MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
COUNCIL ON TEACHER EDUCATION
November 15, 2006
3:10 p.m. – 4:40 p.m.
Conference Room B, 505 E. Green, Ste. 203

MEMBERS PRESENT:  Ave Alvarado, Bonnie Armbruster, John Grashel, Eve Harwood, Christine Jenkins, Marge Jerich, Mary Kalantzis, James Leach, Brenda Lindsey, Jill Pitcher, Chris Roegge, Jennifer Themanson, Phyllis Vanlandingham, Chet Zych

MEMBERS ABSENT:  Kristen Bau, Linda Hemminger, Bob Hughes, Keith Marshall, Lorna Mesri, Linda Sloat

1. Approval of Minutes and Announcements:

The meeting was called to order by Roegge at 3:10 p.m.

a. Announcements:  Roegge announced that the annual AACTE meeting will be in New York City, February 24th-27th.  He and Jerich plan to attend and he is willing to fund registration for one member of the Executive Committee who would like to attend.

b. Approval of minutes of October 18, 2006:  Roegge asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes of October 18, 2006.  Vanlandingham, seconded by Grashel, moved approval of the minutes as amended.  Unanimously approved.

c. Additions to the agenda:  None.

d. Executive Director’s Report:  None

2. Proposals:  None

3. Matters for Discussion/Action:

a. Early Field Experience Purpose & Goals:  Roegge presented a document which listed 7 goals for early field experiences and showed how those goals are linked to the UIUC Conceptual Framework expectations.  The goals were shared with clinical experiences program coordinators and he intends to ask them how these goals are met in each of their programs.  He noted that ISBE will expect to see this linkage and a degree of uniformity across programs.

Discussion followed in which it was explained that not all 7 goals would necessarily be met in each early field experience.  It is reasonable to expect that there would be some sort of progression and the assessment could occur in a variety of ways, such as in reflective statements that the candidates are required to write.

Pitcher asked how this would affect what students are expected to do and suggested that directed observations would be helpful.  Candidates cannot meet the goals unless they are guided in what is expected of them.  Leach noted that terms used in the document, such as “develop professional self-awareness”, must be clearly defined and indicate what sort of responses are required from the clinical experiences program coordinators.  The question was also raised regarding how these goals and their assessment relate to the artifacts required in the portfolio.

b. AACTE call for comment on accreditation principles:  Roegge handed out a document summarizing AACTE’s proposed “Principles for National Accreditation in Educator Preparation” and “Resolution #54”, which calls for a single national accreditation body for teacher education.  AACTE is currently accepting
comment on these two items and Roegge encouraged committee members to send their comments to the email address provided. If this moves forward, it could seriously impact UIUC.

c. Council Exec/Hardie Forum event (Levine Report): Roegge reported that he and Walter Feinberg have met to plan a discussion of the Levine report. The discussion will be on December 13, 2006 during the time of the regularly scheduled CTE Executive Committee meeting. All members of the Executive Committee are invited and encouraged to attend. Invitations will be sent out, along with an agenda, and everyone is asked to read the executive summary of Levine’s report prior to the discussion. The executive summary is available at www.educationschools.org.

Roegge noted that the recommendations in the report would have a huge impact on our programs if they are implemented (see item 3.d.) and that our programs would ultimately be judged by the impact that our graduates have on P-12 learning.

It was suggested that the discussion be video taped.

d. IBHE FAC proposal: Roegge commented that the IBHE Faculty Advisory Council document, Breaking the Cycle of Teacher Inequality: New Standards for Teachers in a P-20 Education System in Illinois, is a long way from becoming ISBE policy and rules. The latest version reflects the language used in the Levine report, Educating School Teachers. He noted that the first recommendation would force elementary programs into a 5-year program and recommendation three, regarding grade-point averages, would have an effect on our programs.

The Illinois Association of Public Deans of Colleges of Education is very concerned about the recommendations and is drafting a response. A major concern is that the recommendations were developed with no input from faculty in teacher education and that the proposal has made it this far without those faculty being aware of it. Roegge noted that the recommendations do not address the real substance of the issue but he does not think that there is any reason to take any action at this time. He is in contact with the UIUC representative to IBHE and will discuss the matter with him.

e. CTE Strategic Plan: Roegge handed out a document that he described as preliminary thoughts on a strategic plan for the Council on Teacher Education that have been developed by CTE staff. A discussion followed, focused on the goals presented in the document. Roegge suggested that CTE needs to answer the question of what it wants to be in relation to the campus. He asked that any comments regarding the document be forwarded to him.

Kalantzis suggested bringing the deans together to discuss the issue. She noted that the campus is focused on P-20 education at this time and CTE could position itself to collaborate in research with faculty and develop needs assessments in relation to P-12 education.

f. Revised Student Teaching Evaluation form: Roegge reported that the document is still in draft form. He may send it out to committee members to review via email.

g. Accreditation: Roegge, Jerich, and Zych commented on items that we need to be thinking about in relation to our accreditation review in 2010.

1. How are we preparing our candidates to work with English language learners? Our candidates have reported that they do not feel that they are adequately prepared in this area and we can be confident
that there will be a focus on this during the review. This will be discussed in greater detail at a subsequent meeting.

2. How do we demonstrate that our candidates have an impact on P-12 student learning? We need to make sure that we have adequate assessments in place. There are a variety of methodologies available to do this, such as the Teacher Work Sample, which brings everything together in one system. CTE staff will draft a proposal for the consideration of the committee.

3. How do we assure that our K-12 programs address the middle grade standards? We were not required to address these during the last review but we need to be prepared to do it this time in the program reviews.

4. Spring meeting: the kickoff meeting for faculty who will be directly involved in preparing for the review that was originally scheduled for last September will now be held in the spring. What dates do we need to avoid? Roegge will be meeting with our ISBE liaison, Phyliss Jones, early in December and would like to have dates to present to her at that time.

4. Updates/Reports:

a. ISBE Update: Zych reported that Christopher Koch will become Interim State Superintendent on December 1, 2006.

5. Information Items: None.

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.

Meeting dates for 2006-2007

December 13, 2006 (the Executive Committee will meet in conjunction with the Hardie Forum for a discussion of the Levine report. The meeting will be in 242 Education)
January 17, 2007
February 21, 2007
March 14, 2007
April 18, 2007
May 16, 2007
June 20, 2007
July 18, 2007