

University Council on Teacher Education
Minutes for December 14, 2000
1:00-3:00 p.m.
317 Willard Hall

Members Present: Nicholas Baker, Chris Clark, Kate Conway-Turner, Thomas DiLorenzo, Ann McNeil, Cindy Okolo, Joseph Pika, Dan Rich, Barbara VanDornick, Carol Vukelich

Excused Members: Richard Bacon, Gaysha Beard, Barry Joyce

Guests Present: Sylvia Brooks, Angela Case, Elaine Stotko

The November 9, 2000 minutes were unanimously approved.

Announcements

- I. *Admission and Enrollment Statistics for Fall 2000 Graduate Professional Education Programs*
The percentage of professional education minority graduate candidates who registered in fall 2000 remains higher than the University minority graduate candidate percentage. Elaine Stotko noted that the Office of Graduate Studies can calculate the number of graduate students who are candidates in professional education programs. Carol Vukelich will ask for these additional data.

- II. *January 29, 2001 – Dr. Beth Stroble/Professional Development Day for Professional Education Faculty*
Beth Stroble, Dean of the College of Education at the University of Akron and the former Associate Dean of the College of Education at the University of Louisville, will guide the participants in a series of exercises to help them gain insights on the principles of good assessment practices, the design of assessment systems, and the NCATE rubric by which the unit assessment system will be judged. Please encourage your colleagues to attend.

- III. *Nancy Edwards, Clinical Faculty in IFST, Earned National Board Certification*
Earning National Board Certification is a very difficult process. UCTE acknowledged Nancy Edwards' accomplishment with a note of congratulations and a plant.

IV. *Quality Learning Experiences Grant*

A call for proposals has been issued to professional education faculty. DCTE is particularly interested in funding program faculties' work on the development of program assessment systems. The funding source for these grants is DCTE's MBNA endowment funds.

Old Business

I. *NCATE*

- a. *Annual Report* – The annual report, describing the unit's progress toward achieving the NCATE 2000 standards, has been submitted.
- b. *Program Assessment Systems* – Kate Conway-Turner and Ann McNeil reported on their program faculties' progress toward the design of a program assessment system. UCTE members were reminded that each program must have a program assessment plan in place by the end of this academic year and be prepared to pilot components of this plan next year. There are many challenges to creating such a plan, one of which is assessing the impact of our candidates' instruction on students' learning. Carol Vukelich will attend a workshop at AACTE on this challenge and will report to UCTE on the ideas acquired.
- c. *Faculty Data Gathering* – NCATE 2000 Standard VI requires the yearly reporting of information about faculty teaching, research, and service activities. Carol Vukelich asked about the possibility of gathering such data from departments following faculties' completion of the yearly merit pay forms. Members suggested that the construction of a separate form which faculty would complete around the same time they complete their department's merit pay form would be a better means of gathering the needed data. Ann McNeil recommended the creation of a web-based form which faculty could complete and send electronically. Carol Vukelich will explore the creation of such a form with Pat Sine.

New Business

I. *ASPIRE Recruitment Report (Sylvia Brooks)*

As of September 2000, there are 133 students enrolled in the program, which includes African American, Hispanic, Asian, and Native American undergraduate candidates. Last year there were 144 students enrolled. During the 1999-2000 academic year, 16 ASPIRE students participated in the Delaware Teacher Recruitment Program, the federal

scholarship grant program. This year there are 31 students in the DE-TRP Program, 29 of which are in ASPIRE.

The ASPIRE program has created an Advisory Board consisting of representatives from each of the four colleges that administer the undergraduate professional education programs. The Board meets on a monthly basis to review recruitment activities, monitor students' progress, and make scholarship decisions. Minutes are available upon request.

One of ASPIRE's major recruitment activities is Discover Careers in Education, which is done twice a year. High school students (sophomore – senior) are invited to attend. This year over 150 students attended the Newark campus event. Because this number is too large to provide personal attention, two sessions will be offered in the future.

Fall ASPIRE Enrollment data revealed a decrease in the number of minority teacher education candidates every year since 1998. Partnerships need to be developed with school in other states. UCTE charged the ASPIRE Advisory Board with the task of developing a stronger proactive recruitment plan, one aimed at increasing the number of minority teacher education candidates.

II. Release of Information About Teacher Education Candidates to Schools and School Districts (Cindy Okolo)

Cindy Okolo expressed concerns about the legality of releasing the names of graduate teacher education candidates to area schools. Angela Case, Director of the Office of Clinical Studies, described the process used in securing candidates' permission to release their names, addresses, telephone numbers, and area of certification to schools. Discussion focused on the legality of the current process. After considerable discussion, Angela was directed to speak with appropriate University personnel to discover the appropriate University-approved procedure for the release of such information and to use this procedure from this date forward.

III. Survey of Graduates – Programs in Teacher Education

During the preparation for the 1998 NCATE visit, the Research and Development Center prepared a survey to be used to obtain information from alumni. Carol Vukelich suggested that UCTE consider using this form as an exit survey. The general consensus was this could provide useful information to program faculty for consideration in program revisions. Students would be asked to complete the form at the end of their student teaching experience. Dan Rich suggested that UCTE should consider offering some type of benefit (internet access for the

first year of teaching) to those who completed the form. This would allow UCTE to contact alumni during their important first year of teacher to obtain information about their perspective on the quality of their undergraduate degree program. E-group access could be a way for UCTE to keep in contact with the alumni and the alumni to keep in touch with each other. The Alumni Office may be able to offer some funding since this information may be helpful to their office, too. Career Services may also be interested. Carol Vukelich was directed to speak with Pat Sine about obtaining e-mail access for alumni.

IV. *Report on Title II (Barbara VanDornick)*

Barbara VanDornick reported on the data she has obtained from Educational Testing Service regarding the University's students' pass rate on Praxis I. In 1999-2000, 345 students completed a teacher education program. Of the 345, 172 took the Praxis I test one or more times. Ten students failed Praxis I; all took the test only once. Our pass rate is just under 95%, a rate judged by members as very respectable.

V. *Praxis Test II Results on UD Students (Barbara VanDornick)*

ETS provided Barbara VanDornick with data on UD teacher education students who took a Praxis II test. These data were not based on program completers. UD students' lowest score was 166, which is a passing score in all states except Pennsylvania.

VI. *Project Search 2001 Budget (Barbara VanDornick)*

Barbara VanDornick reported that Project Search will be held at the Bob Carpenter again this year. The budget prediction is for a "break even" year. Barbara is checking to be certain that we are getting the public school rate for rental of the Bob Carpenter. The Project Search budget was unanimously approved.

VII. *Appointment of Clinical Studies Advisory Committee*

The NCATE 2000 standards call for strong involvement of teacher education's colleagues from the "world of practice" in the design, delivery, and evaluation of all professional education programs. Carol Vukelich suggested the appointment of a committee of faculty, cooperating teachers, and principals to consider the clinical studies component of our professional education programs. Angela Case, as chair, would call the meetings, about once a semester. The Clinical Studies Task Force could be the steering committee for the Clinical Studies Advisory Committee. UCTE directed Angela to consider the committee's membership and to report her ideas to UCTE.

VIII. Revision to the Math Ed Curriculum

The Math Department has proposed changes in the Math Education Program. After discussion, UCTE agreed to approve the revision, contingent on the revised program continuing to meet the required number of practicum hours. Barbara will report to UCTE on the number of practicum hours in the program.

IX. Honors Degree in the ETE Program (Cindy Okolo)

The School of Education has proposed an Honors Elementary Teacher Education Program. After discussion, UCTE unanimously approved this program.

X. Approval of Certification Option with the M.Ed. in Science Education

The School of Education has proposed an option within the M.Ed. in Science Education that potentially would lead to secondary science certification. Members raised questions about the Delaware Department of Education's involvement in the development of the proposal, given that the goal was for candidates to be eligible for certification upon their completion of the option. Specifically, members raised questions about the subject matter content candidates would be required to complete to earn the certification. Given members' confusion regarding how the option would lead to certification and the value of the option if completion did not result in certification, UCTE members tabled this request until additional information is available.

The meeting adjourned at 3:10.