MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
COUNCIL ON TEACHER EDUCATION
August 15, 2012
3:05 p.m. – 4:50 p.m.
Conference Room A, 505 E. Green, Ste. 203

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ave Alvarado (GC), Richard Clark (AgEd), Brenda Clevenger Evans (CoTE), Suzanne Lee (CoTE), Brenda Lindsey (SW), Chris Roegge (CoTE), Chris Span (COE), Marian Stone (FAA)

MEMBERS ABSENT: Amy Allen (Student Rep), Cynthia Helms (P-12 Rep), Mary Kalantzis (COE), Kristi Kuntz (Provost), Theresa Laumann (Student Rep), Adva Steiner Waranyuwat (LAS)

OTHERS PRESENT: Georgeann Burch for Christine Jenkins (GSLIS), Kathy Gray (CoTE)

1. Announcements and Approval of Minutes
   a. Welcome and Announcements: Clevenger Evans called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. She welcomed everyone and asked attendees to go around the room and introduce themselves. She introduced Suzanne Lee as the new Assistant Director of Accreditation replacing Marge Jerich who retired the end of June.

   b. Approval of April 18, 2012 minutes: Clevenger Evans asked if attendees had been able to review the April 2012 minutes emailed to them earlier. Since many had not and the minutes were not part of the information packet, approval was postponed until the next meeting.

   c. Additions to the agenda: There were none.

2. Old Business
   a. IPTS implementation/program revision: Lee referred to the handout “23 ILLINOIS ADMINISTRATIVE CODE SUBTITLE A” referencing two points. Programs are required to submit their course of study along with evidence that it is congruent with the new IPTS no later than July 1, 2013, and the implementation date for the new IPTS is September 1, 2013. Lee offered assistance to programs as they prepare for these new standards. She explained that ISBE no longer requires programs to appear before the board for re-approval, but programs will need to provide the required revisions.

   b. TPA update: Lee recapped the state required Teacher Performance Assessment (TPA) rule which takes effect September 1, 2015. She explained that each teacher candidate must pass the TPA and indicated that academic vocabulary would be noted during the scoring process. The law states a pilot group must begin no later than July 1, 2013; Lee asked for volunteers. Discussion followed regarding how TPA might impact program portfolio requirements. TPA does look like a portfolio but does not cover everything. Lee advised attendees to follow the NCATE framework.

Lee then referred to the Danielson framework handout entitled “The Framework for Teaching” and asked attendees to familiarize themselves with it. She said this is one of several points that will be reviewed collectively. If we decide to implement a clinical practice assessment such as this, some programs will experience more significant changes than others.

Clevenger Evans asked attendees to review the handout entitled “Notices Related to Educator Preparation Programs” sent from ISBE Assistant Superintendent, Linda Tomlinson, to Presidents and Unit Heads for Educator Preparation Programs.
3. New Business

a. CoTE staff changes for 2012-2013: Clevenger Evans once again introduced Suzanne Lee as the new Assistant Director of Accreditation for the Council on Teacher Education replacing the retired Marge Jerich.

b. TAP/ACT: Clevenger Evans directed attendees to the handout “ISBE Testing Requirement Prior to Admission to an Illinois Educator Preparation Program” stating that these emergency rules would accept an ACT plus Writing score of 22 in lieu of passing the TAP for admission to an educator preparation program. The writing portion does not impact results but must be part of the test in order for the score to qualify. So far no validity period for the ACT plus Writing score has been set, but it will most likely be five years to coincide with the TAP/Basic Skills time limit. Clevenger Evans provided these additional details. ISBE cannot accept score reports unless they arrive in a sealed envelope from ACT. We can only accept “institution score reports” when sent directly to ISBE by ACT. The correct ISBE form must be filled out completely, signed by all required parties, and submitted to ISBE in order for us to credit an official ACT score report. ISBE can change the minimum scores if they notify us no later than January 1 of the score to be used. The emergency rule is good for 150 days beginning July 24, 2012. Discussion about the rule and how a student can apply occurred; pre-teacher education students cannot apply.

Lee referred to the graph handout in the information packet “Distribution of BST Results by ACT composite score” explaining that this was compiled by the Illinois Education Research Council and is a snapshot composite. It is the hope that ACT will feed student scores directly into ISBE. Lee said that meeting the new state required ACT plus Writing score requirement does not guarantee student entry into the U of I’s program.

c. ISBE provisional admission: Clevenger Evans explained that ISBE took action to allow students who have not passed TAP and do not have a high enough ACT composite score to be provisionally admitted into a program. Now it is up to each institution to provisionally accept candidates into their programs or not. Clevenger Evans explained that if an institution provisionally accepts candidates, ISBE expects each program to provide support and remediation to candidates so they will pass the TAP or ACT plus Writing with a minimum score of 22. In addition, each candidate must be fully admitted into an education preparation program at least one semester prior to student teaching. Clevenger Evans said she feels provisional admission gives false hope to the student and recommended we not go in this direction. During the discussion that followed it was clarified that provisional admission does not impact the current Conditional Admission Policy in place. Lindsey made a motion to not implement a provisional admissions policy, Stone seconded, and the motion passed with a sustained vote from Alvarado.

d. CBC changes: Clevenger Evans informed attendees that effective July 1, 2012 institutions can no longer transfer CBC information to school districts. The FBI reviewed the Adam Walsh Child Protection and Safety Act of 2006 and determined that higher education is not an entity allowed to receive FBI checks. As a result, our contract with the CBC provider has been changed. Candidates can still obtain a criminal background check by completing the form found on the CoTE website and taking it to any Accurate Biometrics location. CoTE can give candidates a copy of the results but cannot share a copy with the school districts.

e. Mandated Reporter: Lee said she will investigate if DCFS has information or guidelines to share that will assist candidates in reporting suspected abuse for the Mandated Reporter requirement. It is possible that DCFS can provide group training.
f. **TB tests:** Clevenger Evans said that teacher candidates are required to have a TB test administered 90 days or less prior to the first day of placement. Institutions must insure that both Mandated Reporter and TB testing are done. Therefore, Ohlsson is developing a system where candidates can upload to the portal acknowledgement/completion forms for both Mandated Reporter and TB testing. CoTE will begin tracking with Fall 2011 new admits.

g. **Test Validity:** Clevenger Evans informed attendees that a new time limit has been put on test scores. Content test, APT, and TAP/Basic skills scores are now good for only five years. Candidates must be admitted into a certification program within that window.

h. **Assessments:** Lee said this information was covered earlier in 2.b. TPA update.

4. **Updates/Reports:**
   a. **ISBE annual report update:** Clevenger Evans said Span represented programs that were called to testify to the state licensure board in Springfield about their Annual Report and asked him to give a recap. Span gave an informal report saying he was one of six representing the University of Illinois who were able to satisfactorily address all points in question. In addition, Span said they sat in on the review of the institution prior to us. ISBE closed our review by asking how they could be a better resource to us.

   Clevenger Evans referenced a letter in the information packet dated July 25, 2012 from ISBE to Dean Kalantzis which states that the ten programs previously in question that appeared before the state licensure board are now approved. Roegge stated that the letter for programs that were originally approved is still coming.

   b. **Teacher Graduate Assessment:** Lee explained that the data in this survey reflects the perspectives of our graduates. TGA is completed by certified teachers who have completed their first year or fifth year of teaching along with their supervisors. Lee said she is in the process of sorting the information by programs and will give each program its results. She found individual comments made at the end of the assessment to be of great valuable.

5. **Information Items:** There were none.

6. **Adjournment:** Clevenger Evans adjourned the meeting at 4:50 pm.

Meeting dates for AY 12-13: All meetings are 3-5 PM in Suite 203 (B), 505 E. Green unless otherwise indicated.

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