MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
COUNCIL ON TEACHER EDUCATION
February 25, 2004
3:05 p.m.- 4:30 p.m.
Room 242, Education Building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bonnie Armbruster, Joan Bessman (for Christine Jenkins), Cheri Carlson, Susan Fowler, John Grashel, Eve Harwood, Kate Meister, Ann Mester, Sharon Scott, Pat Wilson, Chet Zych

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ave Alvarado, Gary Crull, Joe Harper, Jennifer Jones, James Leach, Brenda Lindsey, Keith Marshall, Cathy Simon, Linda Sloat

OTHERS PRESENT: Marge Jerich (CTE), Fouad Abd-El-Khalick (C & I)

1. Approval of Minutes and Announcements:

a. The meeting was called to order by Wilson at 3:05 p.m.

Wilson asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of January 28, 2004. Mester, seconded by Armbruster, moved approval of the minutes as presented. Unanimously approved.

b. Fowler announced that a conference entitled “Accreditation, Accountability, and Quality: An Institutional Orientation and Professional Development Conference,” sponsored by AACTE and NCATE, will be held at Tysons Corner, Virginia, April 21-24, 2004. The conference will provide training on the NCATE accreditation system. Fowler stated that the College of Education is willing to send several people to this conference. A tentative agenda and additional information can be found on the AACTE website (www.aacte.org). Individuals interested in attending this training should contact Pat Wilson.

c. There were no additions to the agenda.

2. Proposals:

a. Proposal to Establish an Alternative Certification Program in Secondary Science and Mathematics: Fouad Abd-El-Khalick provided a brief description of a proposed program that would provide secondary certification to individuals who cannot afford to come to campus for two years. The program would allow candidates to complete a two-semester residency and course of study on the UIUC campus after which a one-year nonrenewable Provisional Alternative Teaching Certificate would be issued by ISBE. During year two of the program, candidates would assume a full-time paid teaching position in a collaborating school district. The proposed program will have a partnership arrangement with the Chicago Public Schools. After completing additional program seminars and assignments, candidates would earn an Illinois Initial Alternative Teaching Certificate that is valid for four years of teaching.

Abd-El-Khalick explained that candidates who are interested in pursuing further studies can enroll in year three of the program to complete a set of advanced courses leading to a Master of Education degree. All candidates in the proposed program will be initially admitted to the master’s program.
A brief discussion followed. Mester, seconded by Grashel, moved approval of the proposed program, pending approval by the Graduate College. Unanimously approved.

3. Matters for Discussion/Action:

a. Clinical Fees: Fowler distributed a copy of an e-mail that she sent to the College of Education (COE) faculty regarding an assessed fee for all candidates enrolled in teacher preparation programs in early childhood, elementary, secondary, and special education programs. Beginning fall semester 2004, candidates in these programs will be assessed fees of $150 for early field experiences and $250 for student teaching. The fees will be part of the general tuition charges. The assessed fee will be piloted in COE for the next year and may expand to other colleges, pending approval by the Provost. Fowler stated that she would be happy to work with other interested colleges to assist with developing similar proposals for their programs.

Fowler emphasized that these fees will be the same for all candidates across COE, regardless of their program of study. Candidates will be eligible for financial aid under the same rules that apply to other student fees within the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Letters will soon be sent to all candidates and their advisors informing them of the new fee.

b. Policy on Student Teaching Out of State: Zych reviewed the CTE policy that provides candidates the option to petition to student teach in another state. Due to recent inquiries from candidates to student teach through other Illinois institutions and abroad, and the development of standards-based common assessments, Zych suggested that the current policy be reviewed.

After a brief discussion, the committee determined that the policy should address candidates who wish to student teach through any institution other than UIUC. It was suggested that there should be clarification regarding how the current standards would be addressed and the criteria by which final action on the petition will be taken by the CTE office. Zych also suggested that the line in the policy regarding HB150 be removed because it no longer has any validity.

The committee asked Zych to present a draft revision of the policy for discussion at the next meeting.

c. Policy on Conditional Admission to a Professional Education Preparation Program: Zych reviewed the policy that permits conditional admission for candidates unable to register to take the Basic Skills test due to hardship. He noted that the policy defines hardship as being unable to register for the test because the candidate resides outside the state of Illinois and cannot take the test in a location that is convenient for them. Zych reported that EIU, ISU, NIU, SIU-C, UIS and UIC either have pre-curricular programs to which candidates may be admitted and they can take the test before official admission to a teacher preparation program or candidates must meet the requirement before program admission. None of the institutions surveyed allow exceptions.

There was extensive committee discussion regarding various potential types of candidate hardships. Zych suggested that colleges and departments could hold an admission slot for any
candidate until they pass the Basic Skills test. This would allow time for an in-state candidate to take the test on another test date if an unexpected hardship arises.

Meister commented that she made sure that she had met all of the requirements to apply for the program and thought it was not fair to consider candidates for admission in the same pool if they had not. The committee agreed that candidates need to plan to take the test at the earliest test date, allowing for a fall-back date if necessary. The committee agreed to retain the current policy, with the understanding that colleges and departments may decide how they constitute their admission application pool.

d. CTE Liaisons for Admission to Professional Education Preparation Programs: Zych reviewed the CTE liaison list that identifies individuals within programs who can provide information regarding admission, ICTS information, candidate enrollment information, and receive BBP and CBC results. Zych asked members to review the list and to let him know if the list is current for their program or inform him of any changes.

Wilson asked members to provide staff with the names of those individuals who are responsible for making admission decisions. She intends to invite these individuals to a meeting to discuss CTE admission procedures, and policies. She shared a new handout developed by staff that clarifies admission procedures and policies for professional education preparation programs.

4. Updates/Reports:

a. ISBE Update: There was no ISBE update.

b. CAPS Assessment. Zych passed around an updated CAPs report to show the progress that CTE staff is making in providing updated information to clinical experiences program coordinators. He also reported that he had not asked LAS to change the way that grade point averages are computed for the content area because doing so would make a comparison of teaching and non-teaching majors meaningless.

c. 2003 Professional Education Data System: American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (AACTE): Jerich presented a brief review of the data report submitted annually to AACTE to provide information regarding our professional education preparation programs. The report includes UIUC data that is extracted from the federally mandated Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) report.

Although every effort is made to provide AACTE with an accurate report, Jerich stated that CIP codes specified by AACTE for program reporting data do not reflect an accurate picture of UIUC programs and enrollments. Consequently, this report should not be used to provide enrollment information to others. Information from the report regarding professional education faculty will be used in future ISBE institutional reports.

5. Information Items: none.
6. Adjournment: Grashel, seconded by Meister, moved that the meeting adjourn at 4:30 p.m. Unanimously approved.

Future meetings: All meetings are scheduled for 3-5 p.m. in 242 Education Building, unless otherwise noted.

March 31, 2004 (subsequently cancelled)       June 23, 2004
April 21, 2004                                 July 21, 2004
May 12, 2004                                   August 18, 2004