



Meeting Minutes

Teacher Education Program
TEAC – Teacher Education Advisory Committee
Thursday, September 27, 2018
TEO meeting room

Attendees: Marianne McTavish (Chair/TEO), Cynthia Nichol (EDCP), Shawna Faber (ECPS), Maureen Kendrick (LLED), Judith Walker (EDST), Tony Clarke (Centre for Study of Teacher Education), Jessica La Rochelle (NITEP), Claire Rushton (TEO), Guests: Rod Brown (TEO), John Yamamoto (TEO)

1. Review of Agenda

Item added - Indigenous Education and EDUC 440 (Jan Hare)

2. Approval of previous minutes from June 13, 2018.

Old business - As a follow up to a meeting held in early September with Janet Mee (Centre for Accessibility), Marianne will discuss with Janet the proposed pilot program for supporting BEd students registering with the Centre. The pilot program seeks to support teacher candidates from their admission into the BEd program through to their graduation.

3. 2019-20 Program Schedule

Marianne presented a TEO proposal to move the Orientation Day for teacher candidates from the traditional post Labour Day start to Thursday August 29, 2018.. The rationale for this change is to allow for a full day of classes on Tuesday September 3, 2018 and to enable access to a lecture theatre that will seat all secondary TCs together followed by all elementary TCs. Alternatives to the traditional afternoon Chan Center welcome event were also discussed. Teacher candidates would be informed of the start dates during the admission process.

Department representatives agreed to proceed with Day 1 Orientation on Thursday, August 29.

4. Practicum and Term Dates 2019-20

Practicum

Marianne presented a proposal to move the two week practicum date (EDUC 315) to October 28-November 8, 2018. The rationale included: earlier immersion of students into consecutive days in the school; continuity of weekly school visits after practicum and before the Winter break; flexibility for enacting possible changes to practicum placements; and, facilitation of EPSE 308 sections to run the length of the regular term.

ECPS, LLED, EDCP, EDST will take back to departments and provide feedback to Marianne by October 9.

Term Dates



Due to the later start of term in Winter term 2 (January 6, 2020), the term will need to be extended until Friday, December 13 in order for there to be the standard 3-week Winter break. A break longer than three weeks jeopardizes payout of student loans. Concerns were raised by ECPS that secondary teacher candidates have a short time in January to prepare for the practicum.

John Yamamoto explained that although elementary teacher candidates get one week between class/practicum for preparation, secondary teacher candidates get a two week spring break before starting the certification portion of the practicum. The deadline is mid-October for feedback in order for Jennifer Stewart to submit changes to the 2019/20 academic calendar.

ECPS, LLED, EDCP, EDST will take back to departments and provide feedback to Marianne by October 9

5. Placement of EDUC 440 during the professional program

Jan Hare discussed some of the elements that were highlighted in the external review both in terms of teacher candidates and faculty concerns around EDUC 440. She would like to continue to discuss options for secondary teacher candidates to have some of EDUC 440 content before going on practicum. Capacity to secure suitable instructors for this course is an issue that needs to be addressed.

6. External Review

Marianne began discussion of the External Review and asked how departments have discussed the review. EDST UPACC has reviewed the document; EDCP UPACC has begun some discussion; LLED and ECPS will be discussing; NITEP is waiting for their own review report to be delivered at the end of the month and will then review recommendations specific to and in conjunction with the TEO external review.

Marianne encouraged members to think of process and a framework for how we will engage with the review and move forward with the recommendations

EDST raised questions as a result of their reading of the review. Specifically, concerns were raised over the observation of racism, and racist behaviour directed at Indigenous TCs by other TCs and some instructors. Questions were raised as to whether the Dean's office has been informed, if there was more information available and how the recommendations be will be taken up. The committee was assured that the Dean's office was indeed aware of the issues. Beginning committee discussions focussed on the seriousness of the matter and how these issues will continue to be addressed. The committee discussed the policies in place (Respectful Environment & Policy 3- Human Rights) that are to support students and faculty, and that there may be a need for an ombudsperson in TEO to support the complaints process. There was also discussion regarding professional development for faculty around racism. Other suggestions for addressing the recommendations included: supporting instructors to embed Indigenous perspectives (such as examining not only the readings we assign TCS, but also which authors are given voice); taking stock of the positive things that are happening in departments around Indigenous education; and, looking at where we might see gaps. These discussions will continue in the subsequent TEAC meeting once the departments have opportunities to review the report more fully.



Jan Hare reported that the Certification year for BEd elementary will start delivery in Cariboo in 2021. The students will receive enhanced courses with Indigenous perspective within BCTC requirement. Next steps will involve building relationships with TEO during professional year and part of this preparation will involve looking at which courses to develop with a more an Indigenous perspective.

Next Meeting: October 25th, 2-3:30 p.m.