

Members Present: Pam Beeman, Jinfai Cai, Kate Conway-Turner, Bob Hampel, Charles MacArthur, Rob Palkovitz, Dan Rich, Bonnie Robb, Mary Roe, Elaine Stotko, Barbara VanDornick, Carol Vukelich

Guests: Janet Smith for Ann McNeil, James Rath

I. Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the [January 14 meeting](#) were approved as distributed.

II. Alumni Survey Data/Programs' Strengths and Weaknesses (B. VanDornick)

Ms. B. VanDornick lead a discussion of the strengths and weaknesses of our programs as reported by the Research and Development Center based on the Center's survey of our alumni. Generally, our programs are viewed positively by our graduates. The areas of concern identified included educational technology (elementary and secondary programs), classroom management (secondary programs), and working with gifted and talented youngsters (elementary and secondary). Ms. VanDornick reminded UCTE that those elementary teacher education graduates surveyed would not have taken the four one-credit educational technology courses now required of Elementary Teacher Education candidates. Chair Vukelich will write to all program coordinators to alert them of the findings of this survey and to request a description of how their program is attempting to address the cited weaknesses.

UCTE members expressed concern about the low return rate and the need to monitor first year teachers to understand their perception of their level preparedness for their first teaching assignment. Discussion followed on such matters as ways to enhance the response rate, the possibility of obtaining feedback about our programs from our graduates' supervisors, and who should be responsible for gathering data about programs' effectiveness. According to the program review procedures UCTE adopted last fall, future feedback from alumni likely will be gathered by each program's coordinator as a component of the once-every-five-years program review. To consider better ways to gather this important data, Dean Rich suggested and UCTE approved the appointment of the following people to a task force: Dr. D. Archbald, Ms. S. Giancola, Dr. E. Ratledge, Dr. B. Hampel, and Ms. B. VanDornick.

III. Student End-of-Term Report (B. VanDornick)

Effective with this fall semester, each semester Assistant Registrar Jeff Palmer will send a student cumulative grade point index report for all professional education programs to the Associate Director of the Delaware Center for Teacher Education. As per the policy and procedures approved in the fall, this director will either contact the students in academic jeopardy directly to suggest they contact their advisors for assistance or the

program coordinators to suggest they contact the students. Ms. VanDornick reviewed the data for fall semester on the number of students by program who find themselves in this unfortunate situation. Dean Rich requested University-wide comparative data; Ms. VanDornick agreed to provide this data at the next meeting.

IV. *UCTE Rejoinder to the NCATE Report (Guest: Dr. J. Raths)*

Dr. Raths came to UCTE to discuss his view of UCTE's rejoinder to the NCATE Board of Examiners Report. UCTE considered if it should revise its rejoinder to the Report and decided not to make revisions as this time.

V. *Praxis I Implementation Plan (B. VanDornick)*

UCTE previously approved the requiring of Praxis I by all professional education candidates prior to their completion of their program. The Elementary Teacher Education program candidates and the Early Childhood Development and Education program candidates already are required to successfully pass a test of basic skills as an admission to program requirement. This requirement was approved by the Faculty Senate some years ago. For candidates in these programs, the change will be in the specific test they are required to pass to demonstrate their competence. All other programs must be revised to include the passing of Praxis I as a program requirement. Though this requirement has widespread support, UCTE determined this revision should originate in the individual departments for forwarding to the Faculty Senate. Program coordinators have been requested to begin the process of integrating this requirement into the program he/she coordinates and to shepherd the revision through the University program revision process.

VI. *Revision of ASPIRE to include Evaluation Component ([January 14 UCTE Minutes](#))*

Though UCTE members had approved the UCTE rejoinder to the NCATE Board of Examiners Report and the minutes of its January 14 meeting, the Chair felt it was important to request their specific approval of the evaluation component of the ASPIRE program. Members were reminded that NCATE required that an evaluation component be added to ASPIRE program in order to judge the success of the program. The ASPIRE program coordinators, under the leadership of Dr. Gail Rys prepared the evaluation component. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to accept the evaluation component of the ASPIRE program as presented.

VII. *Revision of Faculty Minority Recruitment and Retention Plan*

The NCATE Board of Examiners also cited the Faculty Minority Recruitment and Retention Plan as missing an evaluation component. Since the general call to professional education faculty for self-nomination for participation on a task force to guide the implementation of this plan netted one response, the Chair requested nominations for membership on the task force. She will invite the nominated faculty to join the Task

Force. The first task force agenda item will be the development of an evaluation component to the plan.

VIII. Graduate Programs: Failure to Integrate the Conceptual Framework and General Poor Quality of Minority Recruitment Plans

The NCATE Board of Examiners cited these two weaknesses in their Report. UCTE will address the failure to integrate the conceptual framework in the following ways. First, graduate program revision requests will not be approved by UCTE until program faculty can show evidence of the integration of the conceptual framework in the program. Second, graduate programs will be reviewed by UCTE first; providing evidence of the integration of the conceptual framework into the program is a review criterion. Third, graduate program coordinators will be contacted to determine their plans to correct the problem. Fourth, Ms. B. VanDornick will check the graduate catalog to ensure reference to the conceptual framework is a part of the overall professional education statement; individual program coordinators will be encouraged to revise their program description statement to include reference to the conceptual framework. Fifth, the Graduate Student Association will be asked to become involved in creating plans for eliminating the weakness. Sixth, the UCTE Chair will determine the feasibility of mailing the conceptual framework to all newly-admitted graduate students.

Dr. Praria Stavis-Hicks, of the Office of Graduate Studies, has agreed to develop a recruitment plan workshop for professional education program coordinators. Since minority recruitment plans are due to Associate Provost John Cavanaugh in October, Dr. Stavis-Hicks believes a September date for the workshop would be most appropriate. Planning will proceed, and UCTE will be kept informed.

IX. Approval of the Revisions to the School of Education's Ph.D. Program

Chair Vukelich reported that the UCTE vote on the approval of the revisions to the above-identified program was 10 yes, 1 no, and 1 abstention. Recall that UCTE returned the request for approval of the program's revisions to the School of Education for additional evidence of the inclusion of the conceptual framework.

X. Performance-based Assessments

NCATE has begun assessing the degree to which professional education programs employ performance-based measures as tools in assessing candidates. UCTE needs to provide leadership in assisting programs in the increased use of such measures. Members were reminded that Emerson Elliot will be presenting a colloquium on Thursday, March 25 at 1:00 in Room 207 Willard Hall on reforms in teacher education. He has been guiding the revision of the elementary program review process.

XI. Clinical Studies Commission Report

The UCTE-appointed Clinical Studies Commission has issued its report. The report draws several conclusions and makes several recommendations, providing an important beginning point for a task force to address the points raised and to present a set of specific recommendations. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved for the creation of such a task force. The task force is to include representatives from school districts. Chair Vukelich will proceed with the appointment of this task force.

XII. Project Search Budget

Ms. B. VanDornick submitted a budget for UCTE review. The budget suggests there will be about a \$2,500 deficit this year. The charge for using Clayton Hall continues to escalate. The Project Search Committee is looking into using the Bob Carpenter Center as a means of keeping costs in check. UCTE encouraged the committee to use the Bob Carpenter Center this year. Parking is easier and table rentals are cheaper. Ms. VanDornick will investigate the possibility of securing a special public school rental rate for the use of the Center for this event. A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to support the budget as presented. If there is a deficit, UCTE will need to consider how to cover the loss. It may be necessary to request a cost-sharing among the colleges with professional education programs.

XIII. Faculty Senate Agenda

Last year UCTE recommended that the number of student teaching hours required and credits awarded for student teaching in the Agriculture Education program be increased from six to nine credit hours and to ten weeks. Agriculture Education faculty made this program revision; it is on the Faculty Senate Agenda for the next meeting.

The B.S. in Early Childhood Development and Education is cited in the Faculty Senate Agenda as not having submitted the required program review materials. Chair and UCTE member Dr. R. Palkovitz suggests he has communicated with the appropriate University officials and the materials will be submitted.

XIV. Honors Day Awards

Ms. Barbara VanDornick reminded UCTE that it is responsible for selecting the recipients for several professional education Honors Day awards and that a UCTE task force is typically appointed to review the nominees and make recommendations to UCTE. The following people agreed to serve on the task force: Dr. B. Robb, Dr. M. Roe, and Ms. B. VanDornick. Dr. A. McNeil was nominated for the task force; she has declined and has recommended Dr. S. Goodwin. Chair Vukelich added him to this task force.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m..

Respectfully submitted by:
Marie Senff and Carol Vukelich