

University Council on Teacher Education
Agenda for September 30, 2021
1:00 – 2:00
DCTE Conference Room 104 & Zoom

Members Present: Suzanne Burton, Duane Cottrell, Jen Fox-Gallo, Gary Henry, Steff Kotch-Jester, Chrystalla Mouza, Krissy Najera, Kristin Nelson, Diana Roscoe, Carol Wong, Tory McHugh

Guests: Christine Gorowara, Kevin Guidry, Marie Peters

The May 25, 2021, minutes were unanimously approved.

Announcements

1. Welcome new members/Need Undergraduate Member
 - Lynn Worden and representing her Jen Gallo-Fox for Early Childhood. Tory McHugh representing the graduate students and we are still in need of an undergraduate student representative.
 - **ACTION: Members are to send names to Debbie, and she will reach out to them.**
2. Fall Meeting Dates/Time
 - This semester has been challenging to schedule. The fourth Thursday at 1:00 seems the only option. Next meeting is October 28, 2021, from 1:00-2:30.
 - November and December, the fourth Thursdays are holidays so we will send out a doodle poll to determine those dates/times.
3. Teacher of the Year Event – It's scheduled for Monday, February 21st -4:00-7:00
 - What is the consensus for this event – have face-to-face or virtually? No one stated any preference.
 - The state is having a teacher of the year event.
 - Last year we did a Fireside Chat where we had teachers with virtual teaching experience talk to our students. We had a great turnout.
 - DCTE will work with conference services to determine if face-to-face events can happen and what, if any, Covid restrictions are in place.
 - **ACTION: Everyone think about what venue you prefer, and we'll discuss at next meeting.**

New Business

1. Task Force on Learning Goals & Assessment (Christine Gorowara/Kevin Guidry)
 - Kevin Guidry is from the Center for Teaching, Assessment, and Learning (CTAL). The recommendation from the Task Force on Learning Goals and Assessments that was approved by Faculty Senate is “**each degree-granting academic program has a unique set of program educational**

goals. These goals are defined and assessed by the faculty in each program.” In the writing of our 2021 Middle States self-study, the Task Force realized that these goals and assessments are not being systematically documented across the university. Faculty Senate agreed with this recommendation and approved a resolution requiring that accredited programs submit their educational goals to the Senate. Programs that already have goals (e.g., accredited programs) will be asked to submit their goals beginning in the fall of 2021 and programs that do not have goals (e.g., non-accredited programs) will be asked to submit their goals beginning in the fall of 2022. These goals will be published in the academic catalog.

- Program educational goals should
 - Clearly state the expected knowledge, skills, attitude, competencies, and habits of mind that students are expected to acquire in the specific degree program
 - Appropriately incorporate and reinforce educational goals from the university, college, co-curricular, and appropriate disciplinary values
 - Reflect a course of study that is appropriately rigorous for the students admitted to the program
 - Reflect a course of study that students can complete within the average/reasonable time-to-degree for that program
- The review of goals goes through program Chair/Director, CTAL, and Dean, and Faculty Senate.
- Certification-leading ed prep programs are in first round of goal collection, since they are accredited
- Expectation is that accredited programs would adapt their accreditation goals to be their program educational goals
- CTAL will be reviewing each program’s goals for first bullet as they are not familiar with the appropriate content and rigor of each program. CTAL will be looking for 1) consistency and are they educational goals for the program. 2) are they unique goals for the program.
- Christine suggested that each accredited program incorporate the four components of CAEP Standard 1. It was discussed whether components of CAEP Standard 2 should also be included, like those that reflect ability to meet expectations in school, timeliness, create lesson, and nurturing relationships. Christine stated this is just a proposal for the process and those attributes can be included in the common goals for all accredited initial teacher preparation programs.
- **UCTE Resolution: Accredited educator preparation programs should work with DCTE to identify program educational goals in response to the faculty Senate requirement to ensure an appropriate level of consistency across programs.**
- Proposed process would be to come to common agreement of alignment of CAEP standards, SPA standards, and any additional standards for specific programs. Christine would work directly with program coordinators.

- **Motion to accept proposed resolution: all in favor = 9; opposed = 2; abstentions = 0 – Motion approved.**
- The opposed stated the proposal is too vague and DCTE's role is not clear.

2. IR Proposal Change -Vote (Tory McHugh)

- Tory reviewed the proposed Institutional Recommendation Policy:
 - *Candidates must earn a passing score on the content area test (e.g., Praxis Subject Assessment, formerly known as Praxis II) in their discipline required by the State of Delaware to receive the institutional recommendation for certification (effective September 2014). Candidates must pass this content area test by the first June 30 following graduation from the associated program. (i.e., Students graduating Summer 21, Fall 21, Winter 22, Spring 22 must complete by June 30, 2022.)*
 - *Remove performance assessment section.*
- Reasons for policy updates:
 - Removal of performance assessment makes extended timeline unnecessary
 - Data and housekeeping. DOE and Title 2 reports require cohorts ending June 30 and August 31, respectively.
 - Makes certification more difficult. Students drag their feet, resulting in delayed certifications
 - All other Delaware IHEs require Praxis Subject Assessments at start of student teaching
 - Policy change will be accompanied with robust messaging by Tory/DCTE
- **ACTION: UCTE members to take proposal to their units for feedback. Be prepared to vote at October meeting.**
- Proposal date to start next year instead of this year.
- **DCTE will revise proposal to start Summer 2022 and discuss a waiver policy.**

These items are moved to next month's meeting:

3. Performance assessment update (Tory McHugh)
4. Program Review – Elementary (Steff Kotch-Jester)
5. Student Teaching Credits (EDUC 400) (Krissy Najera)
6. Capstone Update (Marie Peters)

Meeting adjourned 2:24 pm