

University Council on Teacher Education
Agenda for December 19, 2011
1:30-3:30
200 Academy Street

Members Present: Deb Bieler, Janice Bibik, Suzanne Burton, Laura Glass, Bob Hampel, John Hartman, Joe Pika, Kate Scantlebury, Barbara VanDornick, Carol Vukelich, Lynn Okagaki

Members Excused: Nathalie Agnant, Lynn Worden, Jonathan Troop

Guest Present: Rachel Klein, Deb Alvarez, Christopher Ruskowski

The minutes of November 21, 2011 were approved.

Announcements

I. NCATE's Budget

DCTE provided \$18,564.48 in support of the NCATE Onsite Visit held October 30-November 1, 2011. This figure does **not** include faculties', staff's or professionals' time.

New Business

I. M.Ed. in Reading Program Changes (Rachel Klein)

The School of Education's literacy faculty proposes a revision to the M.Ed. Reading Program to meet the new International Reading Association standards and to the Certificate in Reading. Both options will be available totally on-line; the intent is to attract candidates nationwide. Literacy faculty will teach all courses. Assessment tasks are being drafted, and will be brought to UCTE for its approval.

The Council approved the revised M.Ed. in Reading Program, with the proviso that the faculty bring the program assessment plan to UCTE for its review and approval. The Council also approved the Certificate in Reading as a course of study.

II. Conceptual Framework (Laura Glass & Kate Scantlebury)

The Conceptual Framework Committee brought the revised University of Delaware Conceptual Framework for Professional Education Programs to the Council for its approval (see attachment). Drs. Glass and Scantlebury described the iterative review process, one that included response from the broad professional community. Based on the feedback provided, the committee revised its earlier drafts of the framework. The framework aligns with the revised InTASC Standards and the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

The Council approved the newly-revised Conceptual Framework.

The Council will make the new framework available to faculty for their use for the spring semester and will require its use for the fall semester and beyond.

The newly-revised and approved framework now requires revisions to the student teaching evaluation instrument. Dr. John Hartman, Director of the Office of Clinical Studies, has been working with a committee to reconsider the current student teaching evaluation form, Pathwise. By May, he will bring a revised student teaching form to the Council for its approval; the form must align with the new framework.

III. UD Alumni Teaching in Delaware Study (Christopher Ruskowski)

Christopher Ruskowski is the Head of the Teaching and Learning Unit at the Department of Education. He is responsible for the teacher effectiveness component of state's Race to the Top grant and is tasked with determining the impact of our graduates on Delaware students' learning. The Council raised questions like the following:

1. What is the definition of teacher effectiveness?
2. Will you be able to ensure data accuracy? How?
3. How will the data be collected?
4. How will you ensure that the data collected are linked to the appropriate teacher preparation program?
5. How will you ensure that the data are gathered and linked to a particular higher education institution's program only when the graduate is teaching in the field in which he/she was prepared by that higher education institution, when he/she is teaching "in field"?

Barbara VanDornick suggested that the higher education institutions be allowed to send their roster of graduates to the Department of Education for the Department's comparison with their database.

Mr. Ruskowski described the next step as hiring a data coordinator and 2 data analysts. Once on board, these professionals will review the current data and return to a UCTE meeting to discuss their findings, what information can be reported on, and how the data will be collected and processed to ensure accuracy.

Mr. Ruskowski indicated that the Department has employed a Harvard University group to complete this work. They have engaged in studies like the one to be conducted in Delaware in other states and school districts. He will provide the Council with a copy of one of their reports, the one from the Charlotte, North Carolina school district.

IV. Secondary Education Program Review Report Data (Kate Scantlebury)

Dr. Kate Scantlebury provided her review of the secondary education program review reports. She reported that the data indicate that each program's candidates, for the most part, are demonstrating success in meeting the appropriate program standards

and conceptual framework outcomes. When the data indicated that candidates were experiencing challenges performing at least at the acceptable level on the performance tasks, program faculty began considering needed program revisions, some of which will be forthcoming to the Council. The program review reports are proving helpful as a tool to focus on the data.

III. Petition by Jose Menjivar for use of Praxis I Composite Scores to Replace a Passing Score in each of the Three Praxis I Areas (Deborah Alvarez)

Mr. Menjivar, an English Education candidate, has taken the Praxis I exam several times, and has been unable to perform at the passing level on the math subtest. Dr. Alvarez presented a letter from Jose explaining his dilemma and the actions he has taken to improve his math score. He requested that the Council approve his use of a composite score in place of a passing score on each subtest. His most recent math score is 172 (requirement is 174); if combined with his reading and writing scores, his composite score would meet the state's passing score.

Dr. Joe Pike noted that the Council agreed not to hear such appeals and to strictly adhere to the Council's cut score policies. Title II and the Delaware colleges are not using composite scores at this time. After considerable discussion, the Council elected not to discuss Mr. Menjivar's case but rather to reaffirm its policy that to progress to student teaching, all candidates must meet the established cut scores in each of the subtests.

The meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

2012 meeting dates have been set, Marie Senff will send out to the team.