Meeting Convened at 11:32 a.m.

Present: LaRae Larkin, Jodi Lunt, Tom Mathews, Jack Mayhew, Monica Mize, Louise Moulding, Michelle Nimer, Sharon Ohlhorst, Diane Pugmire, Jack Rasmussen, Leigh Shaw, Amanda Sowerby, Alden Talbot
Excused: Dixie Blackinton, Mallory Dawson, Allyson Saunders

Chaired by: Jack Rasmussen    Recorded by: Michelle Nimer

Action Items

1) February 21, 2008 Minutes were approved as written.

2) Social Science Composite Major Proposal – Stephen Francis,
Currently the social science students pick a major to fulfill and additional credit hours in two other areas. It was possible to have two majors have no courses in common and there could be no history coursework. The department has moved to create a social science core that is correlated with the state core and what is taught in local schools.
- Three tracks: history, geography, & political science. The history component has been strengthened in the geography and poli sci. Methods course is history 4500 and the TE core. All the courses are existing courses, and there is no change in hours, only change in the required courses to create a more common core and structured emphasis areas.
- The question was raised about the financial literacy requirement in schools. It is a class which doesn’t really fall into a specific licensure area, so the state has been fairly flexible. Currently social science teachers are qualified to teach if they have economics. There is no required econ in the new major. Jodi will follow up with the state office as to the requirements for teaching the course and contact Stephen.
- Tom moved to accept the proposal, LaRae seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Discussion Items

3) Accreditation- Jack Rasmussen, Michelle Nimer
Currently the Teacher Education programs at Weber State are accredited by NCATE through Spring of 2012. This is only four years away, so WSU needs to take up the accreditation discussion. Jack presented the following information.
- Our last accreditation visit was fall of 2005. Two things preceded this visit: 1) The State Office of Education removed itself from the program approval process and required all TE programs to be nationally accredited. 2) NCATE modified to program review process and took the format of the reports away from the SPAs to create a common report template and implemented required assessments. Of our
nine submitted SPA reports, one passed, and four has still not been reviewed at the
time of our accreditation visit. Since then only one of the eight has been
resubmitted (still not passed, going for second rejoinder). We were not required to
resubmit or have all program areas nationally recognized. This will not be the case
in 2012. Currently the pass rate for SPAs is about 14%.
- Fall of 2005 we discussed TEAC as an option because of all the problems with
NCATE and the SPAs. At that time, there were some concerns because TEAC was
still “new”. Since then, TEAC has grown from the 42 members to over 140.
- Currently there are two bodies in the state which meet with representatives from
each institution with teacher education programs, Utah Council of Education Deans
(UCED) and Utah Teacher Education Accreditation Advisory Council (UTEAAC).
Both of these bodies discuss accreditation, licensure, and other issues impacting TE
in the state. Currently all institutions in the state are going TEAC, except Western
Governors (although they are members) and us. Handout of TEAC membership.
- The time has come to discuss which route we want to pursue.
- Michelle took members through a presentation about the TEAC process (see
handouts). As she has talked with others across the state, faculty are very excited
about the process and moving to TEAC. It is more informative and it leads to
program ownership and improvement, instead of just getting through the next visit.
- Tom felt that it is the College as the unit who is accredited and it should be their
decision, but appreciated the opportunity for input and discussion.
- Jack has spoken with President Millner, the Provost, and the Dean’s. They are all
supportive of moving to TEAC.
- The question was asked about what is gained by National Recognition from SPAs
provides a program. Currently, it gives programs nothing except as a part of the
NCATE process to pass standard one, student content knowledge. It does not help
with license reciprocity as that is a function of State Office of Educations and their
licensure agreements.
- It was decided that the April UCTE meeting will be a campus wide meeting for all
faculty who have a part in Teacher Education to participate in an informative
session about TEAC. It will be held at the regular time, 11:30, in the Moench
Room. Michelle will send out an email to chairs and UCTE members to remind
and invite. Please pass on to faculty in colleges and departments.

4) Other- Michelle
The Teacher Education department has been working on developing a dynamic,
web interfaced database for program data collection. We are excited to have this to
collect all the common core data in and would like to start moving to add in content
area assessments. This will be an item for a meeting next fall.

Meeting adjourned at 12:55

Next Meeting April 17, 2008, 11:30 am, Moench Room