

Elementary Teacher Education Senate Meeting
3:30-5:00 Thursday, December 7, 2017
CBB 319
Minutes

I. Welcome

Present:

Melissa Heston (Early Childhood Education), Betsy Zan (Early Childhood Education), Olly Steinhorsdottir (Mathematics Education), Greg Bourassa (Professional Sequence), Carolyn Weber (Middle Level Education), J.D. Cryer (Coordinator of Elementary Teacher Education), Amy Lockhart (Clinical Experiences), Denise Tallakson (Elementary Education), Sarah Vander Zanden (Literacy Education)

Absent:

Islam Aly (Art Education), Kimberly Hurley (Physical Education and Health Education), Merrilee Betts (Teacher Practitioner), Danielle Cowley (Special Education), Michelle Swanson (Music Education), Louren Kilburg (Student Representative) Chad Christopher (Coordinator of Secondary Teacher Education), DeeDee Heistad (Liberal Arts Core – ex officio), Benjamin Forsyth (TEF Chair)

Guests:

Rob Boody (Director of Assessment)

II. Approval of November 2 Senate Meeting Minutes (Electronic)

Minutes were approved electronically.

III. Program Approval Update

- A. JD updated the senators that the visit team was very pleased with UNI's accommodations and hospitality. They appreciated the faculty for taking the time to attend sessions and meetings.
- B. Senators reflected on the overall Program Approval Visit that took place on November 12-November 16. Suggestions from senate members for next visit:

- The meeting time of 30 minutes that were blocked with faculty members was too short.
- For this short amount of time, there were too many faculty members present--20 faculty members. This made it tough for all voices to be heard.
- To help with this, the state could increase the size of the visit team or lengthen the time of the visit. This would be especially important since we are now incorporating the graduate programs too.

C. Senators discussed the information related to each of the Chapter 79 Standards presented by the state visit team during the exit report session held on Thursday, November 16.

D. JD provided the senators with a timeline for the rest of the approval process:

- UNI will receive official feedback response from the state team in about 3-4 weeks after Thanksgiving.
 - Feedback will be on each standard.
 - Each standard will be broken down as Strengths, Recommendations or Concerns.
 - We must respond to the concerns.
 - We will have 3 months to respond.
 - Finally, we will work with Department of Education for final changes before going to the State Board of Education for approval of our program.

IV. Three Course Requirement Question

JD presented the senators with the question if the three course requirement for admission to Teacher Education Program is still necessary? Senators were asked to take this question back to their colleagues in order to gain more information and thought before discussing in January. Senators had preliminary discussion to help with clarification of the question:

- Why should students have to take these courses, if they have to pass Praxis Core for admission?
- Is there an advantage to having students take both the three courses and the Praxis Core?
- Is there a reason to take these courses early?
- Should Oral Comm still be a requirement since it is not tested by Praxis Core?

V. Teacher Education Assessment Subcommittee - Recommendation

JD presented the recommendation from the Teacher Education Assessment Subcommittee that a group be established to review, analyze, and operationalize InTASC Standards for performances, essential knowledge and skills, and critical dispositions in relation to our 6 program beliefs.

Senators were asked to take this recommendation back to their colleagues to gather their thoughts and be prepared to discuss at the January meeting.

- VI. What is the status of TESI Curriculum Group? Senators were not aware of the status of the TESI Curriculum Group. Senators asked to have an update from Vickie to explain what next steps should be. Are there next steps? There was concern if we should put TESI curriculum and program outcomes together? Might there be a possible conflict between these? Leigh Zeitz and/or Deb Gallagher were also mentioned as possible faculty members to present again to the senates.

VII. Teacher Education Diversity Subcommittee Update

JD provided an update of the work the Teacher Education Diversity Subcommittee has been working on this fall semester based upon annual goal to:

“Help our candidates be more adept in working with diverse students”.

Subcommittee spent time discussing:

What does “diverse student” mean?

- Race/ethnicity, SES, gender/sexual orientation, disabilities

What would our candidates need to know in order to work with

- English Language Learners?
- Students with disabilities?

Subcommittee created a goal to meet with Ed Prep faculty, with local teachers and administrators, and with “Breaking Barriers to Teaching and Learning Award” winning schools to help answer these questions.

Based upon this information work to

- Identify outcomes
- Connect outcomes to standards

- Determine if we teach these skills
- Determine where we teach these skills
- Determine the scope and sequence for our program
- Work for systematic and consistency within our program

VIII. Admission Requirement Deadline for Application Update

JD presented a revised version of the Admission Requirement Deadline for Application and Praxis Core to the senators.

Admission to the UNI Teacher Education Program happens on a continuous basis. We do have some target dates to meet registration times. For those wanting to take Level II coursework in the spring semester it is required that you have Praxis Core results and application to the office by September 15. There is no guarantee that items submitted after this date will be processed in time for the following semester. For those wanting to take Level II coursework in the summer or fall semester it is required that you have Praxis Core results and application to the office by February 15. There is no guarantee that items submitted after this date will be processed in time for the following semester. It is advised that all students, including transfer students, submit their application and Praxis Core scores to the Office of Teacher Education before or during the first week of classes.

Melissa moved to approve the wording/date changes as listed above in yellow. Carolyn seconded. Motion approved.

IX. Name Tag Policy - pass - JD informed the senators that the secondary senate also passed a motion to accept the name tag policy that would “Require first and last name on their name tag (no titles).”

X. Repeat of Courses Policy

JD asked senators to please remind their department that as they start to develop changes to the curriculum for the 2019 catalog to consult with Educator Preparation.

The “Repeat of Courses Policy” states:

JD displayed a question the Office of Teacher Education had received:

If a student is taking a methods course for the third time and withdraws at this point, will that count as a 3rd failed attempt, or would they still have the option to enroll again and still be active in the teacher prep program?

Statement developed by the Office of Teacher Education:

It would not count as a third attempt failure. The Office of Teacher Education will monitor this and if it becomes a trend of students dropping methods courses to avoid the policy we will come back to the senate to redo the policy.

JD asked if the senate was comfortable with this statement. The senators agreed with the statement.

XI. Curriculum Change Reminder

JD asked senators to please remind your department as they start to develop changes to the curriculum for the 2019 catalog to consult with Educator Preparation.

I. Upcoming Dates (subject to change)

Elementary Senate

December 7 Location CBB 319
January 11 Location CBB 319
February 1 Location CBB 319
March 8 (Joint) Location SEC 309
April 5 Location CBB 319
April 26 Location CBB 319

Secondary Senate

December 14 Location CBB 319
January 18 Location CBB 319
February 15 Location CBB 319
March 8 (Joint) Location SEC 309
April 19 Location CBB 319
May 3 Location CBB 319