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University of Northern Iowa Elementary Teacher Education Senate Meeting Minutes, February 4, 2016

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Elementary Teacher Education Senate Meeting
3:30-5:00 Thursday, February 4, 2016
319 CBB
Minutes

I. Welcome and Introductions

Present:

J.D. Cryer (Coordinator), Linda Fitzgerald (Early Childhood Education), Denise Tallakson (Elementary Education), Kim Miller (Special Education), Michelle Swanson (Music Education), Merrilee Betts (Teacher Practitioner), Allison Barness (Clinical Experience-ALT), Chad Christopher (Coordinator, Secondary Teacher Education), Deockki Hong (Physical Education and Health Education), Islam Aly (Art Education), Heather Gallivan (Mathematics Education-ALT), Ben Forsyth (Professional Sequence), Soyhun Meachum (Literacy Education), Lynne Ensworth (Middle Level Education)

Absent:

Katheryn East (Chair, Teacher Education Faculty), Olly Steinhorsdottir (Mathematics Education), Amy Lockhart (Clinical Experiences), DeeDee Heisted (Liberal Arts Core)

Guests:

Rob Boody (Coordinator of Assessment)

II. Approval of January Senate Minutes

Linda moved to approve the minutes and Lynne seconded. Minutes approved.

III. Update on TESI work

- Four drafts of mission and vision ideas have been created
- Provost sent these out to all TEF to review
- Monday, Feb. 8th at 3:30-5:00 p.m. in Maucker Ballrooms time will be spent reacting and responding to these drafts. The goal is to have a collective/shared mission and vision for our overall TEF.

IV. Update on Annual Teacher Education Report

- A survey to investigate current TEF perceptions on the TEP Governance system has been created. The first draft of this survey will be brought to the Teacher Education Executive Council on Monday, Feb 8 2016. Following this, the survey will be finalized and sent out to all TEF.

- V. End of Program Assessment Recommendation Process Reflection
- Since much time and effort went into the decision for what “End of Program Assessment” tool we would use for our TEP, a reflective discussion took place on the process leading up to the vote by the Senates and final decision by the Head of Unit, Provost Jim Wohlpart.
 - Senators felt they had the information necessary to hold discussions with the members of their departments and make a clear representative vote.
 - Some thought the process dragged out a long time and we need to be more efficient in the future. We were waiting a long time for the final vote to happen.
 - There was concern with how long it took to find out what Stanford’s policy would be concerning if we would be able to use the edTPA in a limited fashion or if we chose not to use it at all.
 - There was a wish that we would have had our alternative plan in place for our Performance Assessment by the time we voted. We are now in limbo for quite awhile until the piece is developed.
 - There was still some confusion on the day of the vote as to whether we were going to have a performance assessment at all. Some felt that if we were not going to use edTPA for licensure we wouldn’t have a Performance Assessment.
 - A senator asked if we are still using this edTPA this semester. No, per Rob. They won’t allow us to for copyright issues.
 - Rob stated that there will be a committee set up to start the process for establishing a new Performance Assessment of our TEP. Until that is created we will be using the student teaching evaluations as our performance assessment. We want to have something more unified that is program wide for next fall. Student Teaching Coordinators need to know what to expect before the end of semester. We will get a piece started and developed. There will be 14 people on the committee but if other people want to join they can.
 - J.D. affirmed that the Executive Council was very informed throughout the process and had a strong understanding about the choice being made for the End of Program Assessment tool. The decision by the Provost was not to independently decide which assessment was better, but it was made to validate the overall wishes of the faculty. Since the Elementary Senate voted with such a high degree of support for the Praxis II and the Secondary Senate was split almost evenly between the two assessment options, there was not a strong consensus to make a major change to the TEP.
- VI. Mandatory Reporter of Child Abuse Training Question
- This certification is an employment requirement, not a licensure requirement
 - In the past we had offered a face-to-face training session but only for Mandatory Reporter of Child Abuse, not Dependent Abuse Training.
 - In recent semesters, IPTV offered a free online certification for both Child Abuse Training and Dependent Abuse Training. This was a better option

for our students. Unfortunately, in December, IPTV stopped offering this training.

- Discussion took place on what do we do now?
- The IDOE suggests our students do certification through AEA online for \$25.
- (CFEA) Cedar Falls Educational Association was mentioned for training in fall of first semester of employment for new teachers in the district through the Grant Wood AEA. Could students get this for free?
- Senators would like more information as to other options so students would not have to pay \$25.
- There are other departments on campus that require students to have this training.
- A member mentioned that maybe we could become the online hub for these training options. This would help us with leading and connecting to the needs of the state of Iowa.
- Because this is a campus-wide need, the Executive Council will also talk about this on Monday. Information will be brought back to Senates.

VII. Campus-Wide NOCs

- Member mentioned that there was an education student in an LAC course who showed a low degree of professional dispositions associated with being an educator. The LAC instructor had heard of the NOC system and asked if they should fill out a NOC.
- Discussion took place if the NOC system is something that should be used across campus?
- Should NOCs apply to education students before they are even admitted to TE program?
- Member said NOC is formal way of dealing with dispositions – not a punishment – it is a heads up and a way to create a plan of action in support of the student—so might be a good option for LAC instructors.
- Member is concerned about non-education faculty filing NOCs for education students. Would there be another route for this communication to happen across campus? This seems too big for solely the TEP. Should it include the Office of the Dean of Students?

VIII. ESA Tier Process

- Last year the senates voted to accept ESA's for our TE program.
- In September 2015, UNI Teacher Education Coordinator of Assessment Rob Boody, proposed a new ESA Tiered Process for the Teacher Education Program.
 - Phase 1
 - Submitting group will bring specific proposed ESA before the senates.
 - Senates would deliberate and give Phase 1 approval for group to pilot the ESA and gather data.
 - Phase 2
 - Submitting group will bring back data to the senates

- Senates will deliberate
- Senates will approve the ESA and give the authority for it to be placed into our system the following year.
- Discussion took place in October. Senates decided to table the question until more information was presented.
- Discussion took place in December. Senators decided to table the question again.
- Discussion took place today. There was a fear of a one-size-fits-all approach that would be imposed on all departments. Rob clarified that the senates have say in process and the final authority. The senates don't have to worry about anything being imposed, they are the decision-making bodies. Every program is represented on the Senates so they have a voice. The ESAs would be what faculty believe is best for the entire program. We are talking about things that are program wide at this point.

Michelle moved to accept assessment Committee's recommendation for ESA Tiered Process. Lynne seconded. Motion passed.

IX. Update from Executive Council

- Report on TESI work was given
- Looked at Alumni and Employer survey data
- Update on search process for Barb Hill's replacement
- Charged J.D. to contact the state about beginning the Self-Study Process associated with our accreditation visit in 2017.

X. Chair of Teacher Education Senate

- Need to hold election for new TE Faculty Chair. Katheryn East has served two consecutive terms, and according to the TE Bylaws, she can't serve a third. We need to vote before we leave for the summer in May.

XI. Upcoming Dates (subject to change)

Elementary Senate

March 3 (Joint) CBB Rooms 1 & 3
 April 7 CBB 323
 April 28 CBB 319

Secondary Senate

February 11 CBB 319
 March 3 (Joint) CBB Rooms 1 & 3
 April 14 CBB 319
 May 5 CBB 319