



Meeting Minutes

Teacher Education Program
TEAC - Teacher Education Advisory Committee
Thursday, January 16, 2020
TEO meeting room
2:30-4:00 p.m.

Attendees: Marianne McTavish (Chair/TEO), Claire Rushton (TEO), Shawna Faber (ECPS), Scott Goble (EDCP), Kedrick James (LLED), Sam Rocha (EDST), Anne Phelan (Centre for Study of Teacher Education)

Regrets: Judith Walker (EDST), Jan Hare (NITEP)

1. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved as circulated.

2. Approval of previous minutes - November 28, 2019

The minutes were approved as circulated.

3. Cohort update

The Outdoor Education cohort will go ahead as a half cohort with several school districts interested in hosting teacher candidates. The IB PYP cohort will become a half cohort partly due to a shortage of school practicum placements for IB PYP.

The "Meeting the Needs of Diverse Learners" cohort that was previously submitted and approved, would be the next cohort in line to be considered (Faculty lead: Jennifer Katz).

If courses are considered for in situ and off campus teaching, there must be departmental approval before proceeding to timetable these courses.

4. Town Hall/Student feedback updates

TEO has hosted monthly student feedback sessions since September and the summary of the student feedback is listed below:

- Students complain that they do not know the limitations on bursaries until they get into the program and the high program fees are an issue. There is



discussion ongoing with the enrollment services. Meanwhile, please redirect any relevant student inquiries to Marianne.

- There is reported redundancy in some course readings. Each department is discussing the overlap in their departmental course outlines first. Using the same material in different contexts facilitates discussion on engaging different perspectives, and this should be made clear to students.
- Second language learners may take a longer time to process the course readings. Instructors are asked to consider this when readings are assigned and taken up in class.
- EDUC funding for TAs: there was discussion around how funding for TAs is used for EDUC courses. Funding may be based on class sizes or on developing experience of doctoral students. This is an on-going discussion.

5. Pass/Fail discussion

The current practice shows that the way of grading in this program is varied as is the understanding of what constitutes a pass. The program operates on a mastery-learning approach, which can mean a lot of extra marking.

There was discussion about the level that students have to reach in order to pass and how the Pass/Fail grading is interpreted when students are applying to graduate programs.

There was a discussion of ways in which pass/fail is interpreted and ways in which the process can be adapted and changed. This discussion will be taken up again at the next TEAC meeting.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, February 25, 2020, TEO meeting room, 10 -11:30 a.m.