

University Council on Teacher Education
Minutes for September 8, 2014
10:00-12:00
200 Academy Street

Members Present: Michelle Cirillo, Ralph Ferretti, Barry Joyce, Lynn Okagaki, Cynthia Paris, Kate Scantlebury, Alden Snell, Barbara VanDornick, Carol Vukelich, George Watson, Linda Zankowsky

Member Excused: Janice Bibik

The Council approved the May minutes as distributed.

Announcements

I. Spring 2014 End-of-Term Undergraduate Teacher Education Report (Barbara VanDornick)

Barbara VanDornick distributed the Spring 2014 End-of-Term Report regarding enrollment in undergraduate teacher education programs. Out of 1300 candidates, 22 (2%) were on probation, one candidate was dismissed, and 64 (5%) had a GPA below 2.5. The minority undergraduate teacher education enrollment was 11%.

II. Fall 2014 Teacher Education Admission Data (Barbara VanDornick)

Barbara VanDornick distributed the Fall 2014 teacher education program admission and transfer-into-teacher-education data for freshmen and transfer candidates. Two hundred seventy three students matriculated into teacher education programs; 17% of this teacher education student population is minority. This is a slight decrease in admissions to teacher education programs from Fall 2013, a phenomena that is being observed nationwide. Carol Vukelich will invite Jose Aviles to the October meeting to speak about the university's recruitment plan for all students and for historically underrepresented groups specifically, and Kristine Ritz Coll to speak about the planned ASPIRE activities.

III. Higher Education for Higher Standards (Carol Vukelich)

President Harker signed the petition supporting the Common Core State Standards.

Old Business

I. Professional Education Conduct System Policies and Procedures (Carol Vukelich)

The Council reviewed the document created by the Task Force charged with the creation of student professional education conduct policies and procedures. The first item of discussion was the use of the term "advocate" versus "advisor." The Office of Student Conduct uses the term "advisor", and "advisor" could replace the term "advocate" in UCTE's policy. The Office of Student Conduct's definition of "advisor" is below:

A Student Conduct Advisor can be any member of the University of Delaware community (student, faculty or staff member). A Student Conduct Advisor may assist a student at any point during the student conduct process, such as attending a pre-hearing or Administrative Hearing with a student, helping to determine what witnesses to present at an Administrative Hearing, or assisting in writing an appeal.

Carol Vukelich proposed that the Council consider:

- Replacing “advocate” with “student conduct advisor”.
- Adding the following statement to 8a: Candidates are free to select a non-teacher education trained student, faculty or staff member to serve as their student conduct advisor.
- Adding the following statement to 8b: A DCTE staff member will maintain a list of Office of Student Conduct trained teacher education student, faculty and staff members.

The Council unanimously approved the above changes.

The purpose of the Professional Education Conduct System is to focus on candidates’ conduct that is potentially harmful to PK-12 students in the field.

The Council engaged in discussion regarding who should be notified when candidates come before the unit’s Professional Education Conduct Board. The Council decided that the Board will review each case and, when appropriate, notify the candidates’ Program Coordinators, with a copy to the appropriate college Assistant Dean. Being proactive is very important to helping candidate complete the program. It is important to notify those candidates who have engaged in actions that could prevent them from completing a teacher education program early, allowing them as much time as possible to select another major.

The Professional Education Conduct Task Force will review the revisions to the document at its upcoming meeting. UCTE will approve the final version at its next meeting.

New Business

I. Stewards of Children (Ralph Ferretti)

The Stewards of Children online training program is now an Elementary Teacher Education program requirement. ETE candidates will complete the training program in EDUC 100. In addition, Laura Glass is proposing to the School of Education’s undergraduate committee that transfers into the ETE major (internal transfers) be required to complete the program prior to admission into the program and that all ETE students demonstrated that they have completed the program prior to Upper Division

Clearance. This will catch students who transfer into the program from another university (external transfer students).

Kate Scantlebury indicated that secondary education faculty are discussing how their candidates will demonstrate their knowledge of how to identify sexual abuse and the required reporting procedures. She will provide information on the secondary education faculty's decision at a subsequent meeting.

II. 60+ Cohorts (Barbara VanDornick)

The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation and the Delaware Department of Education are requiring each program to identify a cohort. Barbara VanDornick described a procedure and distributed an application form that candidates would complete to apply for formal admission to Upper-Division Study in a Teacher Education Program. She asked that program coordinators review the procedures and the form, and send her their recommended revisions. Barbara noted that program coordinators are required to begin tracking their cohort this fall. Barbara will provide each program coordinator with a list of those candidates in his/her program who have completed 60 credits. Program coordinators will use this list to identify their program cohort and return the list to her. Then she will distribute the application form to the identified remaining candidates.

III. Student Placements in Inner City Locations (Carol Vukelich)

There have been shootings during daytime hours near two schools where UD candidates have placements. Linda Zankowsky, Director of the Office of Clinical Studies, raised concerns regarding appropriate safety precautions for our candidates, particularly those in urban placements. Dean Okagaki will meet with UD risk management personnel to obtain their recommendations, and she will contact deans from urban institutions to understand how they ensure their candidates' safety. In October, the Council will consider the procedures it will put in place to better ensure our candidates' safety during their clinical experiences.

UCTE adjourned at 11:45.