

TEACHER EDUCATION COMMITTEE  
September 15, 2009

APPROVED MINUTES  
(October 20, 2009)

Members present: Dennis Ballard, Chad Becker, Chia-An Chao, Dan Clark, Hema Ganapathy-Coleman, Kara Harris, Rebecca Hinshaw, Susan Kiger, Damon Krug, Myung-Ah Lee, Melissa Nail (Chair), Amy Norris, Yong Joon Park, Steven Pontius, Amanda Solesky, Brad Venable

Members absent: Denise Collins, Clair Marchese, Catherine Tucker

Ex Officio Members present: Brad Balch, Dan Clark, Brian Coldren, Susan Powers, Judy Sheese, Becky Libler

1. Call to Order. TEC Chair M. Nail called the meeting to order at 3.35 pm.
2. Approval of Minutes for April 21, 2009. R. Hinshaw moved approval, S. Kiger seconded and the minutes were approved 11-0-2.
3. New Business
  - Election of Officers. Nominations were invited for the following posts for 2009-10
    - $\frac{3}{4}$  Parliamentarian
    - $\frac{3}{4}$  Secretary
    - $\frac{3}{4}$  Non-COE Executive Member
  - C. Becker volunteered for the post of Parliamentarian and was selected by acclamation. H. Ganapathy-Coleman was nominated for Secretary by S. Kiger and selected by acclamation. M. Lee was selected by acclamation for non-COE Executive Member.
  - Assessment Day. S. Powers noted that on September 18, from 9 am till 1.30 pm, important information would be shared about assessment data gathered college-wide over the past year to decide on next steps. The format for Assessment Day this year will include five breakout sessions lasting 45 minutes each, lunch, outcomes and next steps. New state rules (which may require that by next fall we must look for national accreditation to pass Standard 1 of NCATE), Higher Education Reauthorization Act, ways to assess faculty effectiveness, field operations and employer and alumni surveys would be some of the topics under discussion.
4. Dean's Report – Dean Balch thanked the TEC for its work over the past academic year, invited the group to attend Assessment Day, and invited a volunteer to attend the IACTE meeting.

He pointed the committee towards the new and worrisome rules on the DOE website at the bottom of which there are rule changes, promulgations etc. Cost is a

huge factor in the new proposals being floated by the DOE with the intent being to strip away all investments made to help new teachers. All references to central schools and colleges of education have been removed. He expressed concern about how these changes would affect our first year teachers who are being inducted into old rules and the students who we have a contractual relationship with. New rules mean that we should look at our programs and think about the possibility of offering non-credit based opportunities to our teachers as the focus is not on professional development but on student achievement. Licenses and induction are being used to break unions and collective bargaining agreements. Two signature waivers are being introduced. There may be a need to redirect the DOE towards the laws that are in place. He stressed the need for thinking about our next steps and requested that the group study the website so that we can have an informed discussion. Public comment remains open for 30 days. S. Powers enquired as to whether the PTO has been involved in this; the Dean noted that we need to look into this. D. Ballard requested a summary while also observing that as per new proposed rules, content and content education degree distinctions would all be removed. B. Coldren pointed to inconsistencies among different versions of the documents being circulated. J. Sheese emphasized that the document is unprecedented in its scope and implications. For instance, anyone who has an old rule license loses it and will be required to get a new one. The ways of acquiring a license or renewing a license for current teachers are becoming highly prescribed in contrast to the open licensing system that was in place in 2002. If a teacher does not find a teaching position within 6 years, they must renew their license completely. More emphasis is being placed on content area in elementary education but in order to have a license in an area, there is only a need to pass Praxis 2. While Praxis 1 is not needed for licensing, it is needed for entrance into the Teacher Education program. Portfolios will be eliminated which is not a bad thing but the absence of discussion around the proposed changes is a matter of concern. The intention is for these changes to be implemented by July 1 of 2010. M. Nail enquired as to whether it is advisable to tell PDS teachers to renew their licenses. J. Sheese replied that they cannot till we know all details and timelines.

M. Nail proposed that a discussion about the latest iteration of the document be the seminar topic. The suggestion was accepted by the committee.

5. Associate Deans' Report – Becky Libler & Susan Powers. B. Libler offered information about Sycamore Educator's Day scheduled for November 7. There will be 4 sessions, 3 breakout sessions and 12 topics in each session. It will be held in University Hall for the first time. This may be the last chance for credit generated license renewal. Teachers of Tomorrow will be on November 17. This is organized in the fall and spring for groups of prospective teachers, students and their parents. On October 20 a group of prospective students will be visiting from the Tri County High Schools.

B. Libler noted that Project Pre is concluding on September 30 after 6 highly productive years that have ushered in many accomplishments including documents, pedagogical centers and professional development in schools for teachers.

S. Powers provided information about changes in the criminal background check procedures. Rosters must be sent to J. Sheese; finger print tests will cost \$39.20 each; the first part will cost \$12.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4.38 pm.

Respectfully submitted by  
Hema Ganapathy-Coleman, TEC Secretary