Present: Dixie Blackinton, Geri Conlin, Electra Fielding, Adam Johnston, LaRae Larkin, Joanne Lawrence, Jack Mayhew, Louise Moulding, Michelle Nimer, Jack Rasmussen, Allyson Saunders,

Excused: Julie Rich, Kathleen Stevenson, Jeff Stokes

Chaired by: Jack Rasmussen Recorded by: Michelle Nimer

1) November 9, 2011 minutes were unanimously approved with the change that Geri Conlin was present at the meeting.

2) Dance Teaching Minor Curriculum Proposal – Amanda Sowerby

UCTE approved the Dance Teaching Major curriculum proposal via email in February. The curriculum changes for the minor are parallel to the changes for the major. Allyson moved and Geri seconded the motion to approve the Dance Teaching Minor curriculum proposal. Vote was unanimous.

Discussion Items

3) TBE is now NTM – Allyson

The Technology and Business Education department is now called the Network Technology and Multimedia Department (NTM). All course prefixes have been changed for courses beginning fall 2012.

4) Teacher Education Program Admissions & Praxis- Louise

- Two years ago the state started requiring our students to pass their Praxis II content exam before they could receive their Utah Teaching license. We have been strongly encouraging students to have the test taken and passed prior to student teaching.

- Many universities in the state are using the Praxis II exam as part of the admission requirement into the teacher education program and the teacher ed. Department is looking into the same option. It has already been proposed that elementary and special education students take the Elementary Ed Subject Matter Praxis II test (5031), and the CAAP essay test for admission beginning spring 2013. Praxis 5031 will replace the content portions of the CAAP test and covers the same reading, writing and math, but also includes social studies and science. This will give us a better feel for the content preparation of our students.

- We would like to use the Praxis II test for the admission test for our secondary students as well. They should have most of their content completed by the time they apply and would mean one less test students need to pay for. We need to know what the implications would be for secondary students if we moved to this as part of the admissions process. There are several tests which are still not offered with great
frequency, but ETS is moving to have all tests computer-based in the next two years. Weber is still working on becoming an approved computer testing site for ETS. Hope to have this in place this summer.

- Please visit with the departments in your college to find out what issues students would have with passing the Praxis II exam prior to admission to the teacher ed program (for most students this is at the end of their junior year). We would like a report back in the fall. If it wouldn’t work for admissions, would it work for admission to student teaching?
- It was noted that several departments have praxis review included in their methods courses and others liked that idea. It could be part of the course.
- It was also suggested that the praxis be a zero credit requirement for graduation for teaching majors/minors.

5) Elementary Education Program Redesign Information – Louise & Michelle
As a result of the Teacher Education Google project this past year, the department has proposed a redesign of the elementary program.

- We found that our students don’t take any upper division content courses and don’t have solid experience with difficult content. As part of this we are looking at creating a more substantial 1-8 licensure major with 18-20 credit hours content minors/specializations (upper division level) options which would give value to the license and would get students close to a minor and or endorsement. The minor adds an endorsement to the license, but a specialization doesn’t, but most put them close. As we looked at the content minors, most of them have too many credit hours to be options, thus the specializations. Having this additional content and being close to receiving an endorsement gives students better viability if they choose to move from the elementary school to the middle/jr high. We would like to work with the content areas to define what should be included in the specialization areas to provide the best preparation for our students and to meet state endorsement requirements.
- We have also started discussions with the Fine Arts with regards to the support course requirements for elementary and special education majors trying to create a better fit between the methods courses and what they need from all the fine arts areas.

6) College Teacher Education Advisory Councils – Jack R.
As part of the UCTE bylaws, each college is supposed to have a Teacher Education Advisory council with representation from each department which meets on a regular basis so that the UCTE representatives can share the information from the meetings to the departments in each college, as well as providing items which need to be discussed by UCTE. Jack will be reminding the Deans of this during Deans Council as well.

Next Meeting April 4, 2012 – this will be an all department assessment group meeting. Time may be changed.