

UCTE Minutes for September 12, 2016
1:00-3:00
200 Academy Street, Room 210

Members Present: Nicole Bishoff, Ralph Ferretti, Jill Flynn, Laura Glass, Stephanie Jennis, Hannah Kim, Laurie Palmer, John Pelesko, Kate Scantlebury, Lynn Worden, Carol Vukelich

Members Not Present: Sharon Walpole

Guests Present: Christine Gorowara, Carol Phipps, Alyssa Truskowski

The May 9, 2016 minutes were unanimously approved.

Announcements

1. Welcome new members
 - Nicole Bishoff is the graduate student member and Stephanie Jennis is the undergraduate student member.
 - Jill Flynn and Hannah Kim will represent secondary education and Lynn Worden will represent early childhood education. John Pelesko is now serving as the Dean's designee from the College of Arts and Sciences.
2. Spring 2016 End-of-Term Reports (Christine Gorowara)
 - Christine reviewed the Spring 2016 End-of-Term Report. Of the 1132 teacher candidates, 73% had a 3.0 GPA or higher and 8% had a GPA below 2.5. Fifty-eight percent of the candidates were on the Dean's List. These percentages were similar for candidates from underrepresented groups.
3. SPA recognition update (Christine Gorowara)
 - Fourteen programs submitted SPAs reports in September 2015. Four of the programs received national recognition this past spring based on their initial report and four programs received national recognition this past summer based on their revised report (early childhood education, ETE/middle school science, ETE/special education, and Exceptional Children and Youth – MPCP and 4+1). The remaining six programs will have submitted a revised report by September 15, 2016. Four new SPA reports from foreign language education and school psychology will also be submitted by September 15. Then, only ETE/ESL will need to submit a report in September 2017 after the first cohort graduates.
4. CAEP Advanced program exemptions (Christine Gorowara)
 - CAEP adopted a new version of the Standards for Advanced Programs this past summer. In addition, they released the scope of accreditation for advanced programs. Based on the scope and conversations with CAEP, programs outside of the College of Education and Human Development that focus on content do not fall under CAEP review. Christine will petition CAEP to have four programs excluded from CAEP review because they do not satisfy the conditions for being reviewed by CAEP (e.g., more than 50% of the program's enrollees serve as teachers and/or other school professionals in P-12 schools/districts):

educational technology, HDFS – early childhood development and inclusive education concentration, Ph.D. in education, TESL non-certification track.

5. DDOE EPP Report Workgroup update (Laura Glass and Christine Gorowara)
 - Christine attended the workgroup meeting in May and Laura attended the workgroup meeting in June. The scorecards will be released to the Delaware educator preparation programs (EPPs) soon. The Delaware Department of Education (DDOE) is arranging a meeting with representatives of the EPPs to review the scorecards before they are distributed. The scorecards will become public in late October or early November.
 - Some of the changes to the scorecards based on EPP feedback include adding a metric for the Praxis subject test, replacing the SAT metric with the Praxis Core test, moving the Praxis Core metric to the recruitment domain, and adding a Placement Rate Overall metric that carries a weight of 40% in the Placement domain.
 - We received the data from the new first-year teacher survey. The response rate was 30% for UD. DCTE will disaggregate the data and post them in Sakai for each program.
 - We are concerned with how DDOE will determine the upper and lower bounds for the scores on each metric.

New Business

1. Performance assessment support, bookstore purchase, and vouchers (Alyssa Truszkowski)
 - Taskstream has a partnership with Pearson for the edTPA, enabling it to provide edTPA materials and serve as a platform for submitting the assessment to Pearson.
 - Teacher candidates can purchase the edTPA and PPAT via the bookstore. Beginning in October, the assessments can be billed to financial aid or tuition bills through bookstore purchases. Alyssa will email program coordinators and teacher candidates with specific details about how to purchase at the bookstore if they choose.
 - There are 46 edTPA vouchers available for candidates who have financial need. We have 26 vouchers (\$300 each) from Pearson leftover from last year and 20 new vouchers from DDOE via Pearson that can be distributed as \$100, \$200, or \$300 vouchers. Alyssa will email the candidates who plan to take the edTPA this year and have high financial need to find out who is interested in taking advantage of a voucher. She estimates that everyone who requests a voucher will receive one. The designated recipients of the 20 DDOE/Pearson vouchers are all of the teacher preparation programs at UD, including ARTC. ARTC will receive an amount of vouchers in proportion with all programs.
 - ETS provided UD with 20 PPAT vouchers (\$275). Alyssa will email the candidates who plan to take the PPAT this year and have high financial need to find out who is interested in taking advantage of a voucher. ETS also offers candidates a fee reduction waiver that they can apply for on their website.
 - The Barbara VanDornick scholarship funds are also available for candidates with a 3.0 or higher and demonstrate financial need. Preference is given to candidates from underrepresented groups. The scholarship pays for a performance assessment and the Praxis Subject Assessment(s). The recipients will be selected by the UCTE awards subcommittee based on several criteria, including an essay submitted by the candidate.
2. Delaware Department of Education exception to the performance assessment requirement for fall graduates who student taught prior to July 1 (Laura Glass)

- DDOE is not requiring fall graduates who student taught in the spring to pass a performance assessment, allowing DCTE to give them institutional recommendation for certification. There are seven candidates who meet these conditions. However, UCTE policy states that candidates must pass a performance assessment for institutional recommendation. UCTE agreed to waive this policy for the seven candidates so that they can take advantage of the DDOE exception.
3. Proposed revision to the Child Protection Registry policy to ensure compliance with current state child protection laws (Carol Phipps)
- Candidates currently complete a Child Protection Registry Clearance immediately prior to student teaching.
 - The recent Beau Biden law requires anyone who enters a school or other site with minors to complete a Child Protection Registry Clearance. Therefore, candidates need to complete this clearance before their first placement. Council members did not express an interest in requiring candidates to complete this clearance more than once during their program since no candidate has been listed on the child protection registry since it has been collected.
 - **UCTE unanimously approved the following motion.**
 - Candidates must have a Child Protection Registry Clearance from the Department of Services for Children, Youth and their Families (DSCYF) Office of Child Care Licensing, Criminal History Unit on file in the Office of Clinical Studies before the first day of their field placement.
4. Proposed amendment to the Criminal Background Check policy for candidates who miss the deadline for turning it in and would have their graduation date delayed as a result (Carol Vukelich)
- Carol proposed the following motion in response to situations where candidates do not get their Criminal Background Check (CBC) completed on time and would have to delay their graduation date as a result.
 - Motion: If students do not have their Criminal Background Check (CBC) on file at the Office of Clinical Studies by the first day of the semester and their program coordinators confirm that their expected graduation date would be delayed by at least one semester as a result of not meeting this deadline, then the students must have CBC cleared by the Office of Clinical Studies by the last day of the Add/Drop period. Teacher candidates cannot participate in a field experience until their CBC is cleared by the Office of Clinical Studies; they are responsible for making up missed time in the field. The student's program coordinator must inform the Assistant Director of the Office of Clinical Studies by the first day of the semester about the student using the extended CBC deadline in order for this option to apply.
 - During the 2015-2016 academic year, there were at least five candidates who modified their programs due to not completing the CBC on time. Two of the five candidates switched into a non-education major and three of them delayed their graduation by one semester or one year.
 - Laura learned from General Counsel that this motion would not raise an issue for candidates who modified their program in the past due to not completing the CBC on time; they had to adhere to the policy at the time the missed deadline occurred. She also

learned that granting exceptions to the policy could raise potential grievance claims from candidates who do not receive an exception.

- UCTE reviewed a similar motion in the Spring 2016 semester, which did not pass.
- There was a long discussion about the motion. Some members believe that the consequence of a delayed graduation date for not turning in the CBC on time is too severe a punishment. We are here to mentor the candidates. Other members pointed out that the candidates are adults and would receive similar consequences in the real world (e.g., not get hired).
- A disadvantage of allowing candidates to receive an extension until the end of the add/drop period is that the candidates may end up not getting the CBC completed within the extension period, making them drop their courses, be two weeks behind in their new courses, and possibly not having as many course options as they would have had at the beginning of the semester.
- The Office of Clinical Studies (OCS) sends the candidates eight email reminders about completing the CBC. The initial emails are sent the semester before the CBC expires. The emails direct the candidates to complete the CBC prior to leaving campus for the semester. Program coordinators and instructors are copied on the emails, and they often follow-up with the candidates. OCS provides van transportation to State Police Troop 2 to help the candidates complete the CBC. Everyone thanked Carol Phipps for her effort to help the candidates with this clearance.
- It would be problematic for the motion to be effective immediately because some candidates have dropped their courses as a result of not turning the CBC on time, delaying their graduation, while other candidates have not dropped their courses in anticipation of the UCTE vote on this motion.
- The motion was not approved with 2 “yes” votes and 9 “no” votes.

Item for the next meeting:

1. Proposed revisions to the annual program report template (Christine Gorowara)

Meeting adjourned at 3:02 p.m.