

Teacher Education Council (TEC)

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 11, 2021

1:00 p.m.

Via Zoom

Members Present: Marty Hatton, Brian Anderson, Shelley Bock, Rose Ford, Alina Harges, Chrystal Hodges, Melinda Lowe, Deana Pendley, Kendall Dunkelberg, Allene Nichols, Erin Kempker, Bonnie Oppenheimer, Blanca Simmons Diez, David Carter, Erinn Holloway, Brandon Robinson, Christy Adams, Penny Mansell, Christi Dillon, Brittany Hunnicutt

Members Absent: Kelly Bennett, Jonathan Hooks, Linda Mahoney, Kathy Shapley

1.0 Forum: Guest Speaker

There were no guest speakers.

2.0 Call to order

The meeting was called to order by Dr. Marty Hatton, Chair of the Teacher Education Council.

3.0 Approval of February 22, 2021 Minutes

David Carter made the motion to approve the minutes from the February 22, 2021 meeting. Dr. Bonnie Oppenheimer seconded the motion.

4.0 Approval of Agenda

Dr. Hatton presented the agenda for adoption. Dr. Erinn Holloway made the motion to approve the agenda, and Leigh Todd seconded. The motion was adopted.

5.0 Unfinished Business

5.1 CAEP Annual Reporting Measures Update

Initial information required for the CAEP Annual Report can now be found on the website in the Program Planning tab, under “Annual Reporting Measures.” This contains data for initial level programs only at this time. This data will be discussed and analyzed at a future meeting, so Brittany Hunnicutt requested that everyone take a look at the data for trends both for the EPP and also program specifically.

5.2 Teacher Internship Application Deadline

Teacher Internship Application Deadline is April 15, 2021. Brittany Hunnicutt encouraged advisors to remind students to fill out application in its entirety and then make sure they click “submit,” as all information is not visible until they complete that step. Additionally, the deadline for students to apply for Teacher Education is March 15. All students need to apply for Teacher Education prior to their Methods semester.

6.0 New Business

6.1 75-hour documentation of experiences

Brittany Hunnicutt reminded everyone that in order for a Secondary/K-12 student to apply for Teacher Internship, they must have completed 75 hours of documented experience with children. Examples and other information regarding this can be found on page 45 of the Student Handbook.

7.0 Licensure Report

No Report was given.

8.0 Standing Committees

No Report was given.

9.0 TEC Action Items

9.1 EPP Recruitment and Retention Plan

Dr. Shelley Bock reported that based on the target enrollment numbers for Elementary Education, the current recruitment plan is an increase of overall enrollment of students into the program by 10% in Year 1 and 15% in Year 2. Also increasing enrollment of students of color and male students by the same percentages (10% in Year 1 and 15% in Year 2). These recruitment numbers are for established grad programs as well. The next steps are going to be setting up specific strategies and a timeline for establishment of those strategies by Fall 2021.

Dr. Brian Anderson spoke to the collective goals of the Secondary/K-12 programs, which also have a stated goal of 10% increase in the first year and 15% increase in the second year. Based on the enrollment for Fall 2020, this would mean 2 students in Year 1 and 4 students in Year 2. Additionally, this would mean an increase of 1 student of color for year 1 and 2 students of color for year 2 across the Secondary/K12 programs. He stressed the importance of working collaboratively as the EPP in regards to recruitment, working with other departments cross-disciplinary, sharing ideas so that no momentum is lost during the summer and recruitment strategies can be implemented in the Fall.

Dr. Marty Hatton reminded everyone that as it states in the QAS, the School of Education will be developing a Recruitment and Retention Committee. However, it is important that many of these processes begin now. There is a need for unity in marketing and collaboration, in developing a common brand, and in establishing strategies to increase enrollment in both the EPP and in individual programs. He expressed the need to “get specific” when it comes to goals within their programs. This will take some collaboration from everyone moving forward—it will be

decided soon what that collaboration needs to look like, whether it is a Canvas shell or another way of gathering and compiling the necessary data and narrative to make plans moving forward.

Dr. Erin Kempker inquired if Dr. Kelly Bennett could be involved in their recruitment discussions, as many of their students chose to do the MAT route instead of a Teacher Certification undergrad. Dr. Marty Hatton expressed that as a possibility, but also encouraged all programs to make sure that they were looking at their Teacher Certification program as well, as recruitment numbers for individual programs are not based on those who finish with a MAT degree, but in the overall Teacher Certification undergrad. Recruitment for both is equally important.

Dr. Brandon Robinson said that he has been able to do some recruitment in making student connections across campus via Zoom conversations with potential recruits. David Carter expressed that Theatre Education has attempted to do recruitment at the Mississippi Theatre Festival. From that festival the department received a database of names in which they are following up with invitations to virtual shows. They are also in the process of doing a new recruitment video as well as updating their website, and including an alumni section which will highlight the work of some of their alumni. Theatre is also printing posters and brochures and sending to local high school theatre programs, with plans to share this information at community college theatre programs as well in the future.

The new Community College Navigator, Matthew Robinson, will also fit into the recruitment plan for the entire EPP. Dr. Marty Hatton stated the importance in getting him information regarding advising as there are many opportunities for collaborations and partnerships at the community college level. Co-Advising can be crucial for overall EPP recruitment from within community colleges. Dr. Kendall Dunkleburg stated that more formal agreements with community colleges and co-advising partnerships can result in less students taking classes at the community college level that are not needed for their major.

Dr. Blanca Simmons-Diez mentioned that recruitment could possibly start during summer as there are many summer camps and church groups which could have potential recruitment opportunities. She also expressed reaching out to former graduates for feedback regarding their time in the program. Dr. Marty Hatton agreed that the more programmatic feedback the EPP can receive, the more improvements that can be made, helping both recruitment and retention.

Dr. Erin Kempker spoke to the fact that they have the Peyton Scholarship which can be used by History students with a Teacher Certification, but there is still difficulty in recruiting students into the program. Dr. Marty Hatton stated the need to find an effective, clear way to convey

information for promoting the entire EPP, and items specific to individual programs such as this scholarship. While Admissions does do some recruiting, the EPP needs to develop unique recruitment strategies and refine the processes to get information out effectively for recruiting. Recruitment into the EPP cannot be left to admissions.

Dr. Brian Anderson encouraged everyone to share things they are finding to be successful when it comes to recruitment and added that it may be worth considering 2 + 2 programs, much like what Elementary Education has set up with Copiah Lincoln Community College. He also encouraged the committee to consider an electronic way to keep up with all the information regarding recruitment. Dr. Marty Hatton agreed that an informal space to share ideas is needed, but also a formal space where narrative can be created going forward.

Mrs. Deana Pendley mentioned that in the past she has had students interested in secondary education who have reached out to her at Copiah Lincoln. She also mentioned that there is a potential for recruitment of students in South Mississippi. Franklin and Lawrence County Teacher Academies are looking for information to share to their students. Mrs. Pendley mentioned feedback she had received from some students regarding difficulty in the admissions process or with the transfer of General Education classes. Dr. Marty Hatton once again expressed that as we begin our recruitment focus, building strong advising partnerships and co-advising will be key for success in recruitment from our community colleges.

9.2 Key Assessment Data for Fall 2020 and Program Findings

Dr. Shelley Bock explained that the Elementary Education Faculty took a look at the Internship scores. Of all of the indicators during internship, indicators 7 and 19 were the two that were below standard. A common document addressing ways faculty can encourage student improvement in both these areas was presented at faculty meeting and will be shared for use across the EPP.

Additionally, when it came to Dispositions, Mentor Teachers seemed to rate students significantly higher than the University Supervisor. It was determined that there may need to be a more concerted effort in encouraging Mentor Teachers to score students accurately during initial Orientation time.

Dr. Marty Hatton questioned the council whether or not the concerns with what they saw in their students lined up with the scores. He requested everyone look at the data and allowed time for feedback. It was noted that several of the secondary/k12 University Supervisors are new to the EPP, and do not have multiple semesters to use as a reference for indicators of progress. No additional concerns were noted.

10.0 Field Experience Report

No Report was given.

11.0 Announcements

Dr. Shelley Bock let everyone know that the new revised key assessments will be sent out to everyone prior to the April TEC meeting. She requested everyone review them thoroughly as they will be voted on for use in the Fall 2021 semester. In addition, several new clinical partner surveys will be presented and requested everyone take the time to look at them prior to the meeting and provide feedback.

12.0 Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Brittany Hunnicutt.