

Elementary Teacher Education Senate
3:30 Thursday, April 4, 2013
CBB 319
Minutes

I. Roll and introductions

Present: Cherin Lee (Coordinator, Secondary Teacher Education), Sarah Vander Zanden (Literacy Education), Linda Fitzgerald (Early Childhood Education), Kim Miller (Special Education), Tony Gabriele (Professional Sequence), Denise Tallakson (Elementary Education), Rip Marston (Physical Education and Health Education), Amy Lockhart (Clinical Experiences), Jean Schneider (Middle Level Education), Wendy Miller (Art Education), Melanie Landon-Hays (Music Education-ALT for Kevin Droe), Ellen Neuhaus (Liberal Arts Core)

Absent: JD Cryer (Coordinator, Elementary Teacher Education), Katheryn East (Chair, Teacher Education Faculty), Michelle Swanson (Music Education)

Guests: Matt Webb (Assistant Professor, Mathematics)

II. Approval of minutes for March 7, 2013

Linda Fitzgerald moved to approve the minutes and Tony Gabriele seconded. Minutes were approved with noted edits.

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

A. Teacher Education Executive Council

The Executive Council discussed the possibility of sending several people to a conference that Arizona State is hosting in September 2013 regarding their model which extends student teaching to one year. Five people were suggested and Cherin and Katheryn suggested seven people. Dean Watson will support five. Dean Haack and Dean Bass suggested they would fund secondary education attendees.

A position description is needed for the process to replace Cherin as Secondary Teacher Education Coordinator. The Search Committee is comprised of Rick Vanderwall (Chair), Chad Christopher and Cathy Miller. The timeline for the replacement to be on board is the end of June.

A revision of Praxis I was discussed. Praxis I was revised by ETS and thus cut scores will have to be revised. From now until Aug. 2014 the current system will be in place. The new version will be entirely computer based as of August 2014.

The Executive Council also discussed an Ethics Session for students during Student Teaching. This is a new requirement from the Board of Educational Examiners. Initially it was supposed to be for Spring 2013. JD has worked with Dr. Lyn Countryman, Coordinator of Student Teaching, to arrange sessions at student teaching centers in the fall. This presentation will be a 2 hour block of time. Information on licensure would also be provided.

B. Changes in State Accreditation

We have been operating under Chapter 79 and INTASC standards. We are not on the most current version as Chapter 79 hasn't been updated in two years. Larry Bice presented three options to the Iowa Board of Education: 1) keep the current system, 2) adopt CAEP (Council for Accreditation for Educator Preparation) which essentially replaces NCATE (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education) and TEAC (Teacher Education Accreditation Council) 3) keep the Iowa program and make some modifications in it. Cherin mentioned that in Iowa only five higher education institutions are currently NCATE accredited.

There is a cost for CAEP yearly membership (roughly \$5000 for our size program) plus the cost of an accreditation review. The latter would cost nearly \$49,000. UNI would pay the most in the state of Iowa. IACTE is getting ideas so they can put them forward to the Iowa BOE. Dean Watson thinks we should seek national accreditation.

C. Additional Updates – Discussion

1. Reconfiguration of Praxis I (PPST)

Wendy Miller inquired if the writing scores would come back sooner from the computer administered test. Cherin thought they would. The range of scores has change for all three subtests: reading, writing and quantitative. Cherin sent around a synopsis of the tests. JD and Cherin need to report back to the Executive Council by April 23 what the two Senates think about resetting the Praxis I scores. Currently our cut scores are the same as Iowa State and the University of Iowa. Cherin asked what the Senate thought about changing them or keeping them the same.

Linda Fitzgerald asked about how many people are getting screened out right now? Cherin said we don't know how many times a particular student takes the Praxis I, nor how many give up and don't proceed any further.

Denise Tallakson asked if the state of Iowa has a cut score. The state does not set cut scores. Cherin said that within all state teacher preparation programs there has to be an entrance exam. Praxis I is not required. Not all institutions in the state of Iowa are using Praxis I.

Tony Gabriele said it is an excellent time to rethink this given that student fees have increased for testing and field experience. Some states allow students to substitute their ACT score for a Praxis I test. We should rethink the entry requirements as a whole. We could be saving students some money by looking into this.

Cherin said that the ACT is not part of the state code as an acceptable admission assessment. The question was posed regarding the process for Community College transfer students. Tony said we could use ACT for those students. Cherin noted that students attending a community college are not required to take the ACT, though some do.

Kevin Droe asked about the range of scores. Cherin said the new range in scoring is 100-200. The ETS recommendation is 156 reading, 162 writing, and 150 quantitative on a scale of 100-200.

Kevin asked "Do we want to keep the PPST at the same level and maintain same cut scores as ISU and Uof I?" Dianna pointed out that the reason this exists is so students wouldn't shop to find the lowest cut scores. This is the reason the three regents institutions got together. Tony Gabriele asked the question "Do we want to stay aligned with Iowa and Iowa State?"

Cherin and JD will meet with Hina Patel (ISU) and Susi Lagos-Lavenz (U of I) to get suggested cut scores.

Tony asked if U of I or ISU change their GPA will this change the dynamic of the current topic. Cherin is questioning whether U of I will continue with the proposed GPA change since the dean that recommended this is now gone. Wendy Miller said there was no vote on the GPA vote at U of I. The faculty did not vote on this. Wendy understood that the Dean left on a vote of no confidence from the Teacher Education Faculty. Cherin hasn't heard anything

from ISU. The magic 3.0 has not come through the Legislature or Dept. of Ed. since last year. It appears that this is not being resurrected. Both Teacher Education Senates have voted not to change the UNI GPA entrance requirements.

IV. Convocation—Thank you to all involved.

Cherin asked Rip if he had any comments regarding Convocation. He said “A good time was had by all”. A parent from DC came to see her son walk. Cherin thanked all of the Marshalls.

V. Old Business

- A. Alumni Survey—Feedback to Rob by April 19 (See VII, C. 1)

VI. New Business

- A. Teacher Education Diversity Committee Update

This committee is comprised of Katheryn East, Cathy Miller, Deb Tidwall, and Allison Beharka. This committee met in person just prior to March 28. An agenda needs to be set up for next year. They will report their intentions for next year to both senates and the Executive Council in May 2013. They have discovered that there are many committees dealing with diversity. Cherin said diversity is part of the student and faculty standard and that is part of the impetus for this committee.

- B. Praxis I Cut Scores Update-done – see above (III)
- C. What information or data do we need to know in order to improve our Teacher Education program?

Rob Boody, Chair of the Assessment Committee, and JD and Cherin would like to get back on track regarding the topic of transforming Teacher Education that was started July 2012. Per Cherin the three of us would like to know from you what kind of data you want to have at your disposal when you start thinking of the revamping. Cherin thought of three things.

1. Alumni survey which has not been given since 2007. Cherin asked how many responded to Rob regarding this survey to JD besides her. Nobody responded. She asked if anyone remembered getting it from JD. Wendy Miller said yes. Did anyone send a note to Rob with what you would like to have changed? Cherin did.

2. Praxis II score results at the end of this semester.
3. Summary of the student teaching rubrics that are completed by coordinators at the end of student teaching.

The following items were mentioned:

How the TWS scores compare to the edTPA.

Student teachers survey

Cooperating teachers survey

Surveys from the end of Level I and II.

Transfer students which are at 32-37% university wide would be a good topic for review. How do Community College students fare compared to a four year graduate at UNI?

Tony Gabriele noted one cohort he looked at shows transfers students in EDPSYCH 3148 compared to native students, even those who have not had 3148. Overall there is a 10% difference between students who had taken 3148 and not taken it.

Transfers in Elementary score well below those who have not even taken 3148. The focus was on 148 content.

Linda Fitzgerald mentioned that the majority of Early childhood majors are transfers and are getting Level I and possibly 3148 in high school. She would like to create an exam for students to take to pass out of the 3148 class.

Tony mentioned changing the articulation agreements. Cherin indicated that Admissions works with Depts. to set up this agreement. Students are taking Level I here but have had a social foundation course already (Early Childhood and Level I). Cherin reminded the Senate of the new online, no credit course that we will require in the future of all transfer students.

Students' perceptions of redundancy across courses.

Curriculum Mapping is the best way to approach this.

Meetings with cooperating teachers.

A one day student seminar. Student teachers would be invited back to talk with Seniors during finals week. Student teachers could share things such as what has happened with management, TWS questions, etc. [From what Linda Fitzgerald

has been hearing, students do not feel prepared to be a teacher after one semester of student teaching].

An Administrator Survey

Level II visits with Cooperative Teachers to see how they view the development of our UNI teachers. They see students coming in from other schools.

Aggregate data vs. different kinds of students and some way of identifying the kind of students they are (i.e. working 20 hours per week, taking x number of credit hours, and whether or not they are transfer students).

Science Ed. has a rubric on the UNITED system. Methods teachers record data on UNITED on all three methods courses. We need to know what is going on in different depts.

Cherin mentioned moving forward next fall with regards to transforming TE.

- a. The topic of the May Sec. Senate Meeting would be transforming TE.
- b. Cherin asked if we should set up working groups during summer or wait until fall.

Kevin would like to wait until fall.

Wendy Miller asked what the turnout was for the meeting last summer. Cherin said 27-28 people came. Some didn't like that they couldn't attend so maybe you need to wait until Sept. Wendy asked if a one-day session could be held right before school. Kevin said it would be better to start once classes resume but plan ahead for this beginning in May.

Cherin and JD will try to structure questions for May meeting. There is no set process for reforming TE. A process needs to be set up and there are outside factors involved. Our courses and structure need to come from us.

Tony hears a lot about mapping and curriculum changes and he asked what we are talking about when we say TE. Cherin said we are looking at the organizational structure, professional sequence, and clinical experiences. Majors will have their own discussions which will delve into a broader view of their majors and how they fit with the program.

Tony mentioned the Joint TE session held earlier this year and said that Dean Watson mentioned to us that he was not going to be able to say no to some external pressure. Tony understood him to mean that if the senates wanted to say no we would be on our own.

Cherin said there are people who have been looking at more than one semester of student teaching models. Lyn Countryman has been researching and Becky Hawbaker has PDS model data. Since the Arizona model may not fit Iowa we need to look at other models to be proactive and others may fit us better or we may need to create our own.

Rip Marston made the motion to adjourn and Denise Tallakson seconded. Meeting adjourned at 4:55.

VII. Upcoming dates (subject to change)

Elementary Senate
May 2 (April 30)

Secondary Senate
April 18
May 9