

University Council on Teacher Education
Minutes for March 16, 2011
1:00-3:00
200 Academy Street

Members Present: Nancy Brickhouse, Laura Glass, Bob Hampel, John Hartman, Teresita Mariano, Joe Pika, Kate Scantlebury, Jonathan Troop, Donald Unger, Barbara VanDornick, Carol Vukelich

Members Excused: Janice Bibik, Deb Bieler, Suzanne Burton

Guest Present: Jeff Raffel

The January 19, 2011 minutes were approved unanimously.

Announcements

- I. Carol Vukelich received notification that Dr. Jerry D. Bailey from the University of Kansas will be the NCATE BOE Chair for the October visit.

- II. U.S. News and World Report/NCTQ Evaluation
NCTQ is not viewed very positively by AACTE or by the deans of many colleges of education. The University's College of Education and Human Development will not participate. Both ETE faculty and UD central administration approves of the decision to not participate. While many higher education institutions have indicated that they, too, will not participate, a few institutions have agreed to participate. For example, Deborah Ball indicated the University of Michigan's College of Education will participate. NCTQ will provide an estimated ranking by reviewing available materials (e.g., course syllabi online, programs of study) of those colleges of education that elect not to participate. Data collection is to begin in the spring. Council members had no information on whether or not U.S. News and World Report plans to continue the graduate school rankings.

- III. Fall 2010 End-of-Term Reports and Spring 2011 Enrollment Reports
Barbara VanDornick distributed End-of-Term Reports for Undergraduate Teacher Education programs for Fall 2010. Out of 1516 professional education students, 32 are on probation, 10 withdrew, 131 have a GPA below 2.5. Spring 2011 enrollment figures show a slight decrease (54) from fall due to mid-year graduations.

- IV. Achievement Growth of Students of Delaware Teacher Preparation Program Graduates (RAND Education)
There are no new developments to report.

- V. Eduventures/Schools of Education Learning Collaborative
Eduventures 2010 Annual Report was distributed to Council members.

- VI. Teach in Delaware and Project Search is April 12 and 13. Teach in Delaware is from 10:00-3:00 p.m. on April 12; only University of Delaware candidates and alumni are eligible to participate on the 12th. Project Search is open to candidates from all institutions from 8:00-5:00 on April 13. Many of the job fairs this year have been cancelled because many districts are suffering from cut-backs. Maryland will be attending; however, they have indicated they will not be offering contracts. The same number of school districts will participate this year; however, fewer representatives from each will be attending. Lunch will be provided on the second day, the 13th. UCTE members are encouraged to come to the Bob to meet the recruiters.

New Business

I. *FBI Policy and Procedures (Laura Glass and John Hartman)*

As candidates are now required to complete a criminal background history check and a child registry check prior to student teaching, candidates need to be notified of this requirement. UCTE determined that one of the effective means of notifying potential student teachers was to include this requirement as a pre-requisite for student teaching. Members approved the following motion unanimously.

Students must complete state and federal criminal background history checks and a child registry check through the Office of Clinical Studies and be cleared by the Director of this office and approved by the school district that will provide the student teaching placement.

II. *Data Comparing UD Graduates to Other (Jeff Raffel)*

Jeff distributed a summary of the results from a survey comparing UD graduates teaching in Delaware to graduates of other Delaware higher education institutions and non-Delaware higher education institutions who also are teaching in Delaware. The survey was distributed to Delaware teachers teaching three years or less. He has been involved with the survey for the past eight years in conjunction with the Delaware Department of Education, with the Department selecting the teachers to be surveyed based on transcript submitted to the Department for certification. Council members raised several questions regarding the composition of the respondents in each group. For example, did the teachers complete an approved University teacher education program or take courses leading to certification? Are the teachers teaching “out-of-field” or in fields consistent with their education? Were the teachers from out-of-state institutions new teachers or new to the state of Delaware teachers? Without greater clarity on groups’ composition, the Council was convinced that the survey results would not be beneficial to professional education program faculty. Jeff promised to study the respondent data set more closely in order to respond to the Council’s questions.

III. *Communicating with Parents (Kate Scantlebury)*

FERPA requires that professors not speak with parents about their child’s performance unless the child has waived his/her FERPA rights. Student can waive their FERPA rights by signing a permission form. Once the form is signed, students are directed to return it

to the Registrar's Office. The Council expressed concern that faculty do not know of the existence of the form or that, prior to speaking with a parent about his/her child's performance, faculty must ensure that the release form is on file in the Registrar's Office. Council members will send electronic copies to program coordinators and faculty. (See attachment.)

IV. ***Student Teacher Awards Committee (John Hartman)***

The committee consists of John Hartman, Todd Dunn, Stephanie Koch, and Lynn Worden. John indicated that the awards recognize students with "superior performance." Several Council members questioned the definition of superior performance. After much discussion, a motion was approved to require nominations to be reviewed by program coordinators before the selection of student teachers before the award is made. Program coordinators should forward the names of the selected student teachers to the Office of Clinical Studies. In addition, it was decided that changes will need to be implemented next year regarding the rubric for the selection process.

UCTE adjourned at 2:55 p.m.