Meeting Minutes

TEAC – Teacher Education Advisory Committee
Thursday, January 19, 2023
Teacher Education Office – Hybrid Room T101 & Zoom
11:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Attendees: Karen Ragoonaden (Chair, TEO), Surita Jhangiani (ECPS), Melanie Wong (LLED), Wendy Klassen (OSE), Cynthia Nicol (EDCP), Naomi Narcisse (NITEP), John Yamamoto (TEO), Akshita Dhaka (Recorder)

Regrets: Hartej Gill (EDST)

Guest: Reg D’Silva

1. Welcome: Round of introduction by all present
2. Land Acknowledgement – Karen Ragoonaden
3. Approval of agenda
   Seconded/Carried
4. Review of meeting minutes from November 24, 2022
   Seconded/Carried
5. Business Arising from minutes
   • Follow up on BCTC PAT report. Draft report has been submitted to UB C (see attached). Final report is upcoming.
6. Guest: Dr. Reg D’Silva, Associate Dean Equity, Diversity and Inclusion
   • Curriculum Funding Consultation
   • Reg spoke about Faculty initiatives on SOGI Education and the development of a SOGI excellence centre
   • Move towards including more (dedicated/intentional) SOGI content in course work – see attached document for more details
• Pilot funding for developing curriculum for teacher candidates which will result in professional development, multisection courses seem like a good starting point (incorporations of a ‘module’ within an existing course, etc.)

• Dr. Reg asked: Where do you think there are opportunities to integrate this initiative within the existing BEd program?
  o Wendy Klassen – recent workshop provided by a local partner school district for all students, was very well received; expect to receive some applications from OSE; student-led SOGI committee at OSE will likely get involved in this process along with Faculty
  o Requests for support should be specifically associated with a course of study
  o John Yamamoto – stressed the importance of bringing in (teachers) from the field who are currently implementing these programs in the school system, to provide our TCs with exemplars of how to effectively make this part of their teaching practice

• Further consultations will occur with other stakeholders before final decisions are made, and will help to design the overall function of this new Centre for SOGI Excellence

7. Office of Indigenous Education Updates

• Have now moved into their new offices on the third floor of Scarfe
• Very nice to have a firm location to see students, have Wellness days on Tuesdays etc.
• Had a visit with UNYA – Urban Native Youth Association; had a chance for their students to see our programs
• Field centers seem to be doing well (Bella Coola, Okanagan)
• Masters of Indigenous Education information session being offered via zoom later this week
• Wendy K. – continuing to work to increase Indigenous recruitment, and have been working with Dustin to allow NITEP students a pathway to come straight to OSE – this has advanced to Senate and everything appears to be going very smoothly; will hopefully have further updates at the next TEAC meeting

8. Teacher Education Office Updates

• Draft report from the BCTC has been received
  o Thanks again to all who participated in the PAT Maintenance Review Draft Maintenance Review report has been attached
  o Scott Gobel – concerns raised during PAT interview about alignment regarding time constraints and guiding principles of Indigenous learning; definitely something to thoughtfully consider moving forward
  o The previous issue was a major focus for the PAT committee, and in particular the chair Marjorie Dumont
  o In general there was not enough time for the PAT to meet with everyone within the timeframe that is currently provided; this was (intentionally) magnified by Marjorie, as her processes allowed for more personal connections (focusing on introductions, etc.), but placed additional stress on engaging in meaningful discussions about the program itself
  o Report allowed for more discussion about format of the program and possible changes that might be possible – blended delivery, etc.
    ▪ There seems to be some inconsistency there between the overarching goals/positionality of teacher education programs and the BCTC, since the PAT committee was made up (50%) of BCTC members
    ▪ May need to look at working with other TEPs across BC to advocate for significant changes to future programs
  o Development of our recent RRED program and its mixed delivery format might be a good model for future requests/changes
Next steps: waiting for the official final version of the PAT committee’s report; will analyze this report alongside previous reports and studies, to hopefully see if any patterns emerge; also would like to ask for more detailed department feedback regarding concerns

- Scott G. – concern over the potential of finding repetitive concerns over time which have failed to be addressed
- What ‘authority’ will the TEO have to effectively implement any potential changes? Will have to go through the proper process, but optimistic that (minor) changes are always possible

• Professional Development for Faculty Advisors, adjunct professors and sessional instructors in the BEd
  o January 24 session with Dustin Louie – rescheduled from January 10;
  o February 14 session #2 with Dr. Louie – rescheduled from January 24
  o Concerns raised regarding the scheduling of these sessions, and that they cannot be attended by all instructors
  o Request for zoom access to these sessions – will be offered, although not certain about how this presentation will come across using this format

• Have started the changes associated with IRP process, and CAT 2 changes – going well

9. Department Updates

• Educational and Counselling Psychology, and Special Education (ECPS)
  o Have started the departmental self-study

• Language & Literacy Education (LLED)
  o Elementary TCs taking LLED 351/352 right now
  o Wondering if instructors could be resent the message about course breaks and dismissal
M Ed program in Literacy – fully online –
next info session on January 24 (and March 1)

• Department of Curriculum & Pedagogy (EDCP)
  o Also engaging in upcoming departmental self-study
  o Questions from department UAC about Faculty members wanting to work with TCs for research purposes over the course of the B Ed program – are there protocols in place? Have to clear BREB; can be done, but there are a lot of steps and concerns, especially when it involves working with your own students
  o Similar question for Faculty members wanting to work with practicing teachers in schools – same concerns as above, but additional need to run everything through participating schools and school districts
  o Update on the Centre for the Study of Teacher Education (CSTE): formal communication that this Centre will be closed
  o Is “Inquiry” working? Has anybody looked into whether this foundational component of our current program is actually working? Is there evidence? Is there an associated effect with subsequent graduate study enrolment? (A point was made here about the relatively small percentage of courses taught within the program by actual Faculty.)

• Department of Educational Studies (EDST)
  o No report – regrets from Hartej

• Okanagan School of Education (OSE)
  o BCTC Structured Dialog was held in November; things went well, and expecting the formal report in February

10. BEd Program Updating - Tabled
  • BEd Course Distribution
  • Cohorts for 2023-24
11. New Business

- None

12. Adjournment at 12:28 PM

Next Meeting: Thursday February 16 11:00 am - 12:30 pm