

University Council on Teacher Education
Minutes for May 8, 2017
1:00-3:00
200 Academy Street, Room 210

Members Present: Ralph Ferretti, Hannah Kim, Jennifer Nauen, Laurie Palmer, John Pelesko, Kate Scantlebury, Elizabeth Soslau, Sharon Walpole, Lynn Worden

Members Not Present: Nicole Bishoff, Stephanie Jennis, Carol Vukelich

Guests: Christine Gorowara, Cindy Holland, Myae Han, Alyssa Truskowski

The April 10, 2017 minutes were unanimously approved.

Announcements

1. Kappa Delta Pi Report (Alyssa Truskowski)
 - Alyssa reported on Kappa Delta Pi activities. The group has updated their bylaws and refocus of the Zeta Omicron chapter to support professional development. The group has held several PD activities, and will be inducting 38 new members on May 7th and 11-19 new members on May 10th.
2. UCTE Award Recipients (Alyssa Truskowski)
 - The Delaware Association of School Administrators (DASA) award goes to Sydney Palmer, a secondary English Education major.
 - We awarded four Barbara VanDornick awards to the following: Rebecca Bojarski (ECE), Nicole Mejia (ETE), Leticia Alfaro (Secondary Social Studies), and Danielle Eisenman (Secondary English Education).

Old Business

1. Student Teaching Resource Guide – Motion for Approval – (Elizabeth Soslau)
 - Elizabeth reviewed the few changes that Hannah had requested and the changes were made to the guide.
 - The Council unanimously approved the Student Teaching Resource Guide.
2. References to the University of Delaware Conceptual Framework for Professional Educators should be removed from the UCTE Bylaws (under Mission & Authority), and from program-specific materials, including manuals and webpages. (Christine Gorowara and Elizabeth Soslau)
 - Christine reviewed the necessity to remove Conceptual Framework for Professional Educator from the UCTE bylaws since we no longer go by conceptual framework.
 - The Council unanimously approved.

3. Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) guidance on Regulation 290 Update (Christine Gorowara)
 - Christine reviewed the questions from UCTE regarding Regulation 290 and DDO's responses.
 - *Regarding Section 3.1.1: From what population is the top 50th percentile taken?* All UD undergraduates, for example, or all students in a particular program? Shannon was not sure what the intention was, but it sounded like it would apply to the UD population overall.
 - Is there any difference in applicability of admission requirements to high-needs areas? Shannon noted that there are different kinds of flexibility—a choice of entry requirements, as well as the ability to waive entry requirements for up to 10% of the cohort—and that she would expect that these flexibilities would allow admission for a sufficient number of candidates into high-needs areas.
 - *Regarding Section 3.1.1.1: Are admission waivers applicable at certification level or overall?* Shannon explained that Regulation 290 is about approval of individual programs—for example, Elementary Education—so the language would apply at the program level. I pointed out that some of our programs with the highest need are small, and may not even have 10 candidates in a given year, so the ability to waive up to 10% of a cohort of 4 or 5, for example, could be meaningless. Shannon said that she thought the guidance could say something like “up to 10% of the candidates or 1 candidate, whichever is larger.”
 - *What is the effective date of requirements given that entering students are held to applicable catalog at matriculation?* See Section 3.1.3: the effective date is stated as July 1, 2014. July 1, 2014 is also the date the regulation was passed. I pointed out to Shannon that by July 1, 2014, the 2014-2015 catalog would have already been published, so any inconsistency between Regulation 290 and the UD catalog could not have been resolved for the entering class of 2014 (many or most of whom will be part of our 2017-2018 cohort). She acknowledged that there could be a potential conflict, and said that should that become an issue, DDOE would work with UD to resolve it with respect to program approval.
 - *Will DDOE grant certification to completers with GPA less than 3.0?* Note here that there is a distinction between program approval and individual licensure/certification. Regulation 290 is about program approval. Regulation 1510, is about initial licensure and lists no GPA requirements. Therefore, the GPA requirements in Regulation 290 determine whether or not DDOE approves our programs to provide institutional recommendation to our completers, but once a program is approved, any completer will be eligible for licensure.
4. Motion to delete the Upper Division Clearance Policy (Christine Gorowara) (if the Reg. 290 guidance comes out as noted in the announcement above)
 - Table to next meeting

New Business

1. Report on Project Search (Cindy Holland)
 - Cindy Holland report on Project Search which was held April 26th. Attendance has declined and was down 9%. School districts still think we have great candidates and love the event but our numbers are down. Cindy proposed that we should start to think about ideas for future events after next year. She would like to attend a UCTE meeting next fall to discuss ideas for successful ways to increase numbers or new ways to promote the event.

2. HB143 –Performance Assessment (Elizabeth Soslau)
 - Elizabeth updated Council on bill HB143, which is being reviewed. The bill removes a performance assessment requirement for new educators that is limiting Delaware schools' ability to recruit new educators from other jurisdictions that do not have this requirement. Approximately 45% of teachers hired annually by Delaware's school districts graduate from out-of-state pre-service teaching programs. Delaware's requirement that applicants for an initial license must pass a performance assessment places a burden on the recruitment process as most first year teacher out-of-state hires are recruited from states that do not have this requirement. Currently only 16 of the 50 states have a performance assessment policy in place. The largest percentage of Delaware's out-of-state new teacher hires come from PA, MD, and VA, all states that do not have a performance assessment requirement for licensure. The current option for these new teachers is to be placed on a provisional license in order to complete the performance assessment tasks as they are working to meet the heavy demands for first year teaching and transitioning to a new state. For new teachers making job selection decisions, Delaware's performance assessment requirement can be viewed as cumbersome and serve as a deterrent to possible applicants.
 - The Council discussed and gave Elizabeth some options:
 - 1. Change Regulation 290 and Regulation 1510 so that no one has to complete a performance assessment.
 - 2. Give all applicants (regardless of local of training) two years to complete the assessment.
 - 3. Have the same standards across all states for everyone.
 - Elizabeth will take this to the state meeting and report back.
 - The state was offering a compromise to pause the cut score for applicants prepared in DE. However, DE-prepared applicants would still have to take a performance assessment before receiving initial licensure, while out-of-state applicants would have a year after receiving initial licensure to take a performance assessment. This is part of a larger issue, where there are different rules for different groups.

3. UCTE committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion report (Christine Gorowara)

- Christine reported that the committee has met five times over the year and developed four goals that align with the Diversity Action Plan Six Guiding Principles for Action along with action steps for each (for more detail, see *Report of the UCTE Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee to UCTE (May 8, 2017)*):
 - Create and retain a diverse student body
 - Curricular and co-curricular transformation
 - Building community and improving campus climate
 - Community outreach and engagement
 - The next steps are to determine who will be involved in implementing the plan and identifying specific recruitment and retention goals.
4. DACTE representation (Elizabeth Soslau) -
 - Elizabeth will email Deans to determine the next slate for UCTE
 5. New Faculty Advisor for KDP (Elizabeth Soslau)
 - Elizabeth discussed the need to have a faculty member resume responsibility of advising Kappa Delta Pi. We would like to see this as a dual role along with DCTE Certification Officer. It was proposed to outline the faculty and DCTE responsibilities and then bring back to UCTE with outlined plan.
 6. MPCP candidates – student teaching fees (Elizabeth Soslau)
 - Elizabeth explained that the MPCP candidates are being charged a student teaching fee but they do not complete student teaching.
 - Council discussed and decided that UCTE did not have the authority to evaluate this issue, so Elizabeth will review with the Dean.

Meeting adjourned 3:01 pm