

Indiana State University  
Teacher Education Committee  
January 20, 2009

APPROVED MINUTES  
(2-17-09)

Members present: D. Ballard, L. Barratt, C. Chao, D. Clark, H. Ganapathy-Coleman, E. Hampton, R. Hinshaw, S. Kiger, S. Latta, M. Lee, C. Marchese, A. Norris, D. Quatroche, A. Solesky, C. Tucker, K. Wenning

Members absent: S. Gruenert, K. Harris, F. Lai, M. Nail

Ex Officio Members present: S. Powers, J. Sheese, B. Libler

1. Call to Order. TEC Chair E. Hampton called the meeting to order at 3.34 pm.
2. Approval of Minutes for November 18, 2008. D. Quatroche moved approval of minutes for November 18, 2008. C. Tucker seconded. Meeting minutes were approved (12-0-0).
3. New Business
  - A. New grading system for fall 2009. S. Powers informed the group that our current 2.3 GPA grade of C+ requirement for education program entry has been raised to a 2.5 GPA. TEC must decide if the education program needs a C+ average and whether this will work considering that it can lower the number of students eligible for an education major. Our graduate programs will also make this change marking change from 3.5 to a 3.74 GPA. E. Hampton verified that we will not be making decisions for graduate programs. In response to D. Ballard's question, S. Powers said that this is a university wide change that was meant to be implemented in spring but will instead be implemented in fall. E. Hampton wondered if the change should correspond with the new grading system so that the intent is signaled. When L. Barratt asked if the 2.5 or 2.3 would be valid for transfer students considering that grading scales differ by school, S. Powers said that the GPA would count and that most schools have a plus/minus system. We belong to a small minority of schools that still do not have this system. Criteria in different universities were discussed. It was noted that Indiana University has a 2.75 average for entry into the education major. J. Sheese noted that no school has lowered their entrance criteria. Students who do not meet the 2.0 criteria are typically told to leave the university. L. Barratt enquired if students do not meet the GPA criterion and pass Praxis 1 will be excluded from the teacher preparation program. C. Tucker asked for an approximation of the number of students who may be affected by this change. E. Hampton asked if this is about tying things to a letter grade or to a GPA. What is the intent? What are the criteria?

Would we want to keep a student if they have all C+s? E. Hampton noted that we need to include more students budget-wise, from the viewpoint of recruitment. S. Kiger said we should think about the populations that will be excluded by this change. D. Ballard noted that there are more implications than just for entry and that petitions would also be affected by this change. S. Powers responded that we will not really know the impact of the change till at least fall when grades are sorted out. The underlying purpose of this change is to raise standards. S. Powers said we should put this item back on the agenda so that we can discuss it after bringing more feedback.

B. New instructional schedule for summer – Overall time in classes has been raised as an issue in the impending reduction to a four day week schedule during the summer. S. Powers said that mathematically, it makes no difference but that it was about 3 hours less for a 2.50 hour class with a 10 minute break. Historically, over a period of time, there has always been less time under certain parameters. Overall, the change will not make much difference.

C. General Education Foundational Studies Proposal – S. Powers reported that no classes are being grandfathered into the General Education course list so that all current general education courses will have to re-apply for inclusion in the Foundational Studies Program once the program is approved. CDCSEP has been told about this because of the general education courses they offer. EPSY 341 has to fit into the general education requirements and then, after those changes, it may not fit into the program requirements. Does TEC support EPSY 202, EPSY 341 or both or neither? L. Barratt said that their courses are being removed from the list because they do well without the 10% students needed in it for it to be considered a general education course. The question is if we want to fundamentally alter a course for that 10% student population in a course. D. Ballard said that it is an over-simplification to say that these requirements will decrease hours for students because in music, it is going to mean an increase. EPSY 202 must be justified for being a foundational course whereas EPSY 341 must be justified as fulfilling requirements for learning about US diversity or international cultures. This may call for revision of the two courses. S. Powers said that EPSY 341 is a bigger concern because there is no single faculty member in charge of this course. H. Ganapathy-Coleman said that EPSY 202 already has a practical, applied flavor and also has cross cultural piece. D. Ballard said that it may need some serious tinkering to be included as a foundational course and not just as a social and behavioral science general education elective. He noted that it should continue to be on our agenda because we do not know how different programs are really going to be impacted. L. Barratt said that the life sciences and languages may be impacted. R. Libler said that there is a new policy that students can use a course from their major to meet foundational requirements. L. Barratt said that in some programs they take more courses to meet requirements for licensure. In some cases, courses taken as a minor count towards the licensure requirements. D. Ballard said that we should get secondary colleges to look at what the revised general education program may mean and what its impact might be. The group made a decision to make this a discussion topic for the first Tuesday of February.

4. Associate Deans' Report – B. Libler & S. Powers reported on a water leak on 3rd floor on Saturday due to a frozen pipe that burst and noted that things are in order now.

Lilly Fellows will be here next week with gallery walks and displays. Jeff Keene and a music teacher from Seymour Indiana and other teachers who have won fellowships from Lilly Endowment will be on campus Sunday through Thursday.

5. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 4.28 pm.

Respectfully submitted by  
Hema Ganapathy-Coleman, TEC Secretary