

University Council on Teacher Education

Agenda for February 24, 2006

1:00-3:00

200 Academy Street

Members Present: Tim Barnekov, John Burmeister, Penny Deiner, Jessica Kozzi, Bonnie Robb, Gail Rys, Janet Smith, Barbara VanDornick, Carol Vukelich

Members Excused: Chris Clark, Joan DeFattore, Laura Glass, Joseph Pika

Guests Present: Nancy, Brickhouse, Patricia Scott

The minutes from January 23, 2006 were unanimously approved.

Announcement

- The Professional Standards Board and the State Board of Education have approved the following Praxis II cut scores:
 - Biology: Content Knowledge (0235) – 157
 - Chemistry: Content Knowledge (0245) – 158
 - Elementary Education: Content Knowledge (0014) – 151
 - English Language Arts (Middle School) (0049) – 161
 - Fundamental Subjects (0511) – 155
 - General Science (0435) – 160
 - Reading Specialist (0300) – 560
 - Science (Middle School) (0439) – 146
 - Social Studies (Middle School) (0089) – 164

- Salary Supplement for Cooperating Teachers/Internship Supervisors (Carol Vukelich)

The proposal to pay cooperating teachers between \$750 – 1,500, depending on the length of the student teaching placement, has been approved by the Professional Standards Board and the State Board of Education. Pat Carlson, Executive Director of the Professional Standards Board, has forwarded budget information to the State's budget director, J.J. Davis. To date, there is no word on her acceptance of the proposal.

Old Business

- MA in History Leading to Certification (Barry Joyce)

This item was tabled until the March meeting.

- Admission Statistics (Barbara VanDornick)

This item was tabled until the March meeting.

- Dress Code for UD Students in Field-based Experience (Carol Vukelich)

Carol Vukelich suggested that UCTE require all UD professional education candidates to follow the Red Clay School District dress code policy when they engage in field-based experiences. Dean Barnekov suggested that prior to approving this policy, UCTE should examine the Early Learning Center's (ELC) and the Preschool Laboratory's dress code policy. Carol Vukelich agreed to obtain copies of these policies and to create a policy for UCTE's review and approval. Barbara VanDornick suggested that the base policy should be the Red Clay policy, with additional items from the ELC and Preschool Lab policies. Otherwise, candidates will need to adhere to different policies, depending upon their placement's location.

- Drug Use

The Red Clay School District provided a copy of its Drug-Use Policy. After much discussion, UCTE decided that Gail Rys, Barbara VanDornick and Patricia Scott will investigate what is covered under the University's Code of Conduct. Based on this information, they will determine whether or not UCTE should have a drug use policy. If such a policy is necessary, they will draft a drug use policy, seek legal advice on its appropriateness, and present it to UCTE in the fall.

New Business

- NCATE (Patricia Scott)
- Assessment Committee

After some discussion, the decision was made not to create a separate Assessment Committee.

- Program Assessment Plans

Trish Scott provided a summary table describing which programs had submitted program assessment plans. Programs were requested to submit their plans no later than January 31. Because specialty organizations will require programs to submit three years of data for our Specialty Program Association review in 2009, every program MUST have its program assessment plan in place by the end of this semester. Data MUST begin to be collected next fall. Trish asked members of the Council to nudge the program faculty who have yet to submit their program assessment plans. After discussion, UCTE concluded that Trish should schedule appointments with individual program coordinators to assist them in the preparation of their plans. If necessary, Dean Barnekov and Carol Vukelich will visit the appropriate deans and/or

department chairs to enlist their help in getting fully developed plans from all program coordinators before the end of this semester.

- Content Knowledge Test

The current policy requires candidates to take the appropriate content knowledge test; they are not required to earn a passing score. UCTE discussed whether or not to change this policy, one approved prior to the state's selection of specific Praxis II tests and the setting of cut scores. After considerable discussion, UCTE voted unanimously (a) to require that all teacher education candidates take a content knowledge test appropriate to their major as a prerequisite to student teaching (candidates would not be required to obtain a passing score) and (b) to receive institutional recognition, candidates must present evidence of having taken such a test to the institution's certification officer. Barbara VanDornick reminded the members that NCATE requires an 80% pass-rate for the institution to be reviewed. She will track the data and alert UCTE of the passing percentage annually. Further, members agreed that to be counted as 'passing' when the candidate takes a Delaware-approved Praxis II test, one for which Delaware has set a cut score, the candidate's score must be at or above the Delaware cut score to be judged as a passing score. This is necessary because the University will be held to Delaware standards for determination of the percentage of program completers who have passed because the institution is located in Delaware.

- Dispositions

Trish presented a draft of a disposition policy, modeled on Washington State University's and James Madison's policies. At next month's meeting, this procedure will be reviewed, along with the form to gather disposition data on candidates.

- Due to the time, the remaining assessment items will be addressed at the next UCTE meeting. This items include:
 - Alumni Surveys
 - Conceptual Framework Task Force Committee
 - Revisiting Unit Assessment Systems
 - Unit Operations
- Honor's Day (Barbara VanDornick)

This items was tabled until the March meeting.

- HPE Program Revisions (Janet Smith)

This item was tabled until the March meeting.

- Potential Project between AACTE and the National Center for Educational Accountability

The item was tabled until the March meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.