MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
COUNCIL ON TEACHER EDUCATION  
October 19, 2005  
3:05 p.m. – 4:40 p.m.  
Conference Room B, 505 E. Green, Ste. 203

MEMBERS PRESENT: Bonnie Armbruster, Jillian Forestiere, John Grashel, Eve Harwood, Jennifer Heinhorst-Busby, Bob Hughes, Kristi Kuntz, Christine Jenkins, Marge Jerich, Brenda Lindsey, Ann Mester, Chris Roegge, Chet Zych

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ave Alvarado, Jennifer Anderson, Cheri Carlson, Susan Fowler, Marilyn Johnston-Parsons, James Leach, Linda Sloat, Kristi Townsend

1. Approval of Minutes and Announcements:

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

a. Announcements:

Roegge announced that he, Fowler, and Jerich (and potentially others) will be attending the Teacher Graduate Assessment Symposium in Springfield on November 3rd. Spots are available, so if anyone is interested in attending, they should let him know.

The Public University Clinical Coordinator Meeting will also be held on November 3rd. Heinhorst-Busby reported that about 50 coordinators from around the state have registered for the meeting, which will be held at Levis from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and includes lunch. The agenda includes a presentation by Eric Ohlsson, CTE Technology Manager, on the CTE data system developed for UIUC clinical experiences program coordinators. The Department of Special Education will present on portfolio development and assessment. Time will be devoted to sharing and general discussion of issues. Heinhorst-Busby asked committee members to encourage the clinical experiences program coordinators for their programs to attend.

Heinhorst-Busby said that she has been trying to recruit additional students to serve on the Executive Committee. She said that if would be helpful if she could have a brief description of the responsibilities of the committee and the expectations of the student representative. Roegge said he would provide her with one. Forestiere said she would be happy to talk with groups of students about her service on the committee.

b. Approval of minutes of August 31, 2005: Roegge asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of August 31, 2005. Mester, seconded by Armbruster, move approval of the minutes as presented. Unanimously approved.

c. Additions to the agenda: the proposed Revision to the Undergraduate Curriculum in Art Education was added as item 2.a.

d. Executive Director Report: Roegge reported that he recently met with Interim Provost Delia for a general update of Council activities and discussion of issues related to teacher education on campus (and the role of the Council). Among items discussed where the perception of the Council as part of the College of Education; the lack of authority of the Council in relation to the faculty involved with certification programs; and the pros and cons of moving the Council of out the College of Education.

2 Proposals:
a. Proposed Revision to the Undergraduate Curriculum in Art Education: Harwood explained the proposed changes to the curriculum and the rationale for those changes. Mester, seconded by Jenkins, moved approval of the proposal. Unanimously approved.

3. Matters for Discussion/Action:

a. Conceptual Framework: Roegge presented for discussion a document which drew from the University Mission Statement, the Chancellor’s announcement on campus strategic planning, the CTE mission statement and the core values expressed in our current Conceptual Framework. From the foregoing, he derived a set of expectations for our candidates which he divided into three major areas: knowledge, mastery and application of skills, and dispositions and commitments. He suggested that these three areas, with their subcategories, form the basis of a revised UIUC conceptual framework which would meet the NCATE standards and from which meaningful assessments could be derived. Roegge also provided an NCATE evaluator list indicating how the unit conceptual framework impacts the evaluation of each of the six NCATE Standards.

After introducing the material, Roegge suggested that each individual program be asked to review his proposed list of expectations, addressing the items in the context of their own programs. From there, we could work toward a global statement of the unit’s expectations and develop assessments from those.

In the discussion that followed it was suggested that we need to address what makes us what we are, and thereby possibly different from other institutions. As a Research I institution, what do we offer and what should we expect that cannot be offered by non-peer institutions? Several individuals commented that one of the things that sets us apart is the quality of our faculty, who are leaders in research in their disciplines, and that we expect our students to exhibit the same spirit of inquiry and assessment of research that our faculty exemplify. We are preparing our students to be the next generation of researchers. Kuntz suggested that we talk with the campus committee that is currently working on defining what the undergraduate experience at a Research I university should be.

Forestiere suggested that the kinds of experiences that we provide to students are very important. She chose to attend UIUC because of the experiences that would be available to her, among which are considerable time spent in the schools prior to student teaching.

Jenkins offered that critical thinking is extremely important. We want our students to be able to question and evaluate. Harwood commented that we are creating a habit of thinking in our students to look for evidence based knowledge.

Heinhorst-Busby suggested that our commitment to social justice is also significant and hiring officials have commented on how aware of and committed to social justice our candidates are.

It was also suggested that technology, in itself, should not be a pillar, as it is in our current Conceptual Framework. Understanding how to use technology and evaluate what is available for use is important to each field, but not in the same way. An assessment based on technology would look different in each program, which has to consider the level of technology that will be available to their candidates when they become practitioners.

The committee members agreed that Roegge should send his proposal out to programs for comment and ask each program to indicate what values are vital to each of them.
b. Accreditation Review: Zych reported that ISBE will soon be publishing a set of proposed rules that would amend the accreditation process. The rules are the result of recommendations made by a task force that the State Superintendent charged with proposing ways to streamline the process. The rules will propose, among other things, that 1) SPA reports be accepted by ISBE in lieu of ISBE Program Reports, 2) the umbrella report be eliminated, 3) the requirement of re-submitting the unit’s conceptual framework prior to each review be eliminated unless there have been substantial changes since the last review, and 4) that ISBE charge institutions for the review.

Zych noted that the task force recommendations focused on streamlining the review process for those institutions that are NCATE-accredited and does not clearly address non-NCATE institutional issues. In recent meetings that he and Jerich attended it was suggested that Illinois review teams could be headed by a public school teacher, rather than higher education faculty, which could not happen on a NCATE team. The task force also failed to directly address the possibility of Illinois institutions choosing TEAC accreditation instead of NCATE and having that accepted by ISBE in lieu of an ISBE directed accreditation review.

At the IACTE meeting on October 14th the State Superintendent stated that he would take no further action in relation to TEAC accreditation unless there was a groundswell of interest on the part of Illinois institutions. In light of the foregoing, Roegge said that he would prepare a report for the November meeting of what would need to happen for us to obtain NCATE accreditation.

c. Revision to CEPC responsibilities: Roegge presented a proposed revision to the Responsibilities of Clinical Experience Program Coordinators Vis-à-vis CTE. The proposal eliminates certain items that are no longer needed now that the CTE data bases are online and rewords the document. Heinhorst-Busby affirmed that the proposal does match what CEPCs are supposed to do. Grashel, seconded by Mester, moved approval of the proposal. Unanimously approved.

d. Certiport technology competency assessment: Roegge reported that the Department of Curriculum and Instruction is piloting this test as a means of assessing competency in the use of technology. He thought that the test could be a way to prove that we meet the ISBE technology standards, although it would need further review. Mester said that she would be very reluctant to support and additional testing requirement, noting that the foreign language candidates already bear the expense of four tests in order to be recommendation for certification. We will monitor the pilot testing in C&I to assess its potential.

e. CAP language regarding content test: Zych presented a proposed revision to the Common Assessment Plan (CAP) for Undergraduate Professional Education Programs Leading to Initial Certification. He proposed adding “pass the appropriate ICTS content test(s) if required by the program” to the requirements for admission to student teaching and amending the requirements for recommendation for certification, item 11) to read “pass the appropriate ICTS content test(s) if not required prior to student teaching.”

Zych explained that although Illinois law no longer requires passage of the content test prior to student teaching, some programs wish to retain that requirement and some school districts may insist on it before they will accept our candidates for student teaching. The revised language will make it clear to candidates that although CTE no longer imposes this requirement, programs or school districts may. If this proposal is accepted, Zych said that he would revise the companion CAP for graduate candidates accordingly.

Mester, seconded by Grashel, moved approval of the proposed revision. Unanimously approved.

4. Updates/Reports:
**Minutes, Executive Committee**

**October 19, 2005**

Approved November 16, 2005

**a. Status of ASC proposal:** Roegge reported that the proposal had been approved by the Council at a meeting earlier today. The Executive Committee supported his suggestion to implement the new structure immediately. Roegge will begin contacting department heads to discuss the new governance structure and explain their roles. He will prepare a revised set of Bylaws for the November meeting of the Executive Committee.

**b. Report of T & F Waiver study committee:** Roegge reported that he met with Bill Adams who suggested that information should be gathered regarding what the real costs are to the University. Roegge has prepared a survey to send out to recent recipients of tuition and fee waivers that will ask if they would have enrolled without the tuition and fee waiver, why they enrolled in courses, and how important the tuition and fee waiver was in their decision to host a UIUC teacher candidate. The survey will be mailed out shortly and the results shared with the committee.

**c. Strategic planning:** Roegge said that in light of the strategic planning in units across the campus he thought it would be useful for the Council to engage in its own strategic planning. He shared a “thinking document” compiled from comments of CTE staff members and invited committee members to share any thoughts or ideas with him.

**d. ISBE Update:** Zych reported that one of the Principal Consultants in the ISBE Program Approval section will retire shortly, leaving only two individuals to handle accreditation and program review. ISBE continues to lose resources and the State Superintendent recently talked of the need to find ways to make various units at ISBE self-supporting, such as requiring institutions to fund their accreditation visits.

In addition, ISBE staff is having difficulty attracting people to serve on review panels needed for the accreditation process. Zych provided copies of two memoranda from Phyliss Jones, *et al.*, that were handed out at the IACTE meeting on October 14th asking for faculty to volunteer to serve on a variety of panels.

The State Superintendent spoke at that same meeting about areas in which he saw challenges to higher education institutions preparing teachers. He said that William Rainey Harper College is seeking permission to offer a Bachelor’s Degree program in teaching and that if they get IBHE approval, many other community colleges are ready with proposals of their own. In addition, many independent agencies are poised to seek accreditation of certification programs that will circumvent higher education institutions. He stressed that it will be extremely important for institutions of higher education to show “value added” if they want to compete in the future. He noted that while there remain hurdles for community colleges and independent agencies to offer accredited programs, those obstacles could easily be eliminated by legislation and it is being discussed.

Zych also handed out posters advertising the new self-diagnostic test for the ICTS Basic Skills test that is now available online at [www.icts.nesinc.com](http://www.icts.nesinc.com). He asked committee members to distribute the posters to those in their colleges and departments who advise students who intend to apply for certification programs.

**5. Information Items:** Committee members were provided with a copy of the *Illinois State Board of Education Program Report Format* (October 11, 2005). Zych explained that this is still a work in progress but no major changes are expected except for clarifications. This is the document that will need to be completed by each of our programs for our next accreditation review. The reports will be due at ISBE on February 1, 2008.

**6. Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 4:40 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:
November 16, 2005           April 19, 2006
December 14, 2005           May 17, 2006
February 22, 2006           July 19, 2006
March 15, 2006              August 30, 2006