

INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY
TEACHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE
November 18, 2008

APPROVED MINUTES
(Approved 1-20-09)

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

Members absent:

Guests Present: H. Hudson

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

1. Call to Order

TEC Chair E. Hampton called the meeting to order at 3.30 pm.

2. Approval of Minutes for October 21, 2008. D. Quatroche moved approval of minutes for October 21, 2008. H. Ganapathy-Coleman seconded. Meeting minutes were approved (10-0-1).

3. Discussion – National Council on Teacher Quality Yearbook Report.

E. Hampton opened the discussion by noting that according to the report, the state of Indiana is not faring well on teacher quality indices. S. Powers noted that math is embedded in the entire document and that though Indiana had received an A grade in the past it receives an F grade now. B. Balch pointed out that the governor's roundtable is committed to the report and its use in next-step agenda items despite inflammatory language in the report, methodological opaqueness, heavy quantitative focus, reliance on the incipient literature in neuroscience, and reliability and validity concerns. However, in view of the high stakes, pre-service educators should work on it, and ISU should be represented.

There was discussion around the methodology used to collect and analyze state level data. B. Balch said that some colleges and universities had the right key words in their syllabi and these defined emphasis in a content area. If a unit used a "preferred" as opposed to a "seminal" text, they were downgraded. At the national level, they contacted colleges and departments for information. When faculty called to ask what the information was needed for, they did not get clear answers. D. Quatroche noted that it was not clear what rubric they used. S. Powers said that they used government reports and public information sources including title 2 reports, DOE reports, teacher association reports, school district personnel, state collaboration analysis etc. D. Quatroche said that for reading, they were looking for five components and for work by particular authors whose work is regarded as

“scientific.” D. Quatroche also tracked philosophical shifts in instruction in reading noting that teachers in schools have been bothered by the lack of consistency. E. Hampton contrasted this with NCATE accreditation that is much more comprehensive and seeks details. B. Balch noted that a qualitative piece is needed at the front end of the survey so that it is not biased.

C. Tucker asked about the individuals who were engaged in preparing the report. S. Powers said that Exxon Mobil, school superintendents, a teacher from NH, people from Teach for America, and legislators were among the many individuals involved.

D. Clark asked what the fallout will be. B. Balch said that authorities in higher education want to know what we will do about it. We can revisit what policy makers want but it will take time and may or may not be successful. In one case where it was successful, it was a slow process that involved K-12 personnel. What was codified was rejected by the human service professionals who were involved. Reading and math will have to be examined and there have to be conversations with our K-12 partners to address this. B. Balch also spoke about math education and math educators and the lack of consistency in the field that gets in the way of people talking meaningfully about math education. Poverty appears to be an overriding concern for policy makers that is not making any movement towards fairness.

6. Dean’s Report

B. Balch celebrated our NCATE report, thanked the group and noted the collaborative nature of the task. The unit is scheduled for a full NCATE visit in 2011. We can put our visit off for a year like many other IN institutions. If so, our next visit will be in 2012. At a recent presentation, B. Balch had to supply information on minority recruitment, ESL needs, the second language learner crisis that we are experiencing in IN, dropout and its prevention. There is a growing theme in terms of growing market savvy and being responsive to market demands e.g. hybrid delivery. President Bradley also wants to look at program offerings in terms of new modalities in service delivery.

7. Associate Deans’ Report – Becky Libler & Susan Powers

- B. Libler thanked the TEC seminar attendance of individuals in the site visit by personnel in the Teachers for a New Era Learning Network. The monograph will be shared with us when it is ready. B. Libler also reported on a successful Teachers of Tomorrow recruitment event. Many faculty were involved, potential teachers went to classes, toured, had a diverse, articulate student panel in which they answered any questions.

- S. Powers informed that the Dean has made a textbook scholarship available to ISU bookstore. If a student takes and passes Praxis 1, they will get a \$100 scholarship. They should do it as close to high school as possible. This is especially important for transfer students. Also, each semester, those who complete will be entered for an iPod drawing. B. Libler said that many students having dorm lunch during their Teachers of Tomorrow day talked about taking the test.

8. ESS Report

J. Sheese informed the group that she will send Praxis 2 reports out next week.

9. December 16 TEC meeting

There was a brief discussion about moving the TEC meeting from December 16 to December 9. The committee unanimously agreed to move the meeting to December 9 and cancelling the Dec 16th meeting.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4.15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by

Hema Ganapathy-Coleman, TEC Secretary