

Elementary Teacher Education Senate
3:30-5:00 Thursday, May 1, 2014
319 Curris Business Building
MINUTES

I. Welcome

Present: J.D. Cryer (Coordinator, Elementary Teacher Education), Tony Gabriele (Professional Sequence), Rip Marston (Physical Education and Health Education), Ellen Neuhaus (Liberal Arts Core), Linda Fitzgerald (Early Childhood Education), Merrilee Betts (Teacher Practitioner), Michelle Swanson (Music Education), Amy Lockhart (Clinical Experiences), Denise Tallakson (Elementary Education Chad Christopher (Coordinator, Secondary Teacher Education) Wendy Miller (Art Education), Katheryn East (Chair, Teacher Education Faculty), Jean Schneider (Middle Level Education)

Absent: Kim Miller (Special Education), Sohyun Meacham (Literacy Education), Matt Webb (Assistant Professor, Mathematics)

Guests: Rob Boody (Director of Assessment), Becky Hawbaker (Coordinator, Student Field Experiences), Jody Stone (Office of Student Field Experiences), Adam Feldhaus (Mathematics Education-ALT)

II. Approval of minutes for March 6, 2014

Denise moved to approve minutes and Rip seconded. Minutes approved.

III. Update on matters arising at the State

a. Chapter 79 Rewrite

Katheryn and Ben collected feedback and will send it to Larry Bice before the next meeting on June 17th. Please forward any additional feedback to J.D.

b. Year Long Student Teaching Pilot

This is moving along well. There are monthly meetings with school partners and the student schedules have been finalized. There are 13 students in Waterloo, 6 in Hudson and 2 in Linn-Marr. We will be hiring a Student Teaching Coordinator and Project Coordinator. An Evaluation Assistant has been hired. The final revision of our proposal is due in mid-June.

IV. Update on Teacher Education Executive Council

- a. Level III students and excused absences were discussed
- b. Creating a new teacher orientation packet for faculty was mentioned. In this packet there would be, among other items, information related to the Level III expectations and procedures.
- c. Continuing to promote all minors across Teacher Education was confirmed

V. Old Business edTPA

Chad mentioned having the possibility of another speaker from an institution that is more like us come to UNI to talk about their experience with edTPA. It may help to get another perspective.

Someone questioned what we would lose and gain by using Praxis II or edTPA as licensure. What if all other Teacher Education Programs choose Praxis II? What will we do?

Someone stated that they are concerned if the state gives us a choice and we choose Praxis II instead of edTPA. Then what?

- a. We need to vote to establish ESAs into our assessment system.

Jody Stone discussed her pilot ESA on Assessment, and she provided information on the Show Evidence piece. Someone asked how closely aligned her ESA was to tasks in edTPA. Jody said the procedures are similar. One member asked if the actual rubrics are identical. Jody said no. There are three rubrics for the edTPA for Assessment.

What Jody showed made one member see how things could be transformed in the program in a positive way.

- b. Teacher Education Accountability System

Rob reviewed the idea for a "Teacher Education Accountability System." During this discussion, Rob highlighted the different committees or PITS (Program Improvement Teams) needed for this system. Per Rob specific data would come from Assessment Coordinator and given to each PIT so members could work on interpreting the data rather than trying to collect the data. This would help individual areas to use data as they make decisions about program improvement.

One member feels we should demand more from our SOA. This would allow the PIT Committees to interact with Level IV and work backwards.

One member felt that the APR (Academic Program Review) could be easier if we did a reasonable job with the SOA each year. Rob said we need cross level dialog to run more meaningful analytics. If you complete a certain process at one level we could see what happens at further levels. We should run statistics to support decision-making.

One member mentioned that another aspect is the proposal of how a TE program could improve itself by collecting data in a smart way that is completely unique and could be something we could publicize to get national attention. We need to restore public trust in what we do. Showing that you are being serious and embracing your faults and trying to correct them will save public opinion of TE.

Becky feels we should work to parallel the types of data teams/PLCs in P/K-12 schools. She mentioned early outs and late starts and the reporting process to principals, which we don't have.

VI. New Business

a. Senator Updates

Our first round of Senate members are rotating off. Rip, Amy and Jean are finishing their terms. There will be new people on board in the fall after the departments have completed their election process.

b. Accreditation Process

See the blue sheet that was handed out. UNI's Accreditation Visit will be in spring of 2017. This means our report must be submitted in the fall of 2016.

c. A reminder about the need for each TE faculty member to complete the 60-hour Team Teaching requirement was given.

d. Teacher Education Program External Advisory Board

See pink handout of the April 25th meeting notes summary. We have good representation of practicing teachers and administration.

There is a concern from the Advisory Board that our students don't take constructive criticism well. This is a problem when working on a PLC. We need to help our students develop a perspective that

when you receive feedback it isn't always negative. It should be viewed as a chance to reflect and improve.

Digital literacy and professionalism were also discussed.

Students are learning intruder alert processes (Run, Hide, Fight) at Cedar Heights.

Parental communication skills were discussed and that relationships between parents and teachers can become tense at times. One member questioned whether our programs give this information. Another member said that Special Ed. and Early Childhood do.

Chad questioned how we teach soft skills such as working in a team and getting with others.

- e. Lyn Countryman gave a short presentation on edTPA. Advisory Board members stated that administrators don't look at edTPA or Praxis II in the hiring process.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 5:10.

VIII. Upcoming dates (subject to change)

Elementary Senate

May 1
September 4
October 2
November 6
December 4

Secondary Senate

May 8
September 18
October 16
November 20
December 18