Meeting Minutes

Teacher Education Program
TEAC – Teacher Education Advisory Committee
Thursday, November 15, 2018
TEO meeting room

Attendees: Marianne McTavish (Chair/TEO), Cynthia Nichol (EDCP), Maureen Kendrick (LLED), Tony Clarke (Centre for Study of Teacher Education), Jan Hare (NITEP), Claire Rushton (TEO), Shawna Faber (ECPS) Judith Walker (EDST)
Lorrie Miller (TEO)

1. Approval of Agenda

2. Approval of previous minutes - October 25, 2018.

3. External Review update - Marianne McTavish

In terms of the process of consultation, TEO staff at their recent meeting made it a priority to read the external review in full. One area that came out of TEO discussion was to focus on ways of providing students a better experience. Each department representative reported updates from their departmental meetings and engagement with the review. Departmental response is ongoing and is being taken up with interest and depth.

- ECPS: committee formed to talk about the review
- NITEP: have created a road map of long term and short term goals. Response should be tied to indicators – how do we know we have achieved something?
- LLED: Coordinators of multi section courses are giving input to the general discussion.

The next step for TEAC is to discuss ways to collate departmental responses as well as other responses to the review and to look at how to analyze them.

4. Teacher Inquiry - Tony Clarke

As a follow-up from the information on the review and the conflation (in the review) of teacher inquiry and learning through inquiry, there is a suggestion that the title of the Inquiry seminars should be changed to Teacher Inquiry to reflect the content of the course.

However, changing the name of the course to Teacher Inquiry seminars and adapting the content could lead to a larger conversation about the Inquiry seminars. It was agreed that further conversation is needed about the bigger picture before a name change is proposed. Marianne asked each committee member to take this information back to their department and to bring people
together who are interested in this topic to attend an open discussion (date TBA), especially course coordinators, teacher candidates, and those instructors who teach the course.

5. **Student Absences – Lorrie Miller**

Lorrie Miller, the program coordinator from TEO, updated the committee members on the number of the excused/unexcused absence in 2018. Four hundred and seventy-one absences were reported from over 300 teacher candidates. A vast majority of students have excused absences, such as job interviews or ongoing health issues. There are a few who take advantage of absences. The TEAC group discussed ways to make up the missed coursework and ways to manage student attendance in large lectures (for instance, the use of clickers). If essential outcomes of the course are not being met, the teacher candidate can fail the course.

Issues also exist in keeping students focused during lectures. The committee discussed some strategies; for example, instructors can give suggestions for the use of computers and phones in a lecture and then give students a choice as to where they sit (computer free zone); negotiate a class contract to involve students in shared decisions about how classes should run. The TEO will continue to look at ways of how other faculties approach these issues around campus and collect resources and feedback. TEO will follow up with the ESA and get feedback.

6. **Other business**

**Next Meeting:** January 2019 – Exact date to be determined