Committee on Teacher Education
Tuesday, September 3, 2013
10:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.
School of Education, Room 2277


I.  Welcome and Introductions (A. Leftwich)
Committee members introduced themselves and briefly shared their professional roles.

II.  Approval of March Minutes (A. Leftwich)
M. Park-Rogers moved to approve the minutes. L. Stachowski seconded. The minutes were approved unanimously with one abstention.

III.  Action Items
A. G352 New Course Proposal (S. Whiston)
This course will be part of the undergraduate minor in counseling. This would be in addition to the already existing courses and concerns career counseling. G352 would be another option for students obtaining this minor. The course covers interest assessment, skills, abilities, and values, and how to work with individuals related to these constructs.

B. Gault moves to accept this course proposal and M. Manifold seconded. This motion was approved unanimously.

B. Educational Studies minor update and proposed changes (R. Kunzman)
Educational Studies has no departmental home making this committee an appropriate place to review changes being considered. The change that is being made to this minor comes from the College of Arts & Sciences’ (COAS) requirement that at least nine hours must be at the 300 or 400 level. This would only be applicable if the student wants the minor transcripted by the College. Several 300 and 400 level classes have been added to broaden choices for students seeking an Educational Studies minor. A. Leftwich stated that W310, Computer-based Methods, can be added to this list. Clarification is needed for the number of 300-400 level courses required for the various Schools (e.g., SPEA, Music, etc.) seeking this minor. R. Kunzman will follow-up on this at the next meeting. M. Park-Rogers stated that Q490, Research in Science Education, can be added to Individualized Research course listing.

D. Danans moved that the proposed changes be accepted for the Educational Studies minor. B. Gault seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

IV.  Information and Discussion
A. Graduate follow-up surveys (R. Kunzman)
The Eduventures survey had a low response rate but the Office of Teacher Education (OTE) survey had a very strong response rate. D. Adomat pointed out that there seems to be a strong need for more classroom management techniques. A. Mobley stated that there will be a need for science teachers and that there seems to be very few graduating. She also noticed that these graduates felt unprepared to work with parents, and this is something schools are encouraging teachers to do. J. Shedd explained that there are more science teachers in the Transition to Teach (T2T) program; that is, students who have science degrees and come back to gain teacher certification. B. Whitaker stated from a primary school view, teaching reading from a scientific standpoint, is something they work on considerably with new teachers over their first few years teaching. D. Adomat replied that many undergraduates are taking the reading addition which will help learning about individualizing reading instruction. B. Gault and M. Manifold would like more specific information as to why students said Technology, Art, Music, and Special Ed, were wastes of time on the survey. M. Park Rogers noticed a few comments in the survey that concerned classroom teachers and their relationship with school support systems and how to integrate these into the classroom more effectively. M. Park Rogers also pointed out that assessment is another weakness. Classroom management skills and parent communication strategies need to be more consistently integrated into teacher education. D. Pillar would be interested in a sampling of students to see if they were taught by faculty, adjuncts, or AI’s and how that correlates to survey scores.

B. Collaborative Student Teaching update (J. Shedd)
All student teachers in MCCSC will be in collaborative classrooms. All cooperating teachers and student teachers participated in the half day training workshop introducing these strategies and to each other, as this is a key component of collaborative teaching. Elementary Council has been discussing ways the collaborative teaching strategies can be emphasized and integrated into the field experiences. These will be introduced this year. Feedback will be forthcoming this year concerning the impact this has on field experiences and student teaching.

C. edTPA updates and connections with M420 (J. Shedd)
This is a teacher performance assessment which was piloted in 2012-13 with volunteer student teachers. The handout includes reflections from both the participating students and the faculty who graded the students’ assessment portfolios. Incorporating lessons learned in the fall, spring student teaching was much improved. This data is being shared with both Secondary and Elementary Education Councils as well. Because of the positive feedback, videotaping students teaching will be piloted in one section of each secondary and elementary Social Studies cluster field experience. Students also positively commented on the structured reflections and how it made them think more deeply about their teaching practices. Continuing our provisional status in edTPA this academic year, we have 16 students piloting for this fall semester. EdTPA requirements have been integrated into the M420 student teaching seminar, which 60-70% of our student teachers are required to take. Validity testing is currently being done to see if edTPA is meeting criteria for validity across the board and this will certainly influence whether or not to participate in this program.

D. Danns moved to adjourn and B. Gault seconded. The motion passed and the meeting was adjourned.