MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
COUNCIL ON TEACHER EDUCATION
June 15, 2005
3:05 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.
Conference Room A, 505 E. Green, Ste. 203

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bonnie Armbruster, Joan Bessman Taylor (for Christine Jenkins), Cheri Carlson, John Grashel, Eve Harwood, Jennifer Heinhorst-Busby, James Leach, Ann Mester, Chris Roegge, Chet Zych

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ave Alvarado, Gary Crull, Jillian Forestiere, Susan Fowler, Joe Harper, Brenda Lindsey, Keith Marshall, Cathy Simon, Linda Sloat

OTHERS PRESENT: Marge Jerich (CTE)

1. Approval of Minutes and Announcements:

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

   Roegge asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of May 18, 2005. The minutes as amended were approved by consensus.

   b. Announcements:

   Roegge reported that he has named Mester and Harwood as AACTE members. He added that anyone else who would like to become a member should notify him.

   CTE Executive Committee appointments for 2005-06 are nearly complete. Robert Hughes, Professor and Head of the Department of Human and Community Development, will represent the College of ACES. Kristi Kuntz, Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs, will represent the College of ALS. There may be new P-12 members. Roegge said that he intends to ask the new Head of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction to join the committee.

   Heinhorst-Busby announced that UIUC will be hosting the next state-wide clinical experiences program coordinator meeting in October.

   Roegge announced that the July 20 meeting is cancelled.

   c. Additions to the agenda: None.

   d. Executive Director Report: Roegge reported that the state superintendent’s task force on accreditation will meet on July 20th and plans to make its final recommendations to the superintendent by the end of July. It is anticipated that the recommendation will be to give institutions the option to select either a state or NCATE accreditation review. Roegge stated that there will most likely be a fee associated with the state accreditation review option. Leach asked if the fee for accreditation would come from the campus budget since professional education programs span 6 colleges and 2 schools on the UIUC campus.

   The task force will also discuss TEAC as an option for institutional program reviews. There will be further discussion of accreditation at the August Executive Committee meeting, pending the publication of the task force’s recommendations. Leach suggested we gather historical information regarding discussions related to Holmes and our disaffiliation with NCATE prior to a discussion.
2 Proosals: none.

3. Matters for Discussion/Action:

a. Tuition and Fee Waiver Policy: Roegge reported that a sub-committee has been formed to discuss the tuition and fee waiver policy and to formulate recommendations for revisions. Leach, Sloat and Linda Hemminger, clinical experiences program coordinator for foreign languages, have agreed to serve on the committee.

Roegge reported that the tuition and fee waiver policy has been discussed with clinical experience program coordinators and information has been gathered from other institutions. Cooperating personnel feel that waivers are very important and would like other options, as well. Many institutions offer waivers with caps.

b. Area of Specialization Committee Functions and Responsibilities: Based on discussions from the last meeting, Roegge presented a revised proposal to streamline the functioning of area committees and clearly delineate their responsibilities. In the discussion that followed it was suggested that the responsibility for accomplishing the work of area committees be assigned to the heads of the departments that host the certification programs. The department head would decide on the structure of the committee and its membership, designating a specific individual as liaison to the CTE. It was generally agreed that compensation needs to be provided to the program liaison if the area of specialization committee is to be effective in completing its work. It was suggested that compensation could be provided to the program liaison in a variety of ways, including listing such service as a part of an individual’s portfolio, thereby compensating them accordingly.

Members agreed that they would convey to their deans their support of the proposal prior to Roegge presenting the rationale for the proposed changes to the Council. Roegge will revise the area committee functions and responsibilities proposal, based on the discussion, and send it to committee members for review. Members agreed to work with their department heads to facilitate implementation of the new structure if it is approved by the Council.

c. Reduction of EFE hours in CAP: Heinhorst-Busby reported that most institutions admit candidates into programs during their sophomore year and still require 100-clock hours of EFE. Sophomore year admission makes it easier to require more EFE experiences. Most of our programs admit junior year. The proposed reduction in EFE hours would provide programs with greater flexibility for scheduling placements in the public schools and, at the same time, facilitate redesign of the experiences.

Leach, seconded by Grashel, moved that the required EFE clock-hours be reduced from 100 to 80, effective immediately. Unanimously approved.

d. Common Assessment Plans: Zych opened a discussion of when and how to enforce the requirements of the Common Assessment Plans (CAP) when candidates do not meet specified criteria. After four semesters it is evident that candidates are being allowed to continue in programs regardless of whether they are maintaining the required GPAs, completing criminal background checks and blood borne pathogen training, and/or completing the required initial UIUC Professional Education Assessment. In addition, CTE is not receiving the required documentation of early field experiences from all programs.
This is of particularly concern with regard to repeated warning letters for low GPAs. A preliminary review of the data for Spring, 2005 indicates that GPA warning letters will be sent to 29 candidates; one of whom will be receiving a letter for the third time.

Carlson suggested that CTE staff enforce the CAP by removing the teacher attribute in banner, which would prevent candidates from moving forward in the certification program. Discussion followed.

Members agreed that CTE has the authority to enforce the requirements of the unit plan and should do so. Candidates will be dropped from the certification program, but not their degree program, upon receipt of their second GPA warning letter.

e. HB 0384: Zych reported that HB0384, the bill removing the requirement that candidates pass the content area test prior to student teaching, has been sent to the governor for signature. The bill states that institutions may continue to require that candidates pass the test prior to student teaching. A brief discussion followed.

Pending the Governor’s signature, Heinhorst-Busby, seconded by Mester, moved to amend the Common Assessment Plans for Initial Certification to remove the requirement that candidates must pass the content test prior to student teaching and to make passing the content test a requirement for a recommendation for certification. Unanimously approved.

4. Updates/Reports:

a. ISBE Update: Zych reported that the LBS II certification approval will be on the agenda for the August meeting of the State Board.

b. Admission to School Social Work for Fall, 2005: Zych reported that the School of Social Work has submitted program matrices that demonstrate alignment with new state standards for School Social Workers that become effective July 1, 2005. He recommends that the School of Social Work be approved to admit certification candidates based upon the new standards. Unanimously approved.

5. Information Items: None.

6. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Future meetings: All meetings are scheduled for 3-5 p.m. in Ste. 203-B, 505 E. Green Street unless otherwise noted.

Date:
July 20, 2005 (subsequently canceled) March 15, 2006
August 31, 2005 April 19, 2006
September 21, 2005 May 17, 2006
October 19, 2005 June 21, 2006
November 16, 2005 July 19, 2006
December 14, 2005 August 30, 2006
January 25, 2006
February 22, 2006