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## University of Northern Iowa Elementary Teacher Education Senate Meeting Minutes, September 5, 2013

University of Northern Iowa. Elementary Teacher Education Senate.

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**Elementary Teacher Education Senate**  
**3:30-5:00 Thursday, September 5, 2013**  
**319 Curris Business Building McCollum Hall**  
**MINUTES**

I. Roll and introductions

**Present:** JD Cryer (Coordinator, Elementary Teacher Education), Sohyun Meacham (Literacy Education), Tony Gabriele (Professional Sequence), Denise Tallakson (Elementary Education), Rip Marston (Physical Education and Health Education), Amy Lockhart (Clinical Experiences), Ellen Neuhaus (Liberal Arts Core), Michelle Swanson (Music Education), Wendy Miller (Art Education), Chad Christopher (Coordinator, Secondary Teacher Education), Katheryn East (Chair, Teacher Education Faculty), Donna Douglas (Middle Level Education-Alt), Linda Fitzgerald (Early Childhood Education)

**Absent:** Kim Miller (Special Education), Jean Schneider (Middle Level Education), Sarah Vander Zanden (Literacy Education)

**Guests:** Becky Hawbaker (Coordinator, Student Field Experiences), Rob Boody (Director of Assessment), Matt Webb (Assistant Professor, Mathematics), Dwight Watson (Dean, College of Education)

II. Approval of minutes for September 5, 2013

Rob Boody moved to approve the minutes and Amy Lockhart seconded. The minutes were approved with one abstention (Donna Douglas).

III. Update on matters arising at the State (Cryer)

a. Chapter 79 Rewrite

i. Chapter 79 is being revised and four work committees are being set up to help with this rewrite:

- a. Chapter 79 Standards
- b. Accreditation Process
- c. Annual Reporting
- d. CAEP Partnerships

ii. Tony Gabrielle asked who is on the working committee. JD indicated that he is on the Accreditation Process committee and Rob Boody is on the Annual Reporting committee. However, UNI does not have representation on the Chapter 79 Standards or CAEP Partnership committees. Tony indicated this was a concern.

b. Praxis I scores

- i. UNI, U of I and ISU have all agreed to use the recommended cut scores from ETS this year. Because of the change in test to the Praxis CORE Academic Skills for Educators (Praxis Core) test, we will be having a cut score of 156 in reading, 162 in writing and 150 in mathematics. Currently, there is not a total score/composite requirement. Since we don't have any data about the Praxis CORE test, we don't know if the scores are too easy or too hard at this point. We will keep track this year. Wendy asked if this started this semester (Fall 2013). JD said this will start in January 2014. Students this semester won't have a change. However, if another institution offers the new Praxis now students could take it.

c. Year Long Student Teaching Pilot Request for Application

- i. This summer the state issued a "Request for Application" for a Year-Long Student Teaching Pilot. This is in accordance with House File 215. In July, Chad Christopher, Dr. Watson and JD Cryer went to Des Moines to be learn more about this pilot and application process. The information that was presented stated:

HF 215, recently passed and signed into law, authorizes a year-long student teaching pilot. It states we can run a pilot with one regent's institution and one private. It authorizes one million dollars to pay for the pilot. It also authorizes DE staff to help collaborate with IHE's in developing and operating the pilot.

The pilot requires a cohort of students be placed in one or more P-12 schools for an entire year, and that the prep program offer instruction in that P-12 school. There needs to be a mix of student teaching and coursework over the course of the year. Supervision must also take place in the P-12 school.

The 2013-2014 academic year will serve as a planning year. The pilot will need to run through the 2014-2015 academic year. Evaluative data will need to be collected and reported.

Applications will be accepted and the two programs chosen in early fall, 2013. We are developing criteria to select programs now. At a minimum, programs submitting applications will need to talk about:

1. Capacity to carry out the work of the pilot.
  2. Extent of partnership with local district/school to include documented agreement of district/school administrator(s).
  3. Budget.
  4. Curriculum plans for on-site instruction to include alignment with institutions' current curriculum.
  5. Plans for evaluation effectiveness of pilot on student teacher growth in learning and preparedness for teaching.
- ii. As the preeminent Teacher Preparation institution in the state, there is interest in applying for this pilot.
  - iii. All TEF were invited to an informational meeting about this pilot. After this meeting, a working group was established to begin thinking through the "Guiding Questions" sent from the state. This group will be writing a draft for the application. Once this draft is complete, they will send it out to TEF for feedback and thoughts.
  - iv. The application for contract is due December 2, 2013.
  - v. Members of the working group are: Rob Boody, J.D. Cryer, Wendy Miller, Katheryn East, Chad Christopher, Lyn Countryman, Becky Hawbaker, Lynne Ensworth, Dianna Briggs, Hilliery Oberlie, and Christie Twait.
  - vi. Questions were asked if this would be manageable, sustainable, and scalable?
  - vii. Michelle asked what makes this better than a semester long student teaching approach? We haven't identified deficiencies. Rob said there is a political movement to do this. Dean Watson indicated that in his view we would rather be a part of the option to review this pilot/approach rather than being forced into this by the state. We would get money to do the implementation and give the state feedback. Becky said it is an opportunity to explore without committing to this structure up front. Tony is concerned about spending the energies there verses other initiatives in TE. Michelle asked at what time would the pilot start. Per JD it would start in the fall of 2014. The question was posed as to who would be involved and if there would be a cohort. JD said these are the questions the working group is looking at, and hopes to answer in the written documents.

IV. Update on Teacher Education Executive Council (Cryer)

- a. Hiring of Chad Christopher as the Coordinator for Secondary Education.
- b. Background Check Policy
  - i. Based on information from PreK-12 grade school districts, we needed to update and revise our previous Background Check policy before the start of the school year.
  - ii. Over the summer the UNI Teacher Education Student Self Reporting of Alleged Criminal Misconduct Policy was developed. This policy was vetted through Tim McKenna and the Teacher Education Executive Council.
  - iii. The policy has been placed on the TE Website and added to the UNI Teacher Education application process.
  - iv. Students still complete the SING and/or DHS fingerprinting as before. If any information is flagged by the state, the results will be sent back to the coordinators of the TE Program and the students will need to meet with coordinators and/or Teacher Candidate Performance Review Committee (TCPRC)
  - v. If a student has a criminal violation anytime after their SING background check, the student has an obligation to self-report. The coordinators would receive this self-reporting letter and with consultation from others, decide to meet with the student or call a meeting of either an Elementary or Secondary TCRPC.
  - vi. A question was posed as to how faculty and students will know about this change in policy?. Linda F. said someone needs to follow up on students regarding the self-reporting. They need to be notified that they need to follow this process. JD said when students fill out the new application they will indicate that they have read the policy and agree to its procedures. However, for students already in the program, we will have to find a way to notify them. Linda F. mentioned Level III for early childhood and having them do this again. What do we need to do in this case? Becky said faculty will get many questions and need to be prepared.
  - vii. The complete policy is on our Teacher Ed. web page ([www.uni.edu/teachered/](http://www.uni.edu/teachered/)).

V. Old Business

a. Teacher Education By-Laws

- i. It is time to amend the Teacher Education By-Laws. These by-laws were distributed to the senators before the meeting.

When discussion around revising the by-laws were brought up, Michelle said that the by-laws indicate that two representatives from both the Elementary and Secondary Senates are required for the Teacher Education Faculty Committee and the Teacher Education Program Assessment Committee. Linda F. moved to have one rep. and Tony G. seconded. However, before this motion could be passed the possible amendment to the by-laws needs to go before the Secondary Senate and then, according to the by-laws go out to the TEF at least 10 days before the next Senate meeting and voting opportunity. Because of this, the motion was tabled until the next Elementary Senate meeting.

In addition to this proposed change to the by-laws another area was brought to attention. According to Matt Webb, the Mathematics department would like to have representation on the Elementary Senate. Again, this proposed amendment to the by-laws will be sent to the TEF for discussion. A vote will be taken at our next meeting in October.

## VI. New Business

### a. edTPA informational update – Rob

- i. It is imperative that people sign up for the edTPA trainings being offered.
- ii. We will have 112 edTPA/s to evaluate this fall: 3 ECE, 19 ECE/EI Ed., 38 EI Ed, 4 PE, 7 Music and 1 Health and others at the Secondary Level.
- iii. Training dates are being offered the last week in September and the first two weeks in October. Rob asked everyone to talk with their departments to encourage all to get involved.
- iv. Questions arose regarding the edTPA scoring and ramifications on faculty in terms of load, duties, etc. The charge to answer these questions was given to the TE Assessment Committee.

### b. Praxis II Data

- i. Rob gave out overall Praxis II Content and PLT Scores from 2012-2013.
- ii. J.D. will send individual student scores to each department and appropriate senator. J.D. asked each senator to:
  - a. Meet with their Department Head and talk about the data together.

- b. Discuss with faculty what they see from the data.
  - c. Create a plan regarding what changes or improvements will need to be put in place to address the data.
  - d. Finally, in November, J.D. will meet with each senator and their Department Head to talk about the plan.
- c. Recommendations for Student Advisory Board
- i. A request was made to provide the names of possible students who could serve on this important Teacher Education board.
  - ii. This board represents the interests of undergraduate teaching majors at UNI and serves as a conduit for information between the students and the Teacher Education Senates. Members are appointed by the Coordinators with the recommendation of the Senates and individual programs. The student must be fully admitted to Teacher Ed. at the time their term of service begins and be enrolled and in good standing with the UNI Teacher Education Program for the duration of their terms. They may serve until graduation from the UNI TE program. (See handout for full explanation)
- d. New INSTASC Standards
- i. J.D. passed out information related to the new INTASC Standards. He encouraged each senator to discuss these new INTASC Standards at their next department meeting. A charge from the State to align all aspects of our program to the new INTASC Standards as they combine with the Chapter 79 standards is anticipated. We will need to start looking at how to accomplish this alignment.

Linda F. moved to adjourn meeting and Wendy Miller seconded.  
Meeting adjourned at 5:10

VII. Upcoming dates (subject to change)

**Fall Teacher Education Induction Convocation November, 4 GBPAC, 4:00 pm**

<b>Elementary Senate</b>	<b>Secondary Senate</b>
November 7	October 10
December 5	November 21
	December 19

