



Meeting Minutes

TEAC - Teacher Education Advisory Committee

Wednesday, November 20 2024

Teacher Education Office - Hybrid TEO Meeting Room #T101 & Zoom

11:00 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

Attendees: Karen Ragoonaden (TEO), John Yamamoto (TEO), Shawna Faber (ECPS), Melanie Wong (LLED), Jessica Knot (NITEP), Cynthia Nicole (EDCP), Hartej Gill (EDST), Najmeh Bahrami

1. **Welcome** - Karen Ragoonaden
2. **Approval of agenda**- Approved
3. **Review of meeting minutes from September 18, 2024**- Approved
4. **Business Arising from minutes**
5. **Department Updates**
 - **Educational and Counselling Psychology, and Special Education (ECPS)**
 - **ECPS's response to the new proposed cohort**
 - Supported the proposal for a new cohort focusing on disability justice, arts, and pedagogy.
 - Clarification requested that this cohort does not lead to special education teaching qualifications.
 - **Language & Literacy Education (LLED)**
 - Updates on LLED courses:
 - Collaborative assignments are being introduced in LLED 350 and 353, preparations for LLED 351 include integrated online teaching next term, and blended pilot projects for LLED 350 and 543 are ongoing, with mid-term feedback being collected.
 - Professional Development: Upcoming session on connecting disability studies to educational practice. More information can be found [here](#).
 - Events and recordings available on the LLED YouTube channel for broader accessibility.
 - **Department of Curriculum & Pedagogy (EDCP)**
 - **STEM (Science, Technology Engineering/Environment Math) Elementary Education themed cohort**
 - Increasing interdisciplinary collaboration and aligning inquiry courses and subject areas with STEM themes.
 - Further consultation with departments and districts (Delta, Vancouver).
 - Developing a detailed proposal ready for implementation when feasible
 - **Updates on Hybrid Courses**
 - Hybrid courses are gaining traction; instructors and students appreciate the flexibility.



- Challenges include balancing hands-on activities with asynchronous learning, which can be innovatively used for cultural center visits or community events.
- Survey Results Pending: Awaiting feedback to refine course delivery models.
- **Indigenous Book Circle**
 - Five book nominations have been made for the Book Circle, which begins in January.
- **Department of Educational Studies (EDST)**
 - A collaboration is being developed between EDST and the TEO, involving EDUC 340 students and master's students in EDST 561.
 - The collaboration aims to bring practicing teachers, NGO professionals, and students together for a thematic and theoretical course set to begin in January 2026.
 - Challenges and Support for Sessional Instructors
 - Initial role confusion and lack of orientation for sessional instructors, especially those teaching 400-level courses (e.g., 403, 414).
 - The creation of an online orientation module was proposed for sessional instructors.
 - Establishment of a mentorship and teaching-learning community to support instructors with pedagogy and emotional resilience.
- **Okanagan School of Education (OSE)**
 - 160 interns are currently in Week 12 and 120 candidates concluding Block 2 with pedagogical stance presentations on December 6th and entering their formative field experience (December 9–20).
 - Admissions target: 140 new candidates for the 2025-2026 cycle.
 - Align credits with class hours, offer flexibility for dual-degree pathways in key areas, and add hybrid options to attract candidates from outlying districts.
 - Partnership with West Coast Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology to integrate inclusive STEM education into Block 5 courses.

6. Office of Indigenous Education Updates (NITEP)

- Workshops with school districts will focus on creating safe learning environments for Indigenous students, using trigger warnings for sensitive topics, and offering participation options.
- A session with instructors on December 9th will focus on engaging in sensitive conversations respectfully, improving instructor alignment, and ensuring cultural safety for Indigenous students.
- Addressing the emotional weight of discussions about colonization by shifting dialogue towards celebrating Indigenous resilience and brilliance.



- Plans to implement a structured framework and tools for instructors engaging with the Indigenous Education cohort.

7. Teacher Education Office Updates

- **Wingspan Gala Recap**
 - Celebrated the intersection of disability justice and arts through student performances.
 - Acknowledged reciprocal learning opportunities for teachers, students, and the wider community.
- **Proposal for New Disability Arts & Justice Cohort**
 - Developed in collaboration with EDST and funded by \$10,000 in STeAR funding to support further development.
 - Focus on inclusive pedagogy and bridging gaps in disability and arts education.
 - **Next Steps:**
 - Define whether the cohort will target elementary or secondary levels.
 - Clarify participation requirements and certification details.
- **BCTC Structured Dialogue Nov 5**
 - Representatives expressed satisfaction with the programs, emphasizing recognition for the long-standing Indigenous Teacher Education Program includes innovations in hybrid programs and field-centered initiatives.
 - Positive feedback on the university's diversity, innovation, and leadership in teacher education.
 - Opportunities to further showcase strengths through hybrid initiatives and broader outreach.
- **BEd Hybrid Pilot Updates and Survey**
 - The first draft of survey questions is completed and will be finalized next week.
 - Target release: Mid-December.
 - Results to be shared in January.
- **EDUC 160 Mathematical Reasoning for Arts and Education (OSE):**
 - Discussion on offering it locally in Vancouver for flexibility and better alignment with education program needs.
 - Overlap with MATH 335 (Math Department).
 - Need for recognition by TRB as fulfilling teacher education prerequisites.
 - Explore online delivery for May-June 2025.
- **Action Items:**
 - The CAT 1 change will be addressed at the CCASA meeting, with updates provided in a future meeting; collaboration with the Senate and math faculty is needed to resolve overlaps.



- **Cross-campus Research Centre for Teacher Education/Innovative Learning Centre (OSE)**
 - Proposal: Establish a dual-campus Research Center for Teacher Education bridging UBC Okanagan and Vancouver campuses.
 - Utilize the existing Innovative Learning Center infrastructure.
 - Purpose: Support early career researchers and community-based partners and facilitate research collaboration and resources across campuses.
- **Action Items:**
 - Initiate discussions with OSE and relevant stakeholders.
 - Report findings to department heads for further development.
- **BEd Elementary/Secondary Cohorts: Digital Literacies/Competencies (VSB) Disability Justice, Arts and Pedagogy (EDST)**
 - Elementary & Secondary Cohorts:
 - VSB expressed interest in a digital literacies cohort.
 - Awaiting a formal proposal from VSB representatives.
 - AI integration is discussed as a significant area of interest.
- **BEd Awards Night-Tuesday, November 26**
 - Rehearsal was completed and full attendance is expected.
 - The Murray Elliott Service Award winner will be announced.

8. **New Business**

9. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 12:14 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday December 18, 2024, from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm