

University Council on Teacher Education
Minutes for September 14, 2009
1:00-3:00
200 Academy Street

Members Present: Ann Ardis, Janice Bibik, Suzanne Burton, Dena Deglau, Michael Gamel-McCormick, Laura Glass, John Hartman, Kathy Minke, Joe Pika, Donald Unger, Barbara VanDornick, Carol Vukelich

The minutes of May 20, 2009 were approved unanimously.

Announcements

I. End-of-Term Reports (Barbara VanDornick)

Barbara distributed the Undergraduate Teacher Education and ASPIRE end-of-spring-term reports. Professional education candidates are doing quite well. Only seven students were dismissed for poor academic performance. Barbara encouraged program coordinators to contact students who are in academic difficulty. The Council briefly discussed the challenge faced in reporting candidates' ethnic diversity when an increasing number of candidates choose not to identify their ethnicity.

II. Fall Admission Data (Barbara VanDornick)

Barbara distributed a report on freshman applications she compiled from information provided by the Admission's Office. Carol indicated that Louis Hirsh will be attending the October meeting and asked members for specific questions they would like him to address. Topics of interest include the following:

- Comparison of scholarship funds for minority students this year with previous years
- Target of total admits for next year
- GPA and SAT information
- Where applicants are choosing to attend when they choose not to accept UD's offer of admission
- What follow-up the Admissions Office does with students who have declined UD's offer
- In-state versus out-of-state applicants and how has this effected our teacher education programs

III. Institutional Recommendations (Barbara VanDornick)

Candidates who complete a University of Delaware's NCATE State Approved Teacher Education Program receive an institutional recommendation. The Institutional Recommendation indicates eligibility for state teacher certification; this is noted on the candidate's official transcript upon completion of all program requirements. Each candidate must apply for teacher certification through the individual states. The University of Delaware does not issue teaching certificates. There were a total of 357 candidates who received UD's institutional recommendation between September 2008 and August 2009; 23 of these candidates identified themselves as minority students.

IV. *Praxis II Test Results (Barbara VanDornick)*

Barbara VanDornick provided a comparison of Praxis II test results for the previous three years. For the majority of programs, 100% of the candidates earned a score that was at or above the state's cut score. Barbara indicated that NCATE requires programs to have at least a pass rate of 80%. One program does not meet this benchmark. Carol and Barbara have spoken with this program's coordinator; the program is taking actions to correct the problem. Current UCTE policy requires candidates to report scores on the Praxis II tests required by the State of Delaware or those designated by their program to receive the institutional recommendation for certification. UCTE members briefly discussed requiring all candidates to not only take the appropriate Praxis II but also to pass the test. This discussion will be continued at a later meeting.

V. *UD Graduates Teaching in Delaware (Barbara VanDornick)*

Barbara presented data from 2007 and 2008 compiled from the DEEDS website showing UD graduates who are teaching in DE. About 30% of UD graduates are teaching in Delaware. Kathy Minke expressed some concern about the accuracy of the DEEDS data regarding the number of school psychology graduates working in Delaware. Barbara indicated that the information in DEEDS was for public school teachers only and that with name changes it's difficult to get accurate numbers. She agreed to work with Kathy to research this further.

VI. *Fall 2011 Timeline (Carol Vukelich)*

Carol expressed her thanks to Barbara and Laura Glass for their MANY hours of work with coordinators this summer to ensure the submission of the Specialty Program Association reports. (In addition to helping program coordinators in the School of Education, Laura also prepared the ETE SPA report.) The new NCATE timeline permitted coordinators to submit reports a year early thus allowing time for review and identification of problems which can then be corrected before the Board of Examiners visit in 2011. An additional change is that the BOE's visit will be one day shorter and the team will be smaller.

Carol invited members to attend an NCATE webinar on November 3 at 2:00 p.m. The session is for institutions who are piloting the continuous improvement option. This will give us an understanding of what the new model looks like.

This month, Carol and Barbara will be looking at programs' rubrics to see if there are any similarities across programs in how candidates are assessed, particularly on the lesson/unit plans and student learning assessments. This area will be discussed further in October.

New Business

I. *University Student Fees Task Force (Laura Glass)*

Laura is serving on the newly creating Student Fees Task Force representing CEPP. The charge of this committee is to recommend a process for approving student fees—

particularly in academics. Laura asked if members could share the fees that their departments are considering charging in the future so that she could take them back to the task force. Laura suggested student teaching and the ERC fees. After some discussion, it was decided that she should present these two fees to the task force.

II. *UCTE Honors Day Ceremony (Carol Vukelich)*

This summer Carol was contacted by a representative from ING who is responsible for a new teacher retirement fund. He is looking for a way to advertise the program in exchange for providing us with a presentation from the National Teacher of the Year. Carol was wondering if this was something of interest and was looking for suggestions from the Council on how teacher education could incorporate this presentation. After some discussion, the Council thought this would be beneficial and possibilities might be to have the presentation at the Teacher of the Year dinner or at a student teaching seminar. As ING is eager to connect with soon-to-be teachers to alert them about the retirement program, Carol will work with the program coordinators to select a spring date for this presentation.

III. *Cooperating Teacher/Supervisor Travel Costs (John Hartman)*

The Office of Clinical Studies is responsible for providing student teaching supervisors with a stipend to off-set some of their travel costs. The University provides some funding each year to support these costs and the cooperating teacher honorarium. Unfortunately, this account is consistently overspent. Last year OCS implemented a new procedure whereby supervisors would receive a payment of \$80 to off-set their travel costs. Unfortunately, the funds provided did not cover the full cost of the travel stipend and the cooperating teacher honorarium. If the travel stipend remained at \$80, the account would be overspent by about \$24,000 this year. With financial constraints being suffered across campus, it was decided that the fee would need to be reduced to \$50 effective immediately.

IV. *Revision to Disposition #10 (John Hartman)*

Effective educators are responsible colleagues and act in a professional manner in accordance with the University's professional education code of conduct (for details see http://www.udel.edu/ocs/student/guidelines_for_clinical_experiences.html).

John suggested a revision to the 10th disposition on which our professional education candidates are assessed.

Arrives punctually, completes assignments on time, dresses professionally, communicates in a professional manner, exercises sound judgment in professional practice, **including restraining from the sharing of inappropriate personal information with minors**, and demonstrates ethical behavior including academic honesty.

The above revision was approved by UCTE.

UCTE adjourned at 2:55 p.m.