

Elementary Teacher Education Senate Meeting
3:30-5:00 Thursday, January 14, 2015
319 CBB
Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions

Present:

J.D. Cryer (Coordinator), Linda Fitzgerald (Early Childhood Education), Denise Tallakson (Elementary Education), Kim Miller (Special Education), Michelle Swanson (Music Education), Katheryn East (Chair, Teacher Education Faculty), Merrilee Betts (Teacher Practitioner), Lynne Ensworth (Middle Level Education), Allison Barness (Clinical Experience-ALT)

Absent:

Wendy Miller (Art Education), DeeDee Heisted (Liberal Arts Core), Chad Christopher (Coordinator, Secondary Teacher Education), Melissa Heston (Literacy Education) Deockki Hong (Physical Education and Health Education), Olly Steinhorsdottir (Mathematics Education)

Guests:

Nick Pace (Dept. Head, Educational Leadership & Postsecondary Education), Cindy Diehl Yang (Director, Center for Educational Transformation), Rob Boody (Coordinator of Assessment)

II. Approval of December Senate Minutes

Linda moved to approve the minutes and Kim seconded. Minutes approved.

III. Update on TESI work from Nick Pace and Cindy Diehl Yang

November

- Provost Wohlpert came to our senate meeting to describe the charge from the Board of Regents for the creation of a plan that incorporates best practice (including from other ranked colleges of education) reflective of the future of K-12 education, development of specific Teacher Education Strategic Initiatives within this plan, and initiate action plans with timelines.
- In so doing, we seek to:
 - Strengthen what's strong and distinctive about UNI Teacher Education
 - Address growth needs in a proactive, forward-thinking way that will further enhance UNI's legacy of leadership in Teacher Education

December

- Nick Pace and Cindy Diehl Yang gave an update on the progress of the TESI work.

- There are 46 Teacher Education Faculty members, from all 4 colleges, working on the Teacher Education Strategic Initiaves (TESI).
- This group has identified 6 focus areas to concentrate on during the process:
 - Building a campus community that values Teacher Education
 - Developing a collaborative culture/public school connectivity
 - Clinical/Field Experiences: Rethought and driven by renewed curriculum
 - Create new curriculum
 - Support for practice
 - Global Education/Ideas/Perspectives
- Committees were formed for each of these focus areas
- Summary of work was given to the President and Provost and can be found on the Provost's website at <http://www.uni.edu/provost/tesi>
- On December 18, 2015 full committee meeting took place. Discussion centered on what a teaching graduate from UNI should look like in terms of knowledge, skill, and disposition.
- On Monday, February 8th the work done by the full committee will be presented at the monthly Teacher Education Faculty Meeting. The goal will be to come to a collective, shared-vision of the Mission, Vision, and Conceptual Framework for the UNI Teacher Education Program.

Based upon all the work being done by so many faculty members across campus for TESI, Kim Miller moved to endorse the process of TESI to provide direction and leadership for the UNI Teacher Education Program, and to encourage the continued shared conversations about Teacher Education across campus. Michelle Swanson seconded. Motion approved.

It was asked if this motion and approval will be shared with the Secondary Senate. Yes, per J.D.

IV. Annual Report Process

At the end of every year, the Coordinator of Assessment for Teacher Education has to do a number of external reports highlighting data from the Teacher Education Program. In the past three reports were mentioned:

1. Title II – For the Federal Government
2. State report – For the Iowa Department of Education
3. PEDS – National survey through AACTE for member groups.

At the end of last year (2014-2015), to improve the accreditation process, the Iowa Department of Education asked each institution of higher learning to submit an Annual Report of the progress the institution was making in its continuous improvement process. Over the summer Rob worked with J.D. and

Chad to complete this first Annual Report for the 2015-2016 academic school year.

Rob Boody provided copies of the Annual Report for Teacher Education.

Senators looked at the Annual Report for Teacher Education and made the following motions:

In order to support the short-term goal related to Governance found in the 2015-2016 Annual Report, Michelle Swanson made a motion for J.D. Cryer, Coordinator of Elementary Teacher Education, to “Survey the Teacher Education Faculty to find out if they (a) know about the new governance system, (b) think the new governance system is working, and (c) have any suggestions for improving the system.” Denise Tallakson seconded the motion.

- Vote pass

In order to support the short-term goal of examining if all teacher preparation programs are operating at or below the maximum number of candidates that can be accommodated while still maintaining quality instruction and a responsible teaching load for faculty that is found in the 2015-2016 Annual Report, Michelle Swanson made the motion that J.D. Cryer, Coordinator of Elementary Teacher Education, “Survey all Teacher Education faculty in order to examine perceptions of current class size and its influence on quality of instruction. Additionally, the senate would like to know what departments do to keep student numbers equitable across sections. Finally, the senate would like to know if each department has planned for accommodating potential higher enrollment numbers within their course offerings.” Lynne Ensworth seconded the motion.

- Vote Pass

To make the process of creating goals and actions plans for the UNI Teacher Education Program, Rob Boody will provide specific information at the scheduled “Teacher Education Data Day” on Monday, March 28. At that time, Teacher Education Faculty will make recommendations for what should go into the 2016-2017 Annual Report for the UNI Teacher Education Program. These recommendations will be shared with both the Elementary and Secondary Teacher Education Senates for voting purposes. Using this information, Rob Boody will be able to complete the required Annual Report by the May 1, 2016 due date.

Meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.

V. Upcoming Dates (subject to change)

Elementary Senate

February 4 CBB 319
March 3 (Joint) CBB Rooms 1 & 3

Secondary Senate

January 28 CBB 319
February 11 CBB 319
March 3 (Joint) CBB Rooms 1 & 3

April 7 CBB 323
April 28 CBB 319

April 14 CBB 319
May 5 CBB 319