MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
COUNCIL ON TEACHER EDUCATION
January 22, 2003
2:15 p.m.-3:45 p.m.
Room 242, Education Building


MEMBERS ABSENT: Gary Crull, Susan Fowler, Joe Harper, Lasonya Harris, James Leach, Brenda Lindsey, Marisa Ptak, Linda Sloat

OTHERS PRESENT: Jeff Buck, CTE staff; Marge Jerich, CTE staff

1. Approval of Minutes, Announcements, and Additions to Agenda:

a. The meeting was called to order by Benson at 2:15 p.m. Benson asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of December 18, 2002. Armbruster, seconded by Mester, moved approval of the minutes as presented. Unanimously approved.

b. Benson noted the addition of three summer meeting dates. If circumstances permit, these summer meeting dates could be canceled.

Zych introduced Jeff Buck, the new CTE certification specialist, and asked committee members to introduce themselves and identify the college/program(s) they represent.

c. Benson asked that two items be added to the agenda under Matters for Discussion/Action; 3g. Field Testing of APT and content area tests for special education, 3h. Basic Skills Test for Admission. Benson asked for any other additions. Carlson requested that a brief discussion on the community college role in teacher education be added to the agenda. Benson suggested adding this as 3i under Matters for Discussion/Action. Mester, seconded by Grashel, moved approval of the revised agenda. Unanimously approved.

2. Proposals:

a. Proposed Revision of the Teacher Certification Option in the Agricultural and Environmental Communication and Education Curriculum: Zych (for Harper) presented a brief overview of the proposal. The revision will add courses necessary to align the program with ISBE Standards. Zych stated that the proposal has all the necessary elements in place to move forward to the Senate Educational Policy Committee. Mester, seconded by Armbruster, moved approval of the proposal as presented. Unanimously approved.

b. Proposed Revision to Earth Science Teaching Option: Mester presented an overview of the proposed revision of the Earth Science Teaching Option in LAS to align the program with ISBE content standards. The proposed curricular revision will not add additional hours to the program. Armbruster, seconded by Grashel, moved approval of the proposal. Unanimously approved.
3. Matters for Discussion/Action:

a. Program Approval for Fall 2003 Admission:  Benson provided an update on the status of other program revisions necessary to meet ISBE standards that take effect on July 1, 2003.  Science and foreign language programs are very close to completion and progress is being made on music at the graduate level.  Elementary Education faculty held a retreat last Friday and has made great progress toward completing the matrices.  The proposal to revise the superintendent program is at the college level.  Benson noted that she will be meeting with the C&I math and science faculty.  The proposal to revise the Teacher Education Minor in Secondary School Teaching is expected next week.

Benson recommended that the Executive Committee approve admission to the undergraduate program in agricultural education.  Mester, seconded by Armbruster, moved that the undergraduate program in agricultural education be cleared to admit candidates for fall semester, 2003.  Unanimously approved.

b. Technology Survey:  The Western Illinois University team conducting the technology survey announced that they are having problems with the technical aspects of responding to the survey.  Responses seem to over ride each other.  More information will be forthcoming from the Office of Educational Technology.

c. Unit Assessment System:  Benson reviewed a draft of the unit assessment system that outlines the assessment points, data sources, persons responsible for monitoring, persons responsible for evaluating, the institutional and state standards addressed, and the implementation date.  She noted that the assessment sub-committee suggested a different way to organize the information and another draft will be forthcoming.  Some items will need to be added to the common portfolio requirements.

Benson stated that a similar document will need to be prepared for the advanced programs.  She will convene representatives from the appropriate programs to discuss the matter.

Carlson asked what the drop dead date will be for departments to specify courses for content area GPA.  She noted that the information must be encoded in DARS and tested this spring.

d. ISBE review: Notice of Objection:  Benson reported that the Notice of Objection will be sent out this week with a letter to both Mike Long, ISBE Division Administrator, and to State Superintendent Schiller.  Benson summarized points made in the appeal, including objections to not meeting standard 2.  The objection also raised concerns with the review process, such as the state liaison serving as both institutional liaison and chair of the review team, and the lack of review team members from similar institutions.  In addition, a request was made to have a different state liaison appointed.

e. Revision to General Education Requirements in Graduate Level Approved Programs:  Zych presented the current policy on general education requirements in graduate level programs.  The ISBE review team raised concerns with the current policy’s latitude.  The policy also relates to governance issues cited by ISBE.
Zych suggested adding the following statement to the current policy, “Departments offering graduate level approved certification programs are free to determine what general education requirements they wish to impose on their certification candidates, provided that NCATE standards for general education are met and candidates are assured of possessing the knowledge required for the certification sought.” The policy would include the NCATE 2000 definition of general education. This modification should address the concerns raised by the ISBE review team. Mester, seconded by Grashel, moved approval of the policy revision as presented by Zych. Unanimously approved.

f. University Supervisor Qualifications and Responsibilities: Benson reviewed the revision of University Supervisor Qualifications and Responsibilities. The revision addresses ISBE assessment and council governance concerns. Benson made note that the qualifications and responsibilities of the University Supervisor are part of the unit common assessment and programs are encouraged to add additional qualifications and responsibilities as appropriate to their program. Harwood, seconded by Ore, moved approval as amended during the discussion. Unanimously approved.

g. Field Testing of APT and Content Area Tests for Special Education: Zych reported that National Evaluation Systems (NES), Inc. has asked if UIUC could be a field test site for the Assessment of Professional Teaching Test and the Speech-Language Pathology - non-teaching test. Our candidates could take a pilot of the test(s) and receive a $25.00 voucher that may be used toward registration fees through the Illinois Certification Testing System. Committee members agreed that this would be a benefit for our candidates. Jerich will work with NES to set up the field testing, which will occur in February.

h. Basic Skills Test for Admission: Zych reported that it was brought to his attention that several instate transfer applicants have claimed that they were never told about the Basic Skills test requirement. Given the short amount of time available to publicize the requirement, his opinion is that it is likely that many non-UIC candidates were not informed of it. Mester suggested that the Basic Skills test requirement policy for out-of-state students be extended to these students for this year, only. The committee concurred with her recommendation.

i. Community College Role in Teacher Education: Carlson commented that there are articulation issues regarding community college courses and UIUC courses that result from changing UIUC course numbers, proposed AAT programs at community colleges, and meeting ISBE standards. After some discussion, it was the consensus of the committee that course acceptance be based on content, with the understanding that a community college course could satisfy content requirements but not count as advanced courses.

4. Updates/Reports:

a. ISBE Update: Benson reported that Mats Selen and Don DeCoste have agreed to serve on ISBE content area review panels for test development. Linda Sloat has offered to become a program panel review member.
Zych reminded committee members of an e-mail he forwarded regarding ISBE’s review of requirements to teach middle school. This is our opportunity to provide input into what the new standards will be. He encouraged everyone to send comments to the ISBE committee at the e-mail address provided.

5. Information Items: Benson noted the addition of summer meeting dates for the Executive Committee. Members agreed to keep the meeting time from 2-5 pm.

Members were provided with a copy of Mapping of the Illinois Professional Teaching Standards to the Revised UIUC Conceptual Framework Indicators. There was no discussion of this item.

6. Adjournment: Mester, seconded by Grashel, moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:45 p.m. Unanimously approved.

Future meetings: All meetings are scheduled for 2-5 p.m. in 242 Education Building, unless otherwise noted.

February 19, 2003
March 19, 2003
April 16, 2003
May 14, 2003
June 18, 2003
July 16, 2003
August 27, 2003