

University Council on Teacher Education
Minutes for April 19, 2007
10:00-12:00
200 Academy Street

Members Present: Timothy Barnekov, Nancy Brickhouse, Laura Glass, Barry Joyce, Joseph Pika, Bonnie Robb, Gail Rys, Barbara VanDornick, Carol Vukelich, George Watson

Member Excused: Steve Goodwin, Michael Gamel-McCormick

Guest Present: Karen Edwards, Laurie Palmer, Cora Scott

The minutes from February 22, 2007 were approved unanimously.

Announcements

- I. Fall 2006 End-of-Term Report (Barbara VanDornick)
There has been a decrease in teacher education enrollment across several majors compared to last year's enrollment
- II. Fall 2006 Professional Education Graduate Matriculation (Barbara VanDornick)
The graduate minority population is slightly higher than last year's data indicated.
- III. Fall 2006 ASPIRE End of Term Report (Cora Scott)
The number of minority preservice candidates is consistent with that from previous years.
- IV. Fall 2007 Admission Statistics –Those Offered Admission (Barbara VanDornick)
Barbara expressed concern that the number of in-state minority potential teacher education candidates (those offered admission) is very low. Typically, because of the cost of out-of-state tuition, UD's greatest yield of potential teacher education candidates tends to be from the in-state pool. With these numbers so low for this year's incoming class, Barbara expressed concern that the minority teacher education numbers would be very low, should the University be unable to attract minority teacher education applicants from out-of-state to attend the University. Joe Pika asked for comparative data from previous years. Cora agreed to provide these data at the next UCTE meeting. In addition, the Council requested that Louis Hirsh, Director of Admissions be invited to attend UCTE's next meeting to address recruitment of teacher education candidates, particularly minority candidates.
- V. Program Revision Process (Carol Vukelich)
While the course approval process is completed online, the program review process is not. At a previous meeting, Gail Rys questioned why this was the case. Carol contacted the Faculty Senate Office. This office indicated that there were problems with putting the program approval process all online. As soon as the problems are solved, UCTE will be informed. In the meantime, Barry Joyce asked that the Faculty Senate be requested to prepare a website detailing what is required at each step in the process.
- VI. Honors Day Teacher Education Awards 2007 (Barbara VanDornick)

Barbara distributed a list of the candidates who will be receiving UCTE awards on Honor's Day. She distributed the award certificates to UCTE members.

New Business

I. UD/Milford PDS Graduate Study (Laurie Palmer)

Laurie presented data from a fall 2006 survey of UD Milford PDS alumni. Laurie indicated that the study had three goals:

- To determine how Milford PDS graduates perceived how specific components of the program prepared them for teaching
- To identify what the PDS program graduates perceived as the most beneficial components of the program in preparing them for teaching
- To identify areas the graduates felt the PDS could improve to better prepare the interns for teaching

A copy of Dr. Palmer's Power Point presentation is attached.

From the survey, the PDS faculty learned that its graduates perceived that the most important program components included:

- Clinical Experience: time spent in the field; opportunities to work with different teachers; participating in other school activities
- Dual certification in elementary and special education
- Reflective practice
- Support from the PDS faculty

The graduates identified the following as areas for improvement:

- Special education activities –more experience understanding and writing IEP's; more information on accommodations and adapting curriculum; more practice with the process
- More information on classroom management
- Information on the 'business of the school'

Laurie suggested that these survey results had implications for campus programs also. Her ideas included

- Increasing field experiences and immersion in the schools
- Building faculty teams to work within the vertical model cohorts
- Strengthening the connection between theory and practice

II. School Psychology Request for Waiver (Marika Ginsburg-Block)

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

III. Unit Assessment System (Carol Vukelich)

Carol Vukelich distributed a copy of the unit's revised Unit Assessment System. The chart was developed to describe program coordinators, deans/directors, and the Director of the Delaware Center for Teacher Education's candidate assessment and unit operation responsibilities, as required by NCATE Standard 2. The earlier version of the Assessment System highlighted the candidate assessment component only. The unit actually annually evaluates various aspects of the unit's operations, but these were not evident in the chart. This revision of the Unit Assessment System highlights who is

responsible for completing the assessment of and reporting on various aspects of the unit's operations.

Council members discussed the challenges of ensuring that the program coordinators are, in fact, gathering the data as required. There was general agreement that the maintenance of so many program assessment plans linked to so many different Specialty Program Associations is very challenging, Joe Pika requested a time-line and target points leading up to the next accreditation visit. Carol indicated that Trish Scott had prepared such a time-line and that Carol would provide a copy of the time line to members at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 11:25.