

**UTEC Meeting**  
**April 18, 2013, Reid Hall 301**

**PRESENT:** Lynda Ransdell, Peter Tillack, Bill Freese, Nancy Colton, Scott Davis, Jioanna Carjuzaa, Holly Hunts, Carl Igo, Kathryn Will, Cyndi Meldahl, Jayne Downey, Pat Ingraham, Lidia Haughey, Sara King

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Carl moved that the February minutes be approved as written. Seconded by Holly. Approved unanimously. Cyndi proposed some changes. Carl moved that the March minutes be approved as amended. Seconded by Holly. Approved unanimously.

**FOLLOW UP ITEMS** (Jayne Downey)

- There will be a police-led **FINGER PRINT CLINIC** for two hours during finals week (Reid 4<sup>th</sup> floor lab). Date/time TBA. Holly suggested three hours but Jayne explained that trained officers have to be brought in specially and the police had suggested only one hour. To be cost effective, Jayne had settled at two hours but will offer the clinic across exam times (e.g. if exams run 8-10am the clinic would run 9-11) to provide maximum availability.
- Every freshman orientation session will include communication about **BACKGROUND CHECKS**.
- Matt Caires likes the concept of closing gaps between concerns on campus and in programs. A further meeting with Jayne is slated for May to outline a process by which departments will consistently notify the **DEAN OF STUDENTS** office as issues arise, and vice versa.

**NEW ITEMS**

**RAISING ADMISSION GPA TO 2.75 FOR SECONDARY PROGRAMS:**

Scott and Lidia raised technology education student concerns. When would this go into effect? How does this affect students not yet in the teacher ed program? Pat said licensure would be affected, and referred to an OPI handout she circulated to the meeting "Montana Assessment for content Knowledge Verification: Teacher Candidates Implementation: Spring 2013". The handout shows content coursework GPA range 2.0-2.64 to result in 1 point towards a 7 point total required for consideration for licensure. The handout states "for candidates who achieve a minimum passing composite score of 7, but receive a score of 1 on rubric components 1, 2 or 3 above, a further individualized review of the candidate's content knowledge and teaching skills will be conducted by the Montana College or University to ensure that the candidate merits recommendation for licensure". Thereby, if student gets 2.5 in content they would score a 1 and MSU's Field Placement & Licensure office would conduct another review to see if licensure is possible. Pat confirmed that the OPI policy states for implementation spring 2013.

**Other discussion points followed:**

- If a student doesn't reach 2.75 we can do the individual review (Pat)

- In light of the OPI handout what are the chances of students being hired with content knowledge GPAs of 2.5? (Pat)
- Cumulative GPA in courses outside of major? (Cyndi)
- If we only look at content courses why not 2.65 rather than 2.75? (Holly). Answer: for consistency across programs (Jayne)
- CAEP has had discussion about required GPAs too. The body of evidence suggests a move in this direction (Lynda)
- Ag requires four, 4 credit, heavily science based courses. "C" passes are realistic, but a C in a number of 4 credit courses doesn't take long to drop below 2.75 GPA. Language classes are sometimes 4 credits too. Therefore, some programs are likely to be more heavily impacted than those that comprise predominantly 3 credit courses. (Carl)

#### **Responses to discussion points:**

- Individual review covers most concerns. (General consensus). However, we'll be dealing with more students on an individual basis. (Carl)
- Field Placement Office would go to the advisor/department to know if review outcome is approvable or not. (Pat)
- Would provisional admission at GPAs under 2.75 be appropriate? Is there enough time for students to reach 2.75 in time to student teach? (Jayne) Yes. Provisional admission would allow students to move through to student teaching. Fits well with student retention goals. (Carl). If GPA is lower than 2.5 there wouldn't be enough time to make the grade. (Jayne)
- Overall GPA, or content GPA? (Kathryn). ANSWER: content.
- Propose content to be printed on TEPP form. (Carl) Reports show core (Cyndi). Degree Works divides by major, core, general (Carl).
- Wouldn't we want to aim for 2.75 GPA but without promoting the individual discussion piece? (Lydia).
- Promote 2.75 unconditional admission, 2.5 provisional? (Carl).
- Montana is the only state not using the cut score on Praxis as the in/out determining factor for teacher license. We use multiple measures to assess skills and abilities. Glad we're not like the other states; we support OPI doing this to support secondary students. (Jayne)
- How many students seek a variance based on GPA? (Carl) Not many (Pat) usually taken care of before practicum/student teaching; they are well prepared content-wise. We mostly deal with performance during field experiences. ID those who don't make the grade early rather than waiting until senior year.
- Entry to teacher ed happens in the semester before Methods.
- Tech Ed requires pre-calculus, chemistry and physics in the same year. Entry to 200 level courses would help students get through these difficult required courses. (Scott/Lidia). UM has "pre-ed" to create a space for those struggling with heavy courses but pushes admission to teacher ed back a little. This might help us; worth looking at. (Jayne). Students should have chance to take assessment and ed psych

before Methods giving them a chance to reach 2.75 in time. Wouldn't we want ed psych and assessment in content? TEPP form and Degree Work requires this. (Cyndi).

**Motions:**

- Carl moved to establish a minimum GPA of 2.75 in content area for full admission into teacher education with the caveat and understanding of an opportunity for individual variances on a case-by-case basis. Peter seconded. Discussion: There are five content areas. Do we need a quorum to pass content changes?
- Holly moved to amend Carl's motion to include sending a vote to all UTEC members by electronic ballot. Seconded by Nancy. Approved unanimously.
- Nancy amended the motion to clarify and change wording to include secondary programs K-12 music, K-12 art, K-12 language arts, K-12 health enhancement. Seconded by Holly. Discussion: all licensure areas, or secondary and K-12 education per OPI language? Nancy's motion failed.
- Nancy amended to reword the motion using admission GA 2.75 for all secondary and K-12 programs. Seconded by Holly 2nd. Approved unanimously.  
*File note:* motion now reads "establish a minimum GPA of 2.75 in content area for all secondary and K-12 programs for full admission into teacher education with the caveat and understanding of an opportunity for individual variances on a case by case basis".

**VARIANCE FORM:**

Variance Form is on Education's Advising web site, under forms. For instance, for students taking a course out of sequence, wanting Methods, but missing one class. Student fills out the variance form to submit request to the placement office. Program leaders are involved and everyone is copied on the outcome. Carl suggested place for signature of advisor.

**ROLL OVER PRACTICUM:**

If practicum students are a good fit they can become teacher candidate in the same place. Students are encouraged to observe other teachers in the building. Sometimes students are with the only strongly qualified cooperating teacher but there might be others. An extra pair of hands for whole year is appealing to cooperating teachers. Practicum in secondary is one semester shorter than elementary. Secondary pracs don't always carry over and classroom management is difficult with a break between practicum and student teaching. This is discouraging to secondary ed students and makes them hard to place. Roll Over Practicum meets a student need.

**MSU TEACHER ED PROGRAM HANDOUT**

Questions are arising about double major/double degrees and how we ensure they qualify for license in major, minor and/or double degree. The accreditation process identified a lack of consistency in this and started Education looking at this area. We are seeing more double majors etc. The handout shows what Education will expect students to complete. UTEC will talk more about this at the next meeting.

## UTEC 2.75 GPA Ballot 2013

Last Name	First Name	Department	Phone	yay	nay
Carjuzaa	Jioanna	MC Ed	4941	x	
Colton	Nancy	HE K-12	6339	x	
Davis	Scott	Tech Ed	5775	x	
Downey	Jayne	Dept. Head, EDU	7426	x	
Edwards	Emily	University Studies	3881	x	
Fleming	Walter	NAS	3881	has not voted as of 5/2/13	
Francis	Greg	Physics	6625	has not voted as of 5/2/13	
Freese	Bill	Ed	3072	x	
Holmgren	Steve	Chemistry	5393	x	
Hunts	Holly	FCS	7993	has not voted as of 5/2/13	
Igo	Carl	Ag Ed	3693	x	
Ingraham	Pat	FP &T	6277	has not voted as of 5/2/13	
Judge	Vaughan	Arts & Arch	4501	x	
Karstad	Kimberly	FP &T, Secondary	6753		
LeCain	Tim	History & Philosophy	7585	x	
Luebeck	Jennifer	Math	5341	has not voted as of 5/2/13	
Lux	Christine	Early Childhood Ed	5005	x	
Meldahl	Cynthia	Ed Advising	1880	has not voted as of 5/2/13	
Petrone	Robert	English	5186	x	
Ransdell	Lynda	Dean EHHD	4135	has not voted as of 5/2/13	
Roberts	David	Dept. Head Ecology	4548	x	
Shanahan	Elizabeth	Public Policy/Admin	5167	x	
Stewart	Tobin	Music	5790	x	
Stock	Wendy	Ag Econ	7984	has not voted as of 5/2/13	
Tillack	Peter	Modern Lang	6441	x	
Weaver	Kathy	HHD Advising	4002	has not voted as of 5/2/13	
Will	Kathryn	FP&T	4762	has not voted as of 5/2/13	