

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL ON TEACHER EDUCATION

02/09/2010

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The Council on Teacher Education met at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, February 9, 2010, in Room 2444 Buzzard Hall.

Members present: Dr. Binns, Dr. Cavanaugh, Dr. Cloward, Dr. Dale, Dr. Edmonds-Behrend, Dr. Edwards, Dr. Jones, Dr. Lassak, Ms. Lewis, Ms. Moomey, Ms. Schleef, and Dean Jackman

Guests present: Ms. Dailey, Academic Advising and Dr. Poulter, College of Arts and Humanities

Staff present: Ms. Wilson

I. Introduction

Amy Schleef is the new student representative from the Department of Secondary Education and Foundations.

II. Minutes

The minutes from the January 26-28, 2010, electronic meeting were approved.

Electronic meetings were discussed. Dr. Lassak asked for input to see if the Council likes the idea of holding an electronic meeting to approve the minutes from the previous meeting in instances where it is known that the next face-to-face COTE will be cancelled. Dr. Edwards responded that her preference is to just wait until the next face-to-face meeting to approve the minutes. There were no other comments.

(Dr. Binns entered the meeting)

III. NCATE

1. Work on the Institutional Report continues. A draft should be available for the April meeting, followed by a comment period for faculty members to make suggestions for revisions. The final report will be done by early summer.
2. SPA approvals were received for Social Science, Educational Leadership, and Technology. We are still working on responses for Science, Foreign Languages, Health Studies, and Kinesiology and Sports Studies.

IV. Update from the Unit Assessment Committee

1. Patty Poulter gave an update on the Unit Assessment System. We are in the 7th year of the Unit Assessment System and the Unit Assessment Committee is proposing some changes. Dr. Poulter distributed a handout to outline the initial recommendations (**See Attachment A**). The recommendations will be brought forward to COTE for action.

V. Basic Skills Test Discussion

1. Effective with the next testing year, the cut scores for passing the Basic Skills will go up substantially.
2. Beginning with the January 2010 test date, there is a limit of 5 attempts per certification test.
3. A resource sheet is being developed which outlines resources for preparing for the Basic Skills Test. Students will be able to use this information in preparing to take the test. In addition, the plan is to e-mail this sheet to students as we are notified that they failed to help them prepare for their next test date and to reiterate the new policy limiting them to 5 attempts.
4. Beginning with the next testing year, candidates will be able to pool their Basic Skills Test scores. They will only need to retake the test that they did not pass. More information will be coming on this.
5. Certification rules are in place to require a grade of "C" or better in all courses required for completion of an approved teacher certification program and any additional endorsements. We are waiting to learn the effective date.

VI. Executive Director's Report

1. The Illinois State Board of Education is coordinating many different committees to look at elements of teacher certification (ethics, teacher evaluations, principal evaluations, etc).
2. We are waiting to hear from the United States Department of Education about our Total Quality Partnership grant submitted in cooperation with Illinois State University.
3. We are transitioning to C1 LiveText, which has a new look. The course feature will be fully utilized in Fall 2010.
4. The annual State Program Reports have been submitted to the Illinois State Board of Education.

The meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Bonnie Wilson, Recorder

ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING
Tuesday, February 23, 2010
Room 2444 Buzzard Hall, 2-3:30 p.m.

Agenda:
Proposal to revise Unit Assessment System

ATTACHMENT A

Unit Assessment Committee

Initial Charge:

Review the current assessment system for initial and advanced programs with attention to the following questions:

- 1) Are there changes needed to the system as a whole (What data we collect, how much data we collect, when we collect the data, the artifacts from which we are collecting data, etc)?
- 2) Are there changes needed to the current rubrics (content, format, etc)?
- 3) Do we need training for faculty to ensure consistency? If so what should that training include and what should it look like? If not, how does the current process ensure consistency?
- 4) Are there changes needed to the dissemination, reporting, and use of data process? What changes are needed in regard to the feedback loop?

Based on this review, prepare by the close of Spring 2010 (so can be implemented in Fall 2010):

- 1) A report to COTE with proposed revisions (if any) to the assessment system
- 2) Revised Rubrics (if any)
- 3) Training Materials
- 4) Dissemination, Reporting and Use of Data Guidelines

Unit Assessment Committee Membership

Patty Poulter, Chair	Arts & Humanities	ppoulter@eiu.edu
Julie Chadd	CTE	jachadd@eiu.edu
Teresa Freking	SED/EDF	tafreking@eiu.edu
Katie Johnson	SCI (GEO/GEG)	kjohnson4@eiu.edu
Missy Jones	SPE	mlijones2@eiu.edu
Jim Kestner	STG	jlkestner@eiu.edu
Linda Morford	EDL	lmorford@eiu.edu
Linda Reven	ELE	lmreven@eiu.edu
Rick Roberts	CSD	rroberts@eiu.edu
Scott Ronspies	KSS	sronspies@eiu.edu
John Stimac	GEO/GEG	jpstimac@eiu.edu
Chuck Titus	SOS	ctitus@eiu.edu
Doug Bower, ex-officio		djbower@eiu.edu
Pat Fewell, ex-officio		pifewell@eiu.edu

ATTACHMENT A continued

The Unit Assessment Committee makes the following initial recommendations.

Those with an Asterisk need approval from COTE.

- 1) *Recommend to COTE the removal of the two initial **unit content area assessments** (assessed using Content Discipline Specific Rubric) from Unit Assessment System.* The data relative to content should be gathered specific to the discipline. Since all initial programs are nationally recognized this discipline specific assessment data is being collected.
- 2) *Recommend to COTE that, for programs other than ECE, ELE, and SPE, the **Lesson Plan Assessment** be moved to the (or one of the) Departmental Methods courses.
- 3) Recommend to retain the **Letter of Intent** as part of the Admission to Teacher Education process collected in LiveText, however the assignment and assessment be revised. Those students taking their Introduction to Education Course outside of the Major should share their Letter of Intent with the Major Program Coordinator. Work still needs to be done regarding how we will assess the work of students who do not complete the Letter of Intent in a class (primarily transfer students).
- 4) Discussion continued regarding the use of a 3 or 5 point scale. Focus of discussion was around the issue of descriptors on a 5 point scale and the type of scale. Preliminary decision was to keep a 3 pt scale for Advanced Programs and 5 pt scale for Initial Programs. The key is that assessors know what each of the ratings means.
- 5) Continued discussion: should **dispositions rubric be incorporated as a component of each of the unit rubrics as applicable** or as a separate rubric
- 6) Recommended the development of a training system for use of assessment system and rubrics. Where and if possible use samples of student work.
- 7) Dr. Poulter with Dr. Bower and Dr. Fewell will write up a description of the unit system with recommended revisions and how it aligns with practice.
- 8) Dr. Morford, Dr. Bower, and Dr. Roberts will pull graduate program chairs together to discuss descriptors for each of the advanced unit assessments