

COUNCIL ON TEACHER EDUCATION (COTE)

March 21, 2001
3:30 - 5:15 p.m.
AO 103

AGENDA:

1. Approval of minutes for January 17, 2001 Banta
2. Standards-Based Teacher Education Program (STEP), linked courses in general education, dual degrees Wilcox
3. 21st Century Teacher Project.....Saatkamp
4. Subcommittee on Internal Communications..... Leland
5. State Report Card on Teacher Education..... Wilcox
6. Project 30 Membership
7. Project Seam Wilcox and Banta
8. Post-baccalaureate certificate..... Barman
9. Unit assessment system..... Wilcox

MINUTE SUMMARY:

Members present: R. Ahlgrim, T. Banta, C. Barman, R. Blake, M. Capuano, C. Collier, L. Houser, B. Jackson, E. Jones, J. Kuczkowski, C. Leland, K. Murtadha, R. Osgood, H. Saatkamp, C. Souch, J. Watt, and B. Wilcox

1. Minutes of the January 17th meeting were approved.
2. B. Wilcox reported on progress on the Standards Based Teacher Education Project (**STEP**), the focus of which is to articulate a program of general education for elementary education majors that incorporates the Indiana Professional Standards Board standards, INTASC standards, and IUPUI's Principles for Undergraduate Learning. An important component of the program is to create blocked, or paired, courses (learning communities) that are intentionally linked in terms of content, and which students take together as a group. A 68-hour program has been outlined (see blue sheet enclosed for those not attending the meeting) that incorporates a range of 9-hour "concentration" options. Such options will permit students to pursue a subject in some depth but will require fewer hours than a minor (15-18 hours). A cohort of 75 elementary majors will begin the general education program in Fall 2001.

Wilcox and other School of Education faculty have met with faculty in the Departments of Biology, Chemistry, Speech Communications, Geography, English, Political Science, and Sociology to discuss the content of the concentration areas. Useful modifications of

the original plans have resulted. More meetings are planned with faculty in additional departments for the purpose of developing an even longer list of concentrations.

J. Watt raised the issue of content in the area of mathematics. Will candidates for elementary and middle school positions acquire sufficient depth in math if they don't take courses beyond algebra offered by the math department? PRAXIS scores and other less formal indicators suggest that elementary majors are not developing in their math courses the depth of understanding of mathematics they need to teach math. Improved pedagogy must be developed to enable students to obtain this understanding. The length and range of the ensuing discussion indicated that the concerns about providing pedagogy in college courses that students can emulate once they themselves become teachers are prevalent in other disciplines as well. Wilcox pointed out that the concentrations should provide the basis for understanding the nature of inquiry in given disciplines, but will certainly not convey breadth of knowledge.

Wilcox and others are continuing to explore the possibility of granting **dual degrees** in education and some liberal arts areas. The School of Science already offers a number of dual degrees.

3. C. Barman presented a plan for a **postbaccalaureate certificate** in science that will be implemented with a group of 8-12 students in Summer 2001. Science is the first content area to be offered in this new format because the need for additional science teachers is so great. H. Saatkamp reported that federal Title II funds are available to support pilot postbaccalaureate programs.
4. H. Saatkamp provided an update on Indiana University's 21st Century Teacher Project. In Bloomington the Colleges of Arts & Sciences and Education are committing funds to provide salary supplements for faculty and high school teachers to work in teams to integrate curricular content in core disciplines. President Brand has been asked to commit \$1.1 million to this effort. At IUPUI Saatkamp and Wilcox have asked Chancellor Bepko for funds to support full-time lecturers who can help to strengthen connections among the Schools of Education, Liberal Arts, and Science.
5. Saatkamp reported that the 21st Century Teacher Project has joined the national Project 30 organization and is exploring the possibility that a single (\$475) membership will include all of Indiana University. IUPUI will await this decision before attempting to join Project 30.
6. Council members discussed the various projects that are attempting to bring university and P-12 teachers together for dialogue concerning curriculum and pedagogy. These include STEP and the 21st Century Teacher Project as well as **Project Seam** and new school "transformation" grants being offered by the Lilly Endowment. All of these projects have the potential to involve the same limited number of Liberal Arts and Science faculty members. The difficulties posed by the prohibition on involvement of School of Education faculty in Project Seam were noted.

7. C. Leland reported on the work of the **Subcommittee on Internal Communications**. (A summary sheet is enclosed for those not present.) Council members discussed a variety of methods for keeping advisors in University College as well as other schools informed of changes in the teacher education program as they occur. The consensus reached was that new channels of communication are not needed, but existing channels should be used more frequently to disseminate more focused announcements.
8. L. Houser distributed preliminary information from the federally mandated State Report Card on Teacher Education. The critical statistic to note is that while 90 percent of IUPUI test takers passed all the tests, 92 percent was the corresponding statewide rate. Houser reminded the group that the students taking the exams this year were not subject to the new requirements for entry to teacher education. In future years test takers from IUPUI should be better prepared for the tests. Houser asked that the preliminary reports she had distributed be treated confidentially because not all the figures had been verified.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: May 9th at 3:00 p.m. in AO 103