was tabled at the last Elementary Senate meeting to allow time to discuss the topic further and Rob could also visit departments. Rob has talked with C&I only. Ariel and Rob will visit program clusters in the next month.

Someone asked Rob if there were any feelings of opposition when he presented the data to C&I as they are a large group. Rob said no.

Several people posed concern over how this will be implemented within different programs and who will do the negotiating.

The general concept is that common assessments will be established throughout the Teacher Education Program that will help students prepare for the edTPA and inform our overall program.

J.D. asked if everyone feels comfortable voting on this now. The overall feeling is that we need to further examine what we are asking students to do for assignments. We need to think about if this is all faculty will be in agreement with the ESAs. Voting should take place after Rob has finished visiting departments.

## VI. New Business

### a. Teacher Education Advisory Board Reports

We have put together an Undergraduate Advisory Board with a good cross section of students within our Teacher Education program.

See the handout for full listing of the points of each discussion.

The following pertains to the summary notes from October 24, 2013

Positives:

- Students feel very prepared to teach their first year.
- Students really like it when instructors give examples from their own PK-12 classroom teaching experiences. They singled out the PLS teachers they have had teaching.

Improved Communication Methods:

- Students would prefer separate elementary and secondary list-serves and this has been implemented.
- Students do use email and Facebook but they don't use bulletin boards or Twitter.
- Overall, students would rather hear information than miss anything.

Teacher Education Program:

- Students had no real reason for choosing UNI's TE program over another.
- Students didn't realize there would be so many field experiences and would like to be informed as soon as possible if a course has a field experience involved.
- Students would like to see more diverse instructional strategies and assessments modeled in our TE classrooms on campus. They don't feel we mirror what we are trying to teach them to do when they graduate.

Technology:

- Students would like to see faculty use/model technology when teaching.
- Students would like to have faculty work to integrate the use of technology into student learning opportunities.
- Students would like more access to technology for trial and error—For example, they would like to be able to practice on a Promethean board in Schindler Education Center.

- b. Other—We will discuss the feedback from the Teacher Education External Advisory Board at our next meeting

VII. Upcoming dates (subject to change)

- a. Convocation—April 2, 2014 4:00 pm, GBPAC

**Elementary Senate**

January 16

February 6

March 6

April 8 (Tuesday)

May 1

**Secondary Senate**

January 23

February 20

March 27

April 17

May 8