Committee on Teacher Education
Minutes
March 31, 2004


Review of Minutes: Approved.

Update on Standards Research: Terry Mason provided an update on the standards research. Eight proposals have been received. Thomas Brush, Terry Mason, Frank Lester and Ellen Brantlinger have agreed to serve on the Selection Committee.

Update on the Teacher Education Graduate Survey: Terry Mason reported that he had just received a revised version of the survey from Jonathan Plucker. He regretted that he had been unable to review the new information. More information on this topic will be presented at the April meeting.

Proposal for Modifications to the Journalism Education Program: Jack Dvorak
Jack Dvorak explained that the Journalism Education program has proposed changes to keep their program aligned the many changes taking place within the School of Education. He explained that there were no changes in staffing needs associated with the changes. When asked about field placements, Jack stated that the program already did an excellent job of finding placements for their students. Diana Lambdin and Thomas Brush requested assistance from Tim Niggle in cases where the journalism students would need to take content literacy courses and W301. Lynne Boyle-Baise motioned to approve program changes, motion carried.

Revised Proposal for Modification to the Secondary Science Education Program: Terry Mason for Troy Sadler
Terry Mason introduced the item by apologizing for Troy Sadler who was unable to be present. The intent of the revision is to reduce the number of science content courses students must take and ease the possibility of a four-year graduation track. Troy also noted that Troy had consulted with COAS professors in determining ways to reduce the science courses in a rational manner. Tim Niggle explained that 13 credits, including some history/philosophy of science had been cut. Lynne Boyle-Baise motioned to approve this change for science education. Motion carried.

Proposal for Modifications to the Music Education Masters Certification Program: Lissa May and Brent Gault
Lissa May introduced the item by stating that this is an entirely new degree. Rather than merely updating the MAT, they decided to redesign the degree to include more graduate
courses and have fewer courses shared with undergraduates. These changes were largely based on feedback from past students. The only staffing question is for the course: “The Practice of Teaching” but the department plans to share that on a rotating basis. David Estell questioned whether Adolescent Psychology was the most appropriate course for the program. It was agreed that P515 would be more appropriate. Tim Niggle motioned to approve the new Music Education graduate certification program. Motion carried.

Changes in Course Numbers in the Health Education and Physical Education Cognates: Keith Chapin
At the December 9, 2003 CTE meeting, the Committee on Teacher Education approved the health and physical education cognates. At that time, both of the “new” cognates included EDUC M314/M303 as required courses, a course being phased out in the School of Education. The Health Education cognate requests that HPER courses H352/H353 replace EDUC M314/M303 and that HPER physical education cognate P314/P303 replace EDUC M314/M303. Terry Mason underscored that this was a simple change in numbers and not a program change, per se. Motion to approve the course numbers carried.

Applied Health Science Curriculum Approval: David Lohrman
David Lohrman provided an overview of recent changes to the Applied Health program and introduced the new health methods – field experience courses which would replace M314/M303 and M458/M403. In terms of staff, the program has always coordinated placements with Joanna Evans but they have also assigned a lecturer to go out and find placements. It is an increased burden, but the program has found ways to deal with it. Terry Mason noted that this is linked with the changes already approved by this committee. Keith Chapin stated that, as a colleague, he found these courses to be outstanding and reflected good practice in the field of health education. Lynne Boyle-Baise motioned to approve these courses as well. The changes are H354 to replace M314, H353 to replace M303, H452 to replace M458 and H454 to replace M403. Motion carries.

Discussion: Individual Program Assessment Plans/Reports: Jill Shedd
Jill Shedd introduced the item by explaining that this is a component of our unit assessment; that programs provide regular updates of their programs. CTE decided to put program reviews on a three year cycle. The programs will provide the CTE with a status report on their internal workings and provide the programs a chance to consider how things are going and what they are learning. Jesse Goodman suggested sending out a questionnaire or guideline of the kinds of things the CTE would like to hear and suggested that this also be an opportunity for celebrating program strengths as well as looking for improvements. Thomas Brush suggested making this more of a reflective process and less paperwork/data collection. Diana Lambdin voiced that many of the programs already reflect on program changes and take the initiative to bring those changes before this committee and proposed making the process very specific. Lynne Boyle-Baise asked if there were any funds available to assist with the documentation and reporting. Diana replied that limited GA support from OTE could perhaps be provided.
Lynne Boyle-Baise and Jesse Goodman emphasized that it would be important to bring classroom teachers into the conversation and that there should be more ways to respect the cooperating teachers. Lynne Boyle-Baise questioned the ability to bring teachers to the table without offering them rewards for their efforts.

Terry Mason explained that the Dean had emailed him for assessment plans and seemed to assume that every program was reporting every year. Diana, Jill and Terry plan to meet with him. The Dean is wondering how our internal UAS documentation might relate to an upcoming large-scale national survey on teacher education. Terry expressed doubt that the evaluative process that we are discussing would meet the needs of the looming issue of a large-scale scientific study. Diana expressed that we could all recognize the mood in the country and that the Dean reacts, rightly so, to the data-driven movement. She offered the assistance of the OTE to the programs in this process.

Report from Admissions Committee: Terry Mason
Terry Mason stated the Task Force on Teacher Education Admissions had met to discuss current teacher education admissions and to consider the adoption of a one-step process. The task force is comprised of David Flinders, Dave Kinman, Don Warren, Jill Shedd, Terry Mason and Diana Lambdin. The following recommendations were made: all teacher education programs should adopt a one-step admissions process and require the following for admission 26 credits specific credits including pre-requisites for the teacher education program, in alignment with COAS general education requirements (also to include intensive and critical reading and oral expression courses and successful completion of the PRAXIS I). Further suggestions were to review the 2.5 GPA requirement which has not been reviewed in ten years and that the CTE should study the development of an educational studies major for non-certification. Tim Niggle suggested that it was still physically possible to implement a one-step admissions process for next year, which the University Division is pushing. After a brief discussion, Tim felt that it sounded as if such a decision were uncomfortable at this time. Terry Mason suggested that we put the idea of moving to a one-step admissions process in the fall on the April agenda.