

Minutes for September 30, 2005

2:00-4:00

200 Academy Street

Members Present: John Burmeister, Laura Glass, Jessica Kozzi, Joseph Pika, Bonnie Robb, Gail Rys, Janet Smith, Barbara VanDornick, Carol Vukelich

Members Excused: Tim Barnekov, Chris Clark, Penny Deiner, Joan DelFattore

Guests Present: Angela Case, Barry Joyce, Patricia Scott, Lynn Worden

Announcement

The Professional Standards Board and the State Board adopted several new PRASIX II tests for Delaware. The “cut score” committees of teachers will meet next week.

New Business

Survey Data Results (Patricia Scott)

The Unit Assessment System calls for the gathering of data from our alumni and their immediate supervisors. UCTE discussed several points related to this task.

1. A central component of this discussion was ways to improve the survey response rate. Trish Scott reminded the Council that last year the unit changed the process from a paper survey to an online survey. Unfortunately, this did not increase the response rate. Therefore, the Council recommended a return to the paper version.

- Several suggestions were put forth regarding ways to improve the response rate. Gail Rys suggested requiring graduate students to complete the survey before their Application for Advanced Degree is approved. To increase the return rate of the undergraduate alumni, a member suggested including a letter from the program or student teaching coordinator, someone well known to the alumni.

2. NCATE suggests that surveys contain items that are program specific. Length, however, is a problem. Trish Scott will work with program coordinators to consider the link between the survey items, the program’s specialty organization standards, and the unit’s conceptual framework items.

Update on Program Review Process.

The unit's next BOE visit will take place in fall 2010. Program Review Reports will be due to the specialty organizations in fall 2009. The Program Review Reports and the Institutional Report to NCATE must include three years of candidate assessment data. Therefore, all programs must have approved revised Program Assessment Plans in place by the end of this spring semester. The Department of Education is now requiring all programs to submit a Program Review Report to the appropriate specialty organization. The Delaware Department of Education will review only those programs for which there is no specialty organization.

Patricia commented that students seem somewhat confused about what to do with their content knowledge scores. All students need to bring or fax (with social security numbers removed) a copy of their test scores to DCTE. To be useful to programs, sub-scores are required. DCTE will enter the scores into a database and send aggregated data to each program coordinator.

LiveText (an on-line portfolio for students) is up and running. Two programs are using Live Text this fall: Elementary Teacher Education and Health and Physical Education. Two programs will come on-line in the spring: the ETE junior methods courses and the MED in Reading. A benefit to using Live Text is that it will allow programs to house the student-earned scores on the key performances and to aggregate these data easily. The goal is for Live Text to be used by all programs by next fall.

Cooperating Teacher Cost (Angela Case)

Tabled until November.

End of Term Grade Reports (Barbara VanDornick)

Tabled until November.

Fall Enrollment Reports (Barbara VanDornick)

Tabled until November.

MA in History Leading to Certification (Barry Joyce)

The MA in History Leading to Certification was developed in 1979. While it is described in the catalog as a option for students, because a program review report was not sent to the Delaware Department of Education in 2003 during our last review, the program no longer holds 'approved program' status. Barry Joyce, the program coordinator, presented the revised program requirements and explained that the program is for someone seeking an MA in History who would like to teach. Candidates must gain entry into the MA in History through the regular admission process. Gail Rys expressed concern regarding the overlap of this program and the School of Education's MED in Curriculum and Instruction, Social Studies Concentration. Barry Joyce assured her that the two programs are for two very different kinds of applicants. Those admitted to the MA in History will need to demonstrate a strong content knowledge background. Because Gail Rys needed to leave the meeting, she moved that the item be tabled until the next meeting. The motion was approved.

Conceptual Framework Task Force

Chair Carol Vukelich appointed a Conceptual Framework Task Force. This task force is charged with determining the continued appropriateness of the current conceptual framework and the outcomes. If it remains a viable framework for the unit's programs, then the task force will consider ways to update it. Carol asked Joan DeFattore, as Secondary Education Coordinator; Chris Clark, Director of the School of Education; Penny Deiner, Chair of Individual and Family Studies, and Janet Smith, Dean's representative from the College of Health and Human Sciences to nominate members for the committee. To date the following faculty have been appointed: Dena Deglau (HPE) and Nancy Brickhouse (SOE). The task force will be chaired by Patricia Scott. The task force will meet this fall, beginning with the task of gathering data to determine how the conceptual framework is being used. The task force will report its findings no later than March 2006. This will allow Trish time to adjust the Unit Assessment System, if such an adjustment is needed.

UCTE adjourned at 4:00 pm.