

PTEAC Minutes
April 23, 2009
202E DeVos, 3:00-5:00pm

Members Present: Collins, Cooley, Giardina, Golden, Helzer, Joseph, King, Lancaster, Lubic, Mader, Matthews, McCrea, Topper, Tutt, Van Antwerp

Guests Present: Cascini, Robinson

I. Welcome (Collins)

- Dean Collins thanked the committee for the work done in 08-09.
- The new initial certification program has been approved through governance. The program improvements address many current student concerns.
- The Comprehensive Major is in the governance process.
- The new Elementary Minor will soon be in governance.
- David Coffey (Math) will start a joint CLAS/COE appointment in Fall 2009.
- CLAS representation on PTEAC has increased.
- The COE has received survey results from students and principals and we will spend some time today focusing on how to move forward with the feedback they gave regarding placements.

II. Announcements (Collins)

- Karen Adams, Dean of Education & Human Services at Central Michigan University, passed away earlier this month. Dean Collins will attend her memorial service at CMU on April 30.
- Dean Collins was recently elected president of MACTE (Michigan Association of Colleges for Teacher Education) for 2009-2011. MACTE works on Michigan teacher education policy issues.

III. Principal and Student Views of Teacher Education Program (King) (handout)

Caryn King shared abbreviated findings from the annual survey of current COE students and school administrators. The aim was to understand perceptions in: knowledge of best practice, use of technology in the classroom, understanding diversity and differentiation, and utilizing assessment to guide instruction.

- Students believe they have a well-developed knowledge base for best practice.
- Students would like more assignments that teach them how to apply knowledge from ED 205 (Ed. Technology) to content-specific instruction in classrooms.
- Many students commented about placement issues.
 - (1) Students would like to be able to express a preference for being placed in either lower elementary or upper elementary classrooms for student teaching.
 - PTEAC members agreed that it is in the students' best interest for this not to happen. Many students learn from their placements that they like grade levels that they originally didn't think they would.
 - (2) Students would like placements to be carefully screened (cooperating teachers, technology, philosophy, etc.)
 - PTEAC discussed feasibility of screening process, maintaining good PR with schools, how guidelines and expectations are currently provided to CT's, how and when student feedback about placements and CT's is given to the COE.
 - (3) Students would like placements to be made earlier so that they have the opportunity to meet their CT's before their placement experiences begin (especially for the winter semester).
- Caryn will survey alumni within the next several months also.

IV. Elementary Minor Update (Joseph)

- Jann Joseph met with staff from the Registrar's office about communication of the elem minor to students.

- Jann will talk with CLAS faculty about procedures for communicating course substitutions to the CLAS advising center.
- The CLAS Curriculum Committee voiced concerns about the Elem. Minor and wanted to review the proposal before it went forward to UCC.
- Nancy Giardina is a member of a UCC task force that has been discussing the curriculum proposal review process.
 - The Task Force on Procedures for Establishing New Academic Units or Programs would like PTEAC involvement in the governance process for all new program proposals that affect teacher education.
 - Nancy asked if she could bring a consensus from PTEAC to the task force.
 - Like the check box for the library and IT, a PTEAC check box would need to be checked, showing the proposal was sent to PTEAC for review and input (not for approval). PTEAC could make recommendations to the home college curriculum committee.
 - This process would provide evidence that one college's curriculum committee was given the opportunity to give input to another college's curriculum committee.
 - PTEAC is a recommending body to the COE that functions well the way it is currently structured. It is not a governance committee and a governance committee would need to be chaired by faculty. (Collins)
 - Would this process lengthen the review time? It is important to keep expediency in the review process, especially because of the fact that there are often time pressures from external bodies (like the state). (King)
 - Would it be better to have the check box labeled "other curriculum committee involved" or something similar, rather than "PTEAC?" (Mader) Or PTEAC and other curriculum committees? (Joseph)
 - Is this new process necessary? PTEAC discussion about curriculum proposals already takes place in the current process.
 - Consensus from the group was not reached.

V. Comprehensive Major Update (Joseph)

- The prospectus has been approved.
- A program change now needs to go through governance.
- For the program change, PTEAC needs to discuss what the capstone course should look like. This should be a priority in the first fall meeting.
 - Jann suggested emphasizing application - having students make teaching units that they can use in the classroom. The course can be an integrated content course where students use their knowledge about special education to teach subject areas.
 - Since the course will be taken by students in the Special Ed program, the course should teach them how to teach in general ed classrooms. (Mader)
 - PTEAC needs to discuss the staffing of the course. Team teaching is a possibility.
 - PTEAC should give their recommendation to the CLAS Curriculum Committee early in the fall.
- The CLAS Advising Center is advising students for now to take the courses that overlap.
- The Comprehensive Major will hopefully appear in the Fall 2010 catalog.

VI. PTEAC Meeting Schedule for Fall 2009

Monthly meetings on Thursdays at 3:00 will work well for committee members again next year. Kristy will send an 09-10 schedule to all members via email.