

Teacher Education Advisory Committee (TEAC) Meeting

Thursday, May 11, 2023, at 2:30-3:30pm

Committee Members in Attendance: **D. Armitage**, (Director of Clinical Collaborations, School of Education), **M. Berci** (Faculty, SOE), **M. Borowski** (Senior Academic Advisor, Science, Letters, and Society), **D. Brescia**, (Director of Program Administration, SOE), **R. Carlo**, (Faculty, English Department) **D. DeSimone** (Chair of Educational Studies, SOE), **M. Dooley** (Faculty, Chemistry Department), **O. Goner**, (Faculty, Sociology & Anthropology Department), **B. Joiner**, (Interim Dean of Education, SOE), **A. Kuklov**, (Faculty, Physics Department), **W. Li** (Faculty, Mathematics Department), **F. Peetz** (Faculty, Biology Department), **R. Peetz** (Associate Provost), **R. Rosen** (Faculty, World Languages Department), **C. Shew** (Faculty, Chemistry Department), **F. Someki** (Director of Assessment & Faculty, SOE), **S. Takacs** (Dean, Division of Humanities & Social Sciences), **N. Tournaki** (Special Education Coordinator, Faculty, SOE)

Attendees: A. Adamo (American Sign Language Interpreter), Cathy (American Sign Language Interpreter), J. German, E. Gul, J. Pignatano (SOE)

Dean Joiner welcomed everyone and expressed his appreciation for everyone's participation. He noted this Committee has not met for the past 2-3 years due to COVID.

Dean Joiner opened by stating the purpose of the TEAC Committee: "In the School of Education, we realize – our accreditors recognize, and the higher education community realize that the preparation of teachers needs to be a collaborative process to be effective. We cannot prepare competent teachers in a silo. Our accreditors expect us to show that our teacher preparation program reflects an institutional wide commitment. We need to show that our college is invested in and supports the preparation of teachers. We show this commitment through this Committee. The Committee is also a vehicle for us to solicit from you and what we need to train teachers better. In addition to soliciting input from you, we also get input from the field – practicing professionals, new and experienced teachers and administrators. We also consult literature and rely upon research to inform what we do and get some sense of best practices. Please know your work with us is essential, valued, and appreciated."

Dean Joiner welcomed questions from the Committee about their role or expectations. Dr. Joiner expressed his interest in hearing everyone's feedback. Dean Joiner also expressed his appreciation to the Dean of Humanities and Science & Technology for allowing the members to join this Committee.

Ms. Brescia began by speaking about our various programs. She explained that some are provided solely by the School of Education, but many are in conjunction with the other departments.

Dean Joiner explained that next year we will have a group reviewing our teacher preparation program for the purpose of accreditation.

Prof. Someki spoke about the accreditation process. She explained that accreditation requires each of our programs to submit. We need to show how we train future teacher educators. Prof. Someki continued to explain that we also submit SPA reports – these are individual requirements for each individual discipline. She acknowledged that she has been working with many of the departments already and thanked everyone for their help with this process and may still reach out for continued support.

Discussion ensued on SPA reports, CAEP, student content knowledge and pedagogy. This is why it is so important to collaborate with each department. Prof. Someki announced we have a CAEP visit scheduled in spring of 2024. Prof. Someki thanked all the departments for providing us with the information we need and forewarned we may still reach out for more information.

Prof. Someki discussed the Content Specialty Exam results. These exams measure the student's content knowledge. Some students struggle with these exams. We report the Pass grades. Science, Letters & Society (SLS) has been discussing these results and we feel in a joint effort we can help students be better prepared.

Prof. Someki explained that we must report what is covered in these courses; "we need more in depth of what is covered in the class". Prof. Someki urged everyone to keep her updated on any revisions in the courses because it is extremely helpful to have this information.

Prof. Someki briefly discussed our transition to Anthology from Tk20 for the purpose of data collection.

Discussion ensued on the history of TEAC. Prof. DeSimone added that TEAC has been in existence for around 40 years. Many of the changes that happen in the SLS program came from conversations in this Committee. "It has led the way to improve what we do". Prof. Berci added this Committee is not just for assessment, but about interesting projects. Some colleagues got to see what was going on in the classroom. "Those things can be fun and informative".

Prof. Kuklov added he has been a long-standing Committee member as well as Prof. Peetz. Prof. Peetz added that he knows many of the colleagues on this Committee and attests that they all care deeply about their work and their institution. Acknowledged that the Science and Technology pass rate is a challenge but feels we are prepared to work this out.

Prof. Ozlem commented that it was interesting to hear about assessment and to learn about what students are lacking. She would be interested to see a course list and see in which areas they may be lacking. She commented that it would be interesting to see what they are doing well and not so well. "Maybe it's not what they're taking but what they are not taking".

Prof. Someki added that we would be able to share the Program Plans. They will be posted on Blackboard under "TEAC" for everyone's review.

Dr. Armitage discussed the TPA – Teacher Performance Assessment. Explained how teacher candidates used to submit an edTPA to the State and the end of their program. The State decided they were no longer going to do this and turned it over to the colleges. It was supposed to measure a student's ability to be a good first year teacher. We are now in control of designing this assessment tool. The SOE has developed a basic assessment. Rather than submitting it to the State, students submit it to their supervisor much like a final exam. She explained how students need to write up reflections, create lesson plans, teach it, video tape it, and then reflect. Students need to meet several State standards, including diversity and cultural standards. Students must demonstrate their knowledge of their students. Dr. Armitage said she would be happy to share examples of the student portfolios when they come in and would love feedback.

Dean Takacs added that she is happy to be meeting in this forum and voiced her commitment to working together and looks forward to the future.

Dean Joiner closed the meeting by stating how happy he was to have this opportunity for this discussion and again thanked everyone for their participation.

The Committee will meet again in the fall and urged everyone to reach out to him with any questions.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Joanne German