

**University of South Carolina**  
**Committee for Initial Teacher Education Programs (CITEP)**  
**Friday, October 25th, 2013**  
**Wardlaw Room 274-O 1:30-3:00**

**Attendance:** Chris Christle, Zach Kelehear, Allison Jacques, Laura Aboyan, Nina Moreno, Rob Dedmon, Karen Heid, Lynda Nilges, Bruce Field, Emmie May, Christine Lotter, Lara Lomicka, Jeremy Lane, Nathaniel Bryan (Elem & EC), Rachelle Washington (L&L), David Virtue, Katie Wolfe (SpEd), George Roy (ML Math), Bridget Miller (EC), Christie Martin (Elem), Kellah Edens

Introductions: Chris Christle asked everyone to introduce him or herself. Zach Kelehear introduced several new faculty he had asked to sit in on the meeting for them to get an idea of what CITEP does.

1. **Approval of the Minutes - Chris Christle** Dr. Christle called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m. Dr. Field moved to approve the minutes. Dr. Moreno seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.
2. **Old Business**
  - a. Zach Kelehear spoke on the Progress on our CITEP Annual Goals:
    - By April 2014 all syllabi that address curriculum standards in each program will be updated to include CCSS.
      - Dr. Kelehear asked faculty to consider to what extent Common Core State Standards could be included in the curriculum. Dr. Jacques discussed implications for everyone, not just ELA and Math.
    - By April 2014 a coaching teacher training system will be available for use by all teacher education programs.
      - Dr. Christle discussed the creation of a coaching teaching workshop. The committee intends for the workshop to include information about the basics of coaching and also offer practice coaching scenarios. A 3-hour pilot workshop for coaching teachers on a general level will be held on December 7<sup>th</sup>. The committee's intent is that following this workshop, programs would be able to develop more specific workshop for their particular areas. The committee also hopes to offer future workshops discussing how to incorporate training for coaches and supervisors on the new teacher evaluation system. Linda Nigles asked Bruce if his office could offer the ADEPT training the same day as the coaching workshop. He agreed that this would be a good idea. Chris will send out an email to the CITEP membership announcing the workshop so they can send it to interested coaches and supervisors.
    - By April 2014 each program will have completed a SPA report for submission in Fall 2014.
      - Program report submissions must be completed by Fall 2014. Dr. Jacques said that she has met with several programs and is continuing to meet with others about submissions and changing standards. She stressed that it is very important not to wait until the last minute to submit data, so that the data summaries can be produced in a timely manner. Ms. Aboyan said that she has audited each COE program to determine what data are missing. She established deadlines for **submission of old data by November 22<sup>nd</sup>, submission of Fall 2013 data by January 24th, and submission of Spring 2013 data by June**

15<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Virtue asked if spring data needed to be included in the program reports. Dr. Jacques said that if there are enough administrations of each assessment without spring data, they do not need to be included.

### 3. New Business:

#### a. Bruce Field

- TB Tests and Criminal Background Checks
  - Since we have students in schools before student teaching, we should have extra background checks. Richland One already requires additional checks through their internal system. Lexington 1 and Lexington-Richland School District 5 are requiring proof of a negative TB test for everyone in the schools in any capacity, including practica, courses taught in schools, and internships. After conversation with districts, USC must provide proof of a negative TB test and a SLED check for every student who goes into any school for any reason. USC will require students to have the TB test and require students to carry the burden of getting the SLED check. Dr. Field plans to implement this policy beginning in Fall 2014. Students will still need to follow the current process for fingerprinting for student teaching. Dr. Lane suggested that this new process be embedded into a specific course. Dr. Field agreed, stating that the process will vary a bit by program.
- New SC Educator Evaluation System
  - The SC Department of Education is designing a new system of educator evaluation to incorporate value-added measures. Teachers will be evaluated the same way as before, but now there will also be value-added components, to focus on student growth rather than achievement. There will also be a component concerning collective school growth. There are two different evaluation systems being piloted this year, TAP and Enhanced ADEPT. Full implementation of a new evaluation system is expected in Fall 2014. Dr. Field has put together a workshop on Thursday, December 5<sup>th</sup> from 4-6 p.m. to explain more about the new system and the process for implementation. Dr. Virtue asked what other institutions around the state are doing in response to this. Dr. Field said that he doesn't know yet, but it is one of the agenda items for the 31 Deans' Meeting in January.
- I-95 Corridor Scholarship
  - Beginning in Spring 2014, there are six, \$1000 scholarships for student teachers teaching along the I-95 corridor. Logistics will need to be worked out on a program-to-program basis, and coordinated through Dr. Field's office. Fairfield Co. will also offer scholarships for student teaching.

#### b. Rob Dedmon and Allison Jacques

- Changes in Praxis Testing
  - Praxis I is now Praxis Core. While the test itself has changed, there continue to be three sections – reading, writing, and math. Mr. Dedmon requested that all programs update their materials to reflect this change. Students can continue to take Praxis I through August 31, 2014. They must pass all three sections of the same test. They cannot mix and match scores from the Praxis I and Praxis Core. The Praxis Core is only

available via computer. Students can still exempt the Praxis Core through their ACT or SAT scores. The Praxis Core covers the same content as the Praxis I, but is a lengthier and more time-consuming exam. Test preparation is available through Office of Student Affairs.

- There have been several changes made in the required Praxis II exams. Dr. Jacques said that the SCDE is considering changing additional tests, one of which is the Elementary Praxis II. The proposed change would focus more on content and less on pedagogy. Dr. Jacques indicated that the change would be of interest to Special Education programs since their candidates currently take the Elementary Praxis exam to become “Highly Qualified” in Special Education, as required in Title II, Part A of No Child Left Behind. The SCDE is also moving away from general science licensure, and focusing more on licensure in a specific discipline. Teachers would then be able to obtain general science licensure as an add-on. Dr. Lotter commented that her students rarely get hired unless they have a general science licensure.
  - Kellah Edens explained the changes being made in EDPY 401/401P:
    - The changes in EDPY 401 will go into effect in Fall 2015. Because many programs no longer require the associated practicum, the EDPY faculty decided to delete EDPY 401P from the course offerings. They are still planning to offer EDPY 401, and will embed field experiences within the course. The last offering of 401P will be spring 2015. Ms. May asked how students will have the hours to earn a cognate in education without the practicum. Mr. Dedmon said that this change may require changes to the curriculum listed in the bulletin.
- c. Higher Ed Issues and Policies: How they affect us
- Dr. Christle pointed out the new website available that rates colleges and universities, the college scorecard, and suggested we keep up with issues affecting the teaching profession.
    - President Obama’s plan for evaluating IHEs:  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/issues/education/higher-education>  
<http://www.insidehighered.com/news/2013/09/05/margaret-spellings-reacts-obama-higher-education-plan>

Zach Kelehear brought up a website that shows the percentage of low-income students in the nation, showing that low-income children are the majority in public schools in 17 states, 13 of which are in the South. The report suggests we need to improve how we educate low-income students. Dr. Christle asked, “What does it mean to teach children in poverty? How do we train our students to adequately teach impoverished children?” Dr. Edens said that some institutions in the state are developing courses to focus on dealing with children in poverty. Dr. Jacques said that the SCDE offers an add-on endorsement in this area. Francis Marion is leading the charge on developing the coursework, but the PEU might consider developing course work to offer candidates the opportunity to earn courses for that add on.

- Dr. Christle reported that a provision was included in the bill Congress passed to reopen the government that now gives Teach for America participants highly-qualified status for two years. She discussed that we are under pressure from competition of online institutions and alternative certification programs. She suggested we really need to advertise what we

do well and why students should come here. Dr. Lotter said that part of Dr. Dickey's grant money is used to advertise USC's STEM education programs.

4. Announcements: Chris Christle and Zach Kelehear

- a. Next meeting: February. Date TBD after faculty input, but will likely be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of the month.
- b. Topics for future meetings:
  - Can and should we offer an education degree without teacher certification?
  - Field experiences: What does the research say?
    - Quality of experience vs. quantity. Quality trumps quantity. More diverse settings better for student teachers.
  - Others?
    - Email ideas prior to next meeting
    - Results of coaching teacher workshop
    - Requiring Praxis II before student teaching
    - Follow up on I-95 scholarships

5. Good of the Order

6. Adjourn

- a. Dr. Christle adjourned the meeting at 3:02 p.m.