

The College of New Jersey
School of Education
TEPC Meeting
April 6, 2016

The Teacher Education Program Council meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. in Education 103. Those in attendance were: CAEP Coordinator Dr. Lynn Booth, Dr. Laura Bruno, Dr. Maureen Connolly, Dr. Amy Dell, Dr. Jody Eberly, Dr. Courtney Faber, Asst. Dean Delsia Fleming, Dr. Brian Girard, Dr. Joseph Goebel, Dr. Colette Gosselin, Eileen Heddy, Dr. Arti Joshi, Dr. Lisa LaJevic, Dr. Cathy Liebars, STEP Director Kerri Long, Dr. Solange Lopes-Murphy, Dr. Nathan Magee, Dr. Mike Marino, Dr. Steve O'Brien, Dr. Nadya Pancsofar, Dr. Barbara Strassman, and Dr. Yiqiang Wu. The Dean of the SOE, Dr. Jeff Passe, presided over the meeting.

1. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Deaf Ed does have a capstone course, just not with the early childhood course. Minutes were approved with modification.

2. Announcements

Dr. Marino advised that a TEPC representative must be on the Committee for Academic Programs (CAP); this committee reviews change in major policies. Dr. Marino is looking for another TEPC member to take his place for the upcoming term. CAP terms run for three years and the new term will begin Fall, 2016. The committee meetings meet twice a month, on the second and fourth Wednesday. Dean Passe requested that anyone who may be interested in being a CAP representative to advise the Dean's office.

3. EdTPA

Dr. Gosselin, having just returned from an EdTPA conference, advised that many of the attendees felt that EdTPA is a wonderful instrument to implement. She attended the advanced sections of the trainings and had an opportunity to speak with individuals about possible implementation issues.

- Many of the required elements will not be very challenging as they are things that are already being done in our programs.
- There are three main tasks that will need to be demonstrated; the faculty should focus on these initially.
 - Planning Segment. Students will present 3-5 lesson plans; the students will need to include a commentary where they must use EdTPA academic language. EdTPA academic language has 7 different components; they require very specific terminology to use in their commentaries.

- One suggestion was to use the academic language as early as possible so students will already know the language when they do the EdTPA portfolio.
 - Video clips. They want to see students demonstrate certain proficiencies by applying academic language.
 - Assessment. A number of individuals advised that assessment was the biggest obstacle for their students. To help with this issue many programs developed an assessment course.
- A major step would be for faculty to learn the academic language that students need to employ and to help students do the same.
- Another recommendation was to emphasize tasks 1 & 2 (planning and video) in the clinical experience before student teaching; allowing faculty to provide specific feedback as this would not be submitted. Emphasis on task 3 would take place in the capstone course.
- It was also suggested to complete the EdTPA portfolio early in the semester (Oct. for Fall, Feb. for Spring) so it won't interrupt providing feedback on student learning projects. Students can possibly be brought back to campus for a few days to work on their portfolios.
 - Estimated turnaround time for grading portfolios is 3 weeks, which will give time at the end of student teaching for remediation if a student doesn't meet the benchmark. A \$100 fee will be imposed for every task a student doesn't pass.
- Students can be trained to give each other substantive feedback as faculty cannot give specific feedback on portfolios being submitted to EdTPA.
- Students will submit a total of 15 rubrics; there are five rubrics for each task.
 - Faculty may want to consider adopting the academic language in their grading and NCATE rubrics to help students become accustomed.
 - Rubrics are content specific so every program has its own guidebook. Example rubrics can be downloaded from the website. Faculty must be a registered member to access the guidebooks.
 - Ms. Long requested faculty go to the website at www.AACTE.org/EdTPA and follow the instructions to register. Click the tab "E-Request Resources" and enter the requested information; once your request has been authorized you will get an email confirming your membership.
 - Another resource is an academic language webinar, which supports the trainings taking place at the Rutgers symposium on April 6th and May 26th.
- Ms. Long advised that NJ Department of Education determined the score for the first year will be 1 standard deviation below New York State's which is 42.

- Dr. Gosselin inquired if her understanding that the first year or two would not be consequential is accurate. Ms. Long confirmed that the first year will not be consequential (Sept. 2017-2018); however, there are plans to implement the above referenced score in 2018.
- Dr. Gosselin explained that each rubric is graded on a 5 point scale for a maximum score of 75 points. In order to pass, EdTPA students need an average of 3 points on every rubric.
- Dean Passe expressed his main concern is that EdTPA will be setting the curriculum for TCNJ as they will be determining the rubrics. He suggests considering making our rubrics more demanding than AACTE's. For example a score of 3 for AACTE can be set as a 2 for us when scoring rehearsals. This can help to better prepare students and allow program autonomy to be maintained.
- Opportunities are available for individuals to be trained as scorers. This could be valuable in assuring student performance is accurately scored and in line with the required standards.
- Ms. Long notified the committee that TCNJ will be granted 400 courtesy licenses.
 - Dr. Gosselin shared that initially she thought piloting certain programs would be helpful; but after attending the training she it would be more beneficial to have everyone conduct a pilot. This would allow faculty to get firsthand knowledge instead of having information relayed by those who participated.
 - If each faculty member teaching a capstone course ran a pilot it would allow for their own rehearsal using the rubrics and academic language. Each faculty member would work with only a few students minimizing the workload and learning curve. Their work can be sent to EdTPA to be scored; which will provide a benchmark on how well students are coached.
 - Dean Passe stated that Dr. Gosselin's suggestion will be on the agenda for the next meeting.
- Dean Passe suggested bringing assessment experts to campus as a professional development opportunity. Discussions about the latest findings, theories, and or philosophies can be held, while also addressing how institutions can incorporate assessment or create new assessment courses.

4. Updates on Adjustments to comply with the New Regulations?

- Dr. Faber advised that Tech Studies is anticipating a semester where students will have to take 5 units. Dr. Faber is wondering if other programs are identifying similar issues. The units are staying consistent but the shifting is making two semesters 3.5 units and one semester 5 units; however, she's being informed this would be viewed as overloading.

- Secondary Education advised that this is normal for their program as the student teaching semester is only 3 units.
- Dr. Dell explained that the Deaf Education 5 year program has two semesters where the students have to take 5 units.
- Dean Passe informed everyone that there was a proposal to cap the number of units a few years ago; even though it didn't get very far it may be coming back. If it's passed, students would have to pay more if they exceed the unit cap.
- Dr. Lajevic advised that all of Art Educations revisions were approved.
- Ms. Long inquired about the internal TCNJ program approval process.
 - Dean Passe stated that every school is different but most probably have to get approval from the department, a curriculum committee, and the Dean's office. Once approvals are received it goes to Records and Registration. If it's a graduate course it goes to GPC.
- Ms. Long advised that all programs are set to expire September 2017 and must be reapproved by the State.
 - The target date for submittal is April 2017; she plans to get templates out to everyone in a few weeks.

5. Other

Assistant Dean Fleming advised that all undergraduate bulletin updates are due on April 8th.

- Ms. Long inquired about the status of changing the letter grade in student teaching from a C to a B-. Ms. Long would like to suggest making it effective for all students graduating after September 1, 2018 to keep it in line with the standards that will be solidified at that time such as the 3.0 GPA and full year student teaching.
 - Dean Passe advised that the matter will be placed on the agenda for the next Steering Committee meeting on April 20th. The steering committee will form a proposal, which will be brought back to the large group for review and approval.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:26pm. The next TEPC meeting will be held on April 20th at 1:30 pm in EDU 103.