

The College of New Jersey
School of Education
TEPC Meeting – Large Group/Coordinators
October 5, 2016

The Teacher Education Program Council meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. in Education 103. Those in attendance were: Brianna Antoniello (SGA), Dr. Lynn Booth, Dr. Laura Bruno, Dr. Maureen Connolly, Dr. Jody Eberly, Dr. Courtney Faber, Assistant Dean Delsia Fleming, Dr. Brian Girard, Dr. Joe Goebel, Dr. Matthew Hall, Professor Eileen Heddy, Dr. Arti Joshi, Dr. Lisa LaJevic, Dr. Cathy Liebars, Certification Office Kerri Long, Dr. Nathan Magee, Dr. Mike Marino, Dr. Emily Meixner, Dr. Nadya Pancsofar, Dr. Shri Rao, Dr. Colleen Sears, Dr. Barbara Strassman, Dr. Matthew Wund. The Dean of the School of Education, Dr. Jeff Passe, presided over the meeting.

1. Welcome

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes from September 7, 2016 were approved as submitted.

3. Wednesday Meeting Schedule

Dean Passe reported that part of the proposed governance documents distributed to the campus community addresses reconfiguring Wednesday meeting schedules. He has asked that everyone please be sure to review the documents to evaluate how they might affect this council and campus governance as a whole. Hearings and official proceedings are to take place regarding these documents.

4. Curriculum Proposals

a. *Changes to DHH-required major courses*

Dr. Strassman provided an overview of the proposed changes (distributed as part of agenda) and noted one modification to the proposal (paragraph two: “The SELL Department will be embedding *Task 3* of that [edTPA] assessment within RAL 320”).

Ms. Long motioned to approve the proposal, which was seconded by Dr. Goebel. The proposal was put to vote and passed unanimously.

b. *Revised Secondary Education undergraduate course sequence*

Dr. Girard provided the group with an overview of the proposed revised Secondary Education undergraduate course sequence (distributed as attachment to agenda). In summary, these proposed changes address the requirement for additional clinical hours, divide an existing course combining Special Education and Literacy into separate courses

on these topics, and the development of a 0.5 unit content literacy course.

Dr. Goebel motioned to approve the proposal, which was seconded by Ms. Long. The proposal was put to a vote and passed unanimously.

c. New Secondary Education 099 (college seminar) course

Dean Passe provided an overview to the group, noting that the creation of a new Secondary Education 099 course would fulfill the need of Secondary Education students to be introduced to, oriented by, and engaged with their education major prior to their sophomore year courses.

Dr. Hall motioned to approve the proposal, which was seconded by Dr. Goebel. The proposal was put to a vote and passed unanimously.

5. Political Matters

a. edTPA implementation update

Dean Passe reported that Dr. Booth and Ms. Long have been in contact and had meetings with many local superintendents regarding the edTPA rollout, noting the delicacy with which these discussions have had to be handled. He stated that the intention of these meetings is to continue to operate in good faith with the approval of districts' central offices and to ensure that everyone is on the same page regard what the state expects from TCNJ's student teachers and how it will affect in-class activities. Dr. Booth reported that the outcomes of these meetings have been surprisingly positive and receptive to working with us to ease implementation. Thus far, South Brunswick is on board for an edTPA pilot; Manalapan, which has already taken steps toward distributing a district-wide film releases to all parents and guardians, intends to participate and has gone so far as to seek to create class rosters composed of students with fully signed releases.

b. Mindfully presenting critical discourse

Dean Passe reminded the group that we can be critical of these new regulations, but also that we must mindful that we are asking for cooperation in ensuring compliance. He continued by stating that, as experts in the field of education, people typically take the opinions of our faculty quite seriously; due to this, we need to be sure to strike a balance lodging a protest against these regulations and impeding our own work toward implementation and compliance.

Dean Passe encouraged the representatives and their colleagues to engage in the formal discourse with the public, legislative, and regulating bodies, while making sure not to give our institution, outside institutions, and our own students the wrong impression of the necessary work toward compliance. Ms. Long reiterated this and added that she and

Dr. Booth have encountered issues with telephone-like interpretations (misinformation) regarding the regulations and implementation, which (generally speaking) put herself and Dr. Booth in poor positions as representatives meeting with outside parties. She continued, stating that this sort of rhetoric puts our school and education in bad standing as it is generally perceived as denigrating the product of our work; this is especially true when interacting with students, who should have confidence and pride in the services and the education our programs provide.

Dean Passe opened the floor for discussion. Dr. Meixner stated that she is concerned about faculty putting on a façade toward students regarding edTPA and other onerous regulations, as part of what the faculty seek to impart is a healthy sense of political engagement and critique of education mandates. Dr. Girard agreed with Dr. Meixner, but also added that we should be mindful of what we are critiquing and how we are critiquing (e.g., taking issue with additional financial burdens or methods of assessment, rather than dismissal of the whole product before it is even in use). Dr. Marino also echoed this, but stated that it is difficult to divorce the positive view of teaching proposed by edTPA from the further infringement of corporate oligarchy into the realm of education.

Dr. Joshi remarked that we are likely facing an uphill battle in dealing with some of the districts, as superintendents have likely made up their mind on how they want to engage with edTPA before even interacting with TCNJ or state representatives.

6. CAEP Standards Update

Dr. Booth presented the group with a handout which details the major changes to our accreditation standards under CAEP and how our previous standards (NCATE) align with these. She clarified that under the new standards the term “student” refers to both K-12 students and teacher education candidates. She also noted that diversity is not a unique standard under CAEP as it was under NCATE, because diversity (along with technology) are interwoven throughout the five standards.

Dr. Booth stated that CAEP requires program entry evaluations, much like NJ DOE, but this requirement will not supersede the requirements of the state regulations. Ms. Long inquired as to whether CAEP will accept multiple forms of assessment (i.e., SAT, ACT, Praxis Core as NJ DOE done) to satisfy entry requirements. Dr. Booth responded that she will contact CAEP, but she believes they will permit multiple forms of assessment.

Dr. Booth stated that we will need to update our rubrics and assessment tools in the two years to ensure that they are in alignment with CAEP standards; these rubrics and assessment tools can be submitted to CAEP for pre-use evaluation. On this topic, she added that CAEP will be assessing inter-rater reliability and validity when evaluating

completed rubrics. CAEP will be verifying that we are training everyone on how to use these rubrics and assessment tools, so departments and programs must create documentation to be included in trainings and meetings (meeting minutes). Dr. Meixner inquired as to how CAEP will determine inter-rater reliability when there is only one rater for a program (mostly secondary content areas). Dr. Booth stated that she would seek an answer from CAEP.

Dean Passe reminded the representatives that it is incumbent upon them to bring the information provided in the TEPC meeting back to their individual programs and departments.

7. edTPA Clarifications

A question was raised by Dr. Sears about how students participating in student teaching prior to Fall 2017, but not graduating until Fall 2017 or later, should proceed. The general consensus was that students should complete edTPA while in their student teaching placement and, if possible, be part of the program pilot. Ms. Long reminded the council that all students graduating after September 1st, 2017 are required to formally complete edTPA; there will be no consequential score until an official set of consequential scores is established. On a related note, Ms. Long noted that once an edTPA voucher is activated, the student will have up to 18 months to submit full materials, which may be useful for the videotaping portion (Task 2).

Dean Passe stated that Dr. Booth and Ms. Long will look into the matter and return to the group with clear answers regarding issues with the completion timeline.

Dr. Strassman inquired as to whether it was possible to complete edTPA in seven weeks, as many students in SELL programs engage in seven-week global student teaching placements. Dr. Booth and Ms. Long advised her that it was possible to do so.

8. NJ DOE Update (program resubmission timelines)

Ms. Long reported that all programs must be submitted for re-approval by April 1st, 2017; in order to provide meaningful and complete support to programs completing this documentation, first drafts are due to Jennifer Pirone no later than February 15th, 2017. All programs which result in instructional certification must complete documentation. The goal of this resubmission is to illustrate the integration of the new 175 hours of student teaching and edTPA as required by NJ DOE.

Dean Passe returned to the subject (from the previous meeting) of re-taking the SAT to satisfy NJ DOE basic skills requirements. Ms. Long has been in contact with NJ DOE and was told that there was no official opinion on students doing this. Based on student

experiences and a bit of research by Ms. Long, this does not appear to be an option for current TCNJ students, as the test is meant for high school students and restricted to such, likely to protect outcome statistics. Dr. Sears reported that some of her students had been able to register for and re-take the exam, but only by omitting key pieces of identifying information.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:31pm. The next Large Group/Coordinators TEPC will be held on Wednesday, November 2nd at 1:30pm in EDU 103. The next Steering Committee meeting, October 19th, has been cancelled due to lack of necessary business.