

Minutes
Secondary & K-12 Faculty Meeting
May 7, 2009 at 12:30 in CMU 214

Present: Tim Borchers, Keri DeSutter, Tim Harms, Steve Hoffbeck, Linda Hout-Smith, Elizabeth Kirchoff, Richard, Lahti, Lynn Mahlum, Dean Mollerud, Kirk Moss, Tim Peil, Shari Scapple, Teresa Shume

* Special Education certificate & proposed minor (Keri DeSutter, 5942, desutter@)

Keri DeSutter is a special ed faculty member with a background in Secondary English, and is interested in learning more about the Secondary programs at MSUM. She was present to explain the special ed certificate. The certificate will not result in being highly qualified (NCLB) but will surely increase graduate's marketability. She also invited feedback about the level of interest for a minor in special education, which is currently being developed. It was noted that students would have to add this coursework beyond their current degree requirements, as few Sec/K-12 programs have much flexibility. Keri shared copies of handouts (posted on Sec/K-12 web site.)

* BOT preliminary findings & update (Lynn Mahlum)

Lynn Mahlum reported that several programs have been approved for accreditation from the MN Board of Teaching, while some are still under review at this time. There were concerns expressed about the accreditation team's comments suggesting that Secondary/K-12 faculty may not be interacting sufficiently with local school in order to stay current. It was recommended we respond to that comment if the written report portrays Sec/K-12 in a negative light in this regard. The NCATE and BoT written evaluation reports will be sent out to teacher education faculty once received (usually with 30 days of the visit, which occurred on April 20-22.)

Lynn also gave a presentation about upcoming changes to BoT standards. There are significant increases to the reading standards that affect all Sec/K-12 programs. Lynn has distributed the new standards via email. Contact her at mahlumly@mnstate.edu if you have questions. Also the elementary ed specialty areas are being dropped and middle level endorsements are being established. Elementary licensure will extend only to 5th grade. The timeline for this transition is short, as noted on the Powerpoint notes that Lynn distributed at the meeting. Contact Lynn to request a copy of the Powerpoint notes.

* Ramsey College – 2 plus 2 program

Dean Mollerud wanted to ensure everyone is aware of the articulation agree that exists with Anoka-Ramsey Community College whereby students take certain community college classes that are automatically recognized at MSUM because the agreement ensures equivalency between particular courses at the two institutions. The agreement pertains primarily to special ed courses, but includes some courses in the ed core: ED 205, ED 310, and ED 294.

* New SARTE provisional override procedure (Lynn Mahlum)

In an effort to curb the complications that arise from students receiving multiple SARTE overrides in order to take 300 and 400 level ed courses before being formally admitted to teacher education, a tighter procedure is being implemented. If a student would like to request more than 1 override (2 permitted for transfer students), the request will be considered by an appeals committee comprised of faculty from a variety of education programs. Sec/K-12 faculty were invited to volunteer for this committee; Shari Scapple did so at the meeting. While specifics have yet to be determined, it was suggested that the committee would meet once a semester, about two weeks before registration, as well as meeting as the need arises. Teresa pointed out that conversations among STL faculty may result in the charge of this committee being expanded to review cases of students who may need to be exited from their program for reasons beyond SARTE approvals, such as dispositions concerns. The STL will undertake this question in fall. If you would like to volunteer for this committee, please contact Lynn Mahlum.

* Bush grant

The School of Teaching and Learning has been contacted by the Bush Foundation to examine the possibility of establishing a partnership with the aim of improving teacher education. A representative from the Bush Foundation has met with President Szymanski, Dean Walseth, Sue Severson (STL Department Chair) and Lynn Mahlum (Director of Field Experience and Director of Teacher Education.) The partnership would involve millions of dollars on a 10 year timeline. The STL is organizing to write a plan and submit it by the end of September. Any Sec/K-12 faculty who is interested in being involved in this summer's intensive effort to prepare a plan is invited to contact Sue Severson (severson@mnstate, ext. 2585).

* TESL faculty development study groups (Linda Houts-Smith)

Linda Houts-Smith announced that there are still spots available for participation in faculty study groups, part of the TEAM Work grant (Work to Teach ELLs with Academics in Mind.) The study groups meet regularly during one academic year to select and discuss research articles with the aim of enhancing faculty members preparation to integrate issues about English Language Learners into their teacher education syllabi. Faculty members receive three credit of release (covered by the grant at the adjunct rate) or can maintain their regular teaching load and receive the equivalent pay for extra duty days. Interested faculty are encouraged to contact Linda (houtsli@mnstate, ext. 4059) for details.

* ED 294 (Ed Psych) & retroactive DC approval

Dragon Core status for ED 294 Ed Psych has been officially granted, so advising worksheets can be updated. Its status will be automatically retroactive to Fall, 2008. Vice President Midgarten is working on an expedient appeals process for students who took ED 294 prior to Fall, 2008 and need retroactive approval in order to meet DC

requirements and avoid taking classes beyond their prescribed programs of study. Teri Walseth is looking into generating a list of such students through the Field Experience Data base.

* EECE 448 (Reading Study Skills in the Content Areas) changing prefix to ED 448

This course is in the process of having its prefix changed. Notice will be given once the change becomes official. Update: The change is official so advising worksheets can be updated accordingly. Students registered for fall have been moved from EECE 448 to ED 448. EECE 448 no longer exists.

* C & I and SPED masters degrees going online.

The current C&I program is being discontinued at MSUM and replaced with a new program that is exclusively online. The Special Education masters degree is also moving to an exclusively online format. It was noted that the School of Teaching and Learning is moving towards significantly increasing its online course offerings.

* Request for business cards and advising sheets for STL

Sec/K-12 faculty are invited to send a small pile of business cards to Teresa Shume at the STL (Lommen 213) if they've not already done so. These will be distributed to prospective students. Advising sheets were collected during the NCATE review and Teresa requested that these be put in a binder for reference in the STL. If anyone would prefer their advising sheet not be placed in the STL reference binder, please let Teresa know (shume@mnstate.edu)

* Proposal for Sec/K-12 listserv

It was agreed that a listserv for Sec/K-12 education faculty be established in order to facilitate communication.

* The Standards of Evidence portion of Capstone Portfolio due on June 1st (instead of May 1) for Fall 2009 student teachers.

* Course substitutions and waivers

A quick note that Sec/K-12 transfer students are typically sent to Lynn Mahlum for course substitutions and waivers.