

University Council on Teacher Education  
Minutes for May 28, 2014  
10:00-12:00  
200 Academy Street

**Members Present:** Janice Bibik, Michelle Cirillo, Ralph Ferretti, Laura Glass, Barry Joyce, Lynn Okagaki, Cynthia Paris, Barbara VanDornick, Carol Vukelich, Linda Zankowsky

**Member Excused:** Gemelle John, Matthew Kinservik, Kate Scantlebury

**Guest Present:** Tasha Cannon

The April minutes were approved as distributed.

**Old Business**

**I. *DOE “Join Delaware Schools” (Tasha Cannon)***

This is a statewide system that allows applicants to submit one application for multiple positions in multiple districts. Currently, 16 out of 19 districts (and most charter schools) are using the system. By July 2015, all districts and charter schools are required to use the system. At the Department of Education, only the HR unit has access to the system. Council members expressed concern regarding the tracking of candidates who apply. Ms. Cannon indicated that the Department of Education’s focus is on streamlining how applicants apply to teach in Delaware, on getting the “best and brightest” to be in the applicant pool. At the end of 2015, she will examine the data to learn where effective (defined by performance on DPAS II) hires are coming from (e.g., UD, some other in-state university, out-of-state). She will use these data to drive her decisions about where to focus her recruitment efforts. Ms. Cannon is open to feedback on the system; she encourages faculty to send their comments to her.

**New Business**

**I. *Motion to Accept the State of DE SAT/GRE Exemptions for the New Core Academic Skills for Educators Subtests in Reading and Mathematics Effective June 1, 2014 (Barbara VanDornick)***

The Council unanimously approved the above motion. All candidates need to continue to take and pass the writing subtest of the New Core Academic Skills for Educators subtest.

**II. *Stewards of Children Proposal: All teacher education candidates prior to student teaching, must complete the Stewards of Children on-line program (Carol Vukelich)***

Stewards of Children is a child sexual abuse prevention training program. Online training is available for a fee of \$10. While the Council felt that all teacher education candidates should be required to complete some kind of training on this topic, several questions were raised regarding this particular program, primarily because Council

members were unfamiliar with the program. Council members also questioned how the tracking of candidates' completion of the training would be monitored and discussed whether both the face-to-face and online versions would be acceptable. After much discussion, the item was tabled until September. Council members are charged with the task of reviewing the appropriateness of this program for their candidates. Carol will speak with the Employee Relations regarding what training is available on campus, should programs prefer the face-to-face version of the program.

In addition to considering the Steward of Children program, Dean Lynn Okagaki asked Council members to develop a list of inappropriate candidate behaviors. Once defined, then the Council will determine how best to alert candidates of what they need to avoid doing.

**III. Regulation 290 (Carol Vukelich)**

The Delaware Department of Education has volunteered to collaborate with us around the student teacher evaluation work. The initial meeting will be held in June to share ideas. Carol Vukelich will issue a call to all interested professional education faculty to join the discussion.

**IV. Professional Education Conduct System Policies and Procedures (Laura Glass)**

In December, the Council unanimously approved the policies and procedures that the Student Conduct and Dispositions Task Force (Laura Glass, Kate Scantlebury, Cynthia Paris, and Linda Zankowsky) developed. At that time, the Council directed the task force to work over the spring semester to clarify aspects of the policies and procedures and to revise UCTE's disposition policy and the items assessed. After reviewing the revised document, the Council felt that the procedures needed reconsideration. Some candidate indiscretions are best left to the Office of Student Conduct; others are best left to program faculty to address. The Council asked Laura Glass to obtain definitions of the **behaviors** Office of Student charge codes that the Task Force suggested as candidate indiscretions to be addressed by the proposed procedures. In general, the Council believed that only those indiscretions that could result in harm to students (preK-grade 12) should be addressed by removal of a candidate from a field experience. Indiscretions like academic dishonesty, unless the academic dishonesty is linked to field experience classroom performance (e.g., changing a child's performance data, falsifying a lesson plan), should be addressed by each program's policies. UCTE will use the task force document as a starting point. Carol Vukelich will provide a revised document to the Council at its September meeting.

**V. Higher Ed for Higher Standards (Carol Vukelich)**  
Tabled until September.

UCTE adjourned at 12:40 p.m.