

University Council on Teacher Education
Minutes for May 26, 2020
12:30 – 2:30
Via Zoom

Members Present: Tia Barnes, Suzanne Burton, Gary Henry, Steff Kotch-Jester, Sarah Mallory, Chrystalla Mouza, Krissy Najera, Kristin Nelson, Daniel Pineyro, Tracy Quan, Amy Trauth

Guests: Christine Gorowara, Tory McHugh

The April 28, 2020 minutes were unanimously approved.

Announcements

1. Kappa Delta Pi Report (Tory McHugh)
 - Tory reported that Kappa Delta Pi currently has 130 students with 38 graduating and 48 students were inducted this year. KDP has inducted new board and they are working on recruitment list and fall activities for this next year. For this past year, before virtual learning, they had representative from school districts come and speak to the group, they volunteered for several events. Since virtual learning, they continue to hold monthly meetings and have met with Cindy Holland and myself. They had an activity with Red Clay and Colonial school districts around hiring.
 - Tory announced that she will be holding a Town Hall zoom meeting at 3:00 on Wednesday, May 27th for students who will be graduating this Spring regarding changes regarding certification and institutional recommendation due to Covid-19. Invitation have been sent out to the students and program coordinators.
2. UCTE Award Recipient – DASA (Tory McHugh)
 - Tory announced the recipient of the DASA award is Josefa Costelli. She is an English Education student.

New Business

1. Fall 2020 UCTE Members (Krissy Najera)
 - Krissy explained that the term for certain members has expired so she asked Suzanne Burton and Kristin Nelson to provide two Secondary Education members. Steff Kotch-Jester to provide an undergraduate student and Sarah Mallory and Chrystalla to provide a graduate student representative. Please forward the names of the replacements to Debbie Ziomek.
2. Field Instructor Qualifications (Krissy Najera)
 - Krissy reviewed the Field Instructor Qualifications that the council approved on October 22, 2019. The council was to take the suggested changes to their

departments for feedback. It was also suggested to look at research on the impact of field instructors' qualifications have on pre-service teachers. We found that there is very little large-scale research in this area.

- The following changes were proposed:
 - **CURRENT:** All field instructors must be certified in the discipline(s) they supervise or must have had 5 years of administrative supervising and/or 5 years of teaching the discipline in a P-12 setting within the past 10 years. (Effective Spring 2019)
 - **CHANGE TO:** All field instructors must be certified or have been certified in the discipline(s) they supervise, or must have had 3 years of administrative supervising and/or 3 years of teaching the discipline in a B-12 setting within the past 10 years.
 - **CURRENT:** All program coordinators must provide evidence that any field instructor whose certificate was issued more than seven years ago knows the discipline's current content and instructional strategies. Program coordinators must provide a description of what they have done to ensure that each field instructor is knowledgeable of current content and instructional strategies. (Effective Fall 2014)
 - **CHANGE TO:** All field instructors must provide evidence that they know the discipline's current content and instructional strategies. Options of evidence include current certifications (via updates with DDOE/DEEDS), attendance at mandatory trainings and workshops (at least once per year), teaching methods courses, collaborations with methods faculty.
 - **CURRENT:** University field instructors and clinical educators will participate in mentor training. (Effective January 1, 2015)
 - **ISSUE:** Some field instructor job descriptions include an expectation that field instructors will participate in professional development, while others do not. If this expectation is not in the job description, adjunct field instructors must be paid extra to attend this training. Program coordinators should check job descriptions for their field instructors and include participation in twice yearly professional development/training.
 - **CHANGE TO:** University field instructors and clinical educators will participate in mentor training at least twice per year.
- Suggested to look at "how" the field instruction is done at UD instead of credentials.
- Suggested to create a small task force to look at field supervision and an instrument to provide feedback to teachers.
- Table this discussion until we had a chance to convene the task force this summer to look more closely at field instruction including hiring and funding and even the practices of professional development to create effective field instructors. The task force would then present to UCTE in the fall.
- Suggested to have task force created sooner rather than later. It depends on enrollment in August and would be nice to have something in place before then.

3. DDOE Accreditor Options (Christine Gorowara)

- Christine reviewed the information regarding accreditation options between CAEP and AAQEP. They both have similar vision, mission, and goals. Their standards are similar, but some have difference emphasis. The Delaware

accreditation group, convened by Rob Grey with representatives from UD, Wilmington University, Delaware State, Wesley, and Delaware Tech, has met twice to discuss the process on making this decision and to present questions to both organizations. The two items we are reviewing are 1) general approach and philosophy in the way to support and grow programs and 2) operational goodness

- The accreditation group is just advising DDOE on a recommendation, not making a recommendation.
- As of now accreditation is required. If the group were to suggest no accreditation, they would have to make the case of how we will meet state requirements.
- One point mentioned is that CAEP accreditation does not give us any leverage to request funds or faculty for our program improvements. This would also be true of AAQEP. Both systems were designed to be non-prescriptive with respect to program design.
- Is there any sense that AAQEP will be less bureaucratic and less rigid in the way they go about accreditation? Yes, AAQEP is intentionally less bureaucratic.
- UD should be moving toward designing a database that is focused on outcomes for program improvement.
- UD could do a self-accreditation where we decide what we are going to look at and every 5 years present an overall review and every year we prepare a document that looks at 5 areas with a graphically based report primarily with analysis of quantitative data.
- Can we look at data of an EPP that has used AAQEP for accreditation? Yes, Christine can get that data.
- Next step is to get a meeting together with Dean Henry, Suzanne Burton, Krissy Najera, and Christine Gorowara to discuss options before next committee meeting.

4. Institutional Recommendations (Tory McHugh)

- Tory reviewed the updates on institutional recommendation. Tory will be holding a zoom Town Hall on Wednesday to review these guidelines with Spring 2020 graduates. Keep in mind these guidelines are only for Spring 2020 graduates.
- According to the state's guidance document, we can award Institutional Recommendation independent of assessment. Meaning Spring 2020 graduates can receive IR without having completed the Praxis II or edTPA/PPAT.
- There is a Praxis-at-home option along with testing sites reopening.
- If students are not able to complete a Praxis in regard to certification in Delaware, they will be issued an emergency certification on top of their initial license which will enable them to teach in Delaware. The emergency certification is good for one year.
- As for performance assessment, you do not need a performance assessment to get your initial licensure in the state of Delaware. Students will have four years to complete a performance assessment.
- NJ – waiving performance assessment for those who have met all other requirements.

- NY – issuing a Covid-19 certification which gets applied to their license and will fall off once missing requirements are met
 - PA – no information on any changes
5. In regard to DDOE waiving requirements for Institutional Recommendation, they are requesting IEPs to provide information of activities and initiatives student teachers were engaging in in virtual learning environments. Christine collected data from all programs and submitted to DDOE today and we will share that with all of you shortly. DDOE basically wanted to know how they practiced specific skills.
- All UD Student teachers were able to complete 10 weeks of student teaching, which is the state minimum, either in person or remote instruction.
 - All UD student teachers were observed by a university field instructor a minimum of three times during Spring 2020.
 - 70% of students have completed one full semester of student teaching prior to Spring 2020.
 - Of the skills DDOE listed, most student teachers were able to practice in person and most to continue remotely. The skill that was least able to be practiced was Classroom management.
 - Program coordinators reported there was greater practice in informative assessment, technology skills, and working with student in small groups or one-on-one. They reported some innovations that were used and could be used for future or remote learning. Also, enhancements for social and emotional learning.

Notes from Chat:

- Kristin Nelson would like to participate in such a task force.
- Christine Gorowara - One thought about FI qualifications--maybe think less about pre-req qualifications, and more about UD PD and enculturation after hiring
- Kristin Nelson - And looking at the tools we use to evaluate teachers...
- Amy Trauth - Given Gary's comment about the various methods of hiring field instructors, I wonder if there are common goals or objectives that all FIs pursue regardless of program or college
- Kristina Najera - is anyone interested in speaking with IHEs that have decided against accreditation?
- Kristin Nelson - Is UD general accreditation tied to having national-level accreditation?

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 pm