



Meeting Agenda

Teacher Education Program
Teacher Education Advisory Committee (TEAC)
Thursday, Sept 14, 2017
3:00pm-4:30pm – TEO meeting room

Attendees: Wendy Carr (Chair/TEO), Ann Anderson (EDCP), Tony Clarke (Centre for Study of Teacher Education), Shawna Faber (ECPS), Maureen Kendrick (LLED), Claire Rushton (TEO), Handel Wright (EDST)
Regrets: Jessica La Rochelle (NITEP)

1. Review of Agenda

2. Welcome

The new committee members introduced each other.
Wendy reviewed the TEAC Terms of reference.

3. Fragmentation in the BEd Program (Continuation)

The committee discussed some of the aspects of the BEd Program that contribute to a sense of fragmentation expressed by teacher candidates in recent meetings and surveys. Of note is the fact that elementary/middle years candidates take 20 courses in their 11-mo program. Some questions to consider: Are there more integrative ways that each department might organize its courses? (ECPS is already considering this.) Could faculty members teach across departmental boundaries as in pre-CREATE program?

Some examples of course integration are LLED 351's integrated unit plan, instructors of EPSE 308 meet with EDST 401 coordinator to gain a better understanding of what is being taught in different sections, TELL-3C cohort integrates courses via a case-study approach, West Kootenay program delivers combined core courses.

Wendy pointed out that BEd Program/Cohort Coordinators meetings are now planned monthly rather than per-term as a means of coordinating student workloads, reducing course content duplication, monitoring student experience in the program, etc.

TEAC will revisit this question on reducing fragmentation, which also relates to student well-being.

4. Guiding Principles for Elementary/Middle Years Cohort Renewal & Retirement

The committee discussed the need for criteria by which cohorts rotate or retire in order to create space for new cohorts, such as the proposed Sustainability and Outdoor Education cohorts, proposed to TEAC in 2016-17. It was suggested that guidelines be developed, e.g., length of



existence, market demand, enrolment pressure or other. This will be developed at the next meeting.

5. Possible Alternate Pathway – 2 years, part-time

Some teacher candidates currently take 2 years to complete their program due to health or financial issues, family commitments or other reasons. Dual degree students also spread out their BEd program over a longer period. A more formalized part-time pathway might attract candidates who might otherwise not be able to accommodate or afford a full-time program. Some possible program plans will be brought forward to the next meeting for further consideration.

6. Update about Online Courses – BC Teachers' Council Process

Wendy explained that ETS and EDUC are adapting an online course for WKTEP BEd candidates on teaching in a digital environment (EDUC 490Z, based on an existing MET course), and EDST has an online BEd elective course (ADHE 330). The current position of the BC Teachers' Council is that teacher education programs may not offer any online courses; however, it will deliberate on this question at its October meeting. Wendy will report back after this meeting.

Next meeting date: Thursday, Oct 19, 3-4:30 PM