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University of Northern Iowa Secondary Teacher Education Senate Meeting Minutes, April 19, 2012

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Secondary Teacher Education Senate Minutes
Thursday April. 19, 2012
3:30
Curris Business Building 319

I. Roll and Introductions

Present: Cherin Lee (Coordinator, Secondary Teacher Education), Terri Lasswell (Clinical Experiences), Dianna Briggs (Business Education), Larry Escalada (Science Education), Chris Curran (Special Education), Barb Bakker (Physical Education/Health Education), Becky Hawbaker (Teacher Education Faculty Chair), Chad Christopher (Social Sciences), Karen Sabey (Asst. Professor, Mathematics), Ben Forsyth (Professional Sequence), Rick Vanderwall (English Education), Kevin Droe (Music Education), Andrew McCormick (Art Education), Elizabeth Zwanziger (Modern Languages & TESOL-Alt)

Absent: Melissa Heston (Coordinator, Elementary Teacher Education), Katherine Lavelle (Speech & Theatre Education), Doug Hotek (Technology Education)

II. Approval of March 22 minutes

Dianna Briggs moved and Andrew McCormick seconded to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved.

III. Old business

- Updates: Status of curriculum exhibit approvals - improved to 60!
There are a total of 73 exhibits for approval. Since last month the total moved from 35 approved to 60.
- Report from Executive Council Meeting of April 10

The Executive Council discussed the Clearinghouse process on redeployment of PLS faculty and leadership positions in TE. Barry Wilson is retiring and an internal search will be needed to hire a new Director of Assessment. Dianna Briggs will be stepping down as Director of the Office of Student Field Experiences. Melissa Heston is on a semester-by-semester basis. The R&D model will be discussed at the next meeting on Monday, April 23.
- University Strategic Plan Goals, Strategies, Tactics, and Indicators

This is year two of the Strategic plan. The baseline is 2009-2010. Cherin is working with Sharon Silva on Goal 3 items. Part of this goal includes the change in governance structure. In addition, Action plan indicators for #16 and #25 deal with making teacher preparation campus wide. Cherin will share the tables with anyone that is curious about the process. Becky Hawbaker and Dianna Briggs are also on the list of Point people and have completed their indicators.

- State and Federal legislation

The U.S. Dept. of Education is having a discussion about TEACH grants and their fate is still undetermined at this point. The proposal on the table now is to limit TEACH grants to schools who are at a level of excellence determined by rating the teaching preparation schools based on the scores obtained by the students of their teacher education graduates.

Cherin Lee, Melissa Heston, Becky Hawbaker, Dianna Briggs, Nadene Davidson, Chad Christopher and Lynne Ensworth are on the Field Experience Transition Team. This team has been expanded by adding Cedar Falls and Waterloo central administrators, principals, and teachers who are site coordinators. They met last week and will meet again tomorrow at 7:00 a.m. They will discuss scheduling Level II.

As of April 18 there are 162 students registered for Level II, noticeably less than the usual 300. Becky has heard that some advisors are advising students not to take Level II in the fall. The schools were asked to plan for 300 since that is what we had for Level II last year and the year before. There are two 8-week blocks to register for Level II. The first sections are full and only a few students are registered for the other sections. The comment was that possibly students are selecting the first half semester because that is the first thing they see on the schedule.

Classroom teachers will not be able to take on the same responsibilities that the PLS staff had with Level II. At this point we don't know how many people will have positions as Field Experience Faculty. The compensation issue for Level II mentor teachers is being addressed. One superintendent has promised compensation to Level II mentor teachers. This may lead to other cooperating teachers who have not been compensated expecting payment.

Commented [db1]: They're not currently paid so this wouldn't be an increase.

There was an inquiry about the ramifications of the influx of Level II students into Cedar Falls and Waterloo on Level III students' placements. Most likely 1/3 to 1/2 of students currently do Level III experience outside of the CedarFalls/Waterloo area. The English program will move to a full week immersion experience the week before Thanksgiving break in order to schedule Level III outside of Cedar Falls and Waterloo. Chad Christopher will also be doing an immersive experience.

Dianna noted that it is important that UNI methods faculty communicate with the Student Teaching Coordinators in locations such as Cedar Rapids, Sioux City, Des Moines, etc. They need to be notified that there are methods students in their area. There currently aren't any procedures in place to keep coordinators in the loop so that is something that needs to be addressed.

The question was posed as to who observes the Level III students and the answer is that the cooperating teachers do. Cherin noted that there needs to be more discussion about Level III, possibly of multiple models as there is more of an impact for Level III than first thought.

IV. New Business

- Teacher Education Faculty Chair

The Chair is required to serve a two-year term, attend both Teacher Education Senate meetings, attend Executive Council meetings, MC the Teacher Education Convocation, and organize one meeting of the Teacher Education Faculty per year. The election is next week and there are no nominations. Cherin and Melissa will contact Senate members for nominations. According to the Bylaws the election needs to take place in the spring of even numbered years. It was suggested that Price Lab Faculty may be interested but given the current situation their future location is unknown; possibly the election could be postponed.

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- Selection of Senate members - Terms ending in May with alternates in (): Dianna Briggs (none), Karen Sabey (Elizabeth Hughes), Larry Escalada (Kyle Gray), Tammy Gregersen (John Balong), Kevin Droe (Theresa Camilli)

The amended Bylaws section on Senate member selection is not yet set. Cherin asked the Senate their preference on selecting Senate members. Do we want an election and who should vote? Should this be left up to the program/Dept.? Rick suggested that the Bylaws allow for each program to set up the voting the way they want it to be.

It was decided that Secondary Senate members will be decided by the respective programs.

- Professional development on using the UNITED system and advising tips for Teacher Ed.

Cherin is willing to conduct a session on how to use the UNITED System, review the NOC filing process and give guidelines on when an NOC should be filed. Cherin asked if a class the 2nd week in May would be a good start and then have a broader class in the fall. The initial session could be 1-1/2 hours. The Advisement Report would also be discussed.

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Senate members noted that an orientation/guidebook for Teacher Ed. Faculty is needed. In the near future Melissa and Cherin will work with the Teacher Education Faculty Committee with regards to orientation and professional development work.

- Interpretation regarding reading instruction/reading recovery as part of the curriculum for all students getting a PK-8 endorsement in any area, and content area reading instruction for all 5-12 endorsements:
 - P/K-8 and/or 5-12: Music, Art, PE, Health
 - Secondary: Science, Math, and Social Sciences
 - Foreign Language AND TESOL
 - Special Education

The issue seems to have become less salient. The BOEE has approved most of our exhibits, including ones that weren't being approved because of the missing reading content; small changes seemed to address their concerns. However, if you changed your major in the new catalog there will need to be a change in the endorsement with the BOEE and this issue may come up again.

Do we want to create a permanent solution? Cherin asked the Senate what kinds of solutions interest them.

The Department of Languages and Literatures is interested in offering a literacy course. The problem centers around a 1 credit course as there isn't any load credit in their department for teaching it. Cherin offered that three sections equal three credit hours which might qualify for load. The Executive Council should be approached to ask for their support to determine if this is an option or could be required. One suggestion was to reshape the Professional Sequence in Secondary to include the following: Reading/Content for one half of a semester course and Classroom Management for the other half. It was also suggested that this should be included as a topic of discussion as we redesign the Teacher Ed. Program as students are getting jobs in school districts and they are not prepared in this area.

- Possible curriculum changes to be initiated in the Fall 2012 semester (Discussion)

We need to start thinking about possible curriculum changes now. There is a proposal to move Level I Exploring Teaching from the Dept. of Ed. Psych and Foundations to the Dept. of Teaching. Cherin asked about the status of Level II Field Experience. Ben noted that there will be a meeting next Wed. to discuss employment issues and the topic of moving EDPSYCH 2017 Exploring Teaching and EDPSYCH 3128 Teacher as a Change Agent.

Senators discussed what to say publicly as the Senate needs to have a voice in this. This topic is a piece of the larger re-design issue within Teacher Education. We need to base the decision on what is best for students and Teacher Education. Should the Senate send suggestions to Ed. Psych and Foundations based upon what is best for the students and the program as a whole? This should go to the Executive Council as well.

The following motion was moved by Rick Vanderwall, seconded by Chris Curran and passed with one abstention. The Coordinator of Secondary Education was directed to send this to the Department of Educational Psychology and Foundations.

The Secondary Senate recommends to the Department of Educational Psychology and Foundations and to the Teacher Education Executive Council that as the Department deliberates on how it will vote on the departmental location of Level I field experience, EDPSYCH 2017, and Level II field experience, EDPSYCH 3128, it will consider what is best for UNI teacher education students and for the entirety of the Teacher Preparation program. We would specifically like you to take into consideration the following:

- Contiguous information about and data flow in these field experiences
- The fidelity and continuity in field experiences
- The department affiliation of Field Experience Faculty teaching the courses (with regard to your departmental position requirements)
- Recommendations regarding processes for redesigning the Teacher Education Program (e.g. work of the Senates or ad hoc committees, separate planning groups for Elementary TE and Secondary/K-12 TE, etc.)

The original name of Dream Team was proposed; Cherin suggested renaming it to the Transformation Team. The Elementary Senate suggested two teams comprised of both the Elementary and Secondary Senates that would focus on restructuring programs. They would look at comparable school programs in size to UNI, what they do for field experience and gather data from other exemplary programs. There should be 5-7 people per team. It is possible that we could request support from the Provost for “restructuring” as she has offered that to programs that were on the “restructure” list.

Dean Haack, College of Humanities, Arts and Sciences will attend the Joint Senate meeting and Brenda Bass will be invited to attend as next year’s Interim Dean of the College of Social and Behavioral Sciences (Phil Mauceri will be leaving UNI).

Upcoming Dates

Apr. 23*	Executive Council Meeting	8:00	SRL 119
May 3	Joint Teacher Education Senates	3:30	Oak Room, Maucker Union

*Indicates a closed meeting