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**Council for Teacher Education
Minutes of the December 17, 2020 Meeting**

A meeting for the Council for Teacher Education was held at 12:00 p.m. on Thursday, December 17, 2020. Due to the COVID-19 state of emergency, the meeting was held telephonically:

Chris Ward, Co-Chair, Graduate Studies Coordinator, Upper Valley Educators Institute
Laura Stoneking, Administrator, Bureau of Educator Support and Higher Education
Brian Walker, Coordinator for Clinical Experiences at Plymouth State University
Bryan Belanger, Southern New Hampshire University
Nick Marks, Granite State College
Diane Monico, Program Director of Education Programs, Rivier University
Kenneth Darsney, Franklin Middle School
Laura Wasielewski, Saint Anselm College
Suzanne Canali-Woodcock, New England College (NEC)
Tom Julius, Antioch University New England
Joan Swanson, Franklin Pierce University
Tanya Sturtz, Designee, Keene State College
Kathryn McCurdy, Designee, University of New Hampshire
Michael Fournier, Superintendent, Bedford School District

The following were unable to attend:

Kelly Moore Dunn, Co-Chair, Director of Teacher Education, NHTI Concord
Jamie Malhoit, Kearsarge Regional School District SAU 65
Nicole Lemire, Pinkerton Academy
Bonnie Painchaud, Merrimack, Reeds Ferry Elementary School
Nicole Heimarck, NH Alliance for College and Career Readiness

Meeting participation also included:

Kimberly Wilson, Bureau of Credentialing, Department of Education
Bill Ross, NH Department of Education Bureau of Credentialing
Cynthia Lucero, Professional Standards Board, Chair
Cindy Waltman, Coordinator of the School of Psychology Program at PSU

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Council for Teacher Education was convened at 12:00 p.m. The meeting was held via Zoom Webinar due to the COVID-19 state of emergency. Chris Ward presided as Co-Chair.

OPEN BUSINESS**Approve prior CTE minutes**

The minutes from the November meeting were delayed and were not ready for approval. They will be approved at the January meeting.

State Board of Education Updates

Laura Stoneking asked to move the Bureau of Credentialing updates to the beginning of the agenda.

Bureau of Credentialing Updates

Bill Ross discussed how the changes in licensure pathways so that Alt 1 as a concept has been renamed, has caused some difficulties in the EIS systems. Several institutions have been experiencing problems when trying to recommend a program completer. A programming team is currently working on resolving the issue, but in the interim there is a temporary solution. Mr. Ross gave instructions regarding the workaround.

State Board of Education Updates

Laura Stoneking reported that CTE did not have anything presented at the December State Board meeting.

NEW BUSINESS**Notifications sent for upcoming expiry/reviews**

Co-Chair Ward drew attention to the list put together by Laura Stoneking of all upcoming expiration dates for the next 1-2 years. A memo was sent to each IHE in question recommending that they submit requests for review as early as possible, to avoid congestion at CTE. Laura Stoneking added that it would be best to have two Option 1 institutions ready for review in fall/winter 2021, so that she has time to deal with each institution properly.

Laura Wasielewski recommended assigning chairs for each review already in Spring 2021 so it will be easier for people to commit to the task. Additionally, Laura Wasielewski asked what the representation from the Council looks like at a combined DOE/CAEP visit. Co-Chair Ward explained that for a CAEP review, Laura Stoneking will participate as an observer. There will also be a CAEP-trained reviewer who will be a full member of the review team. Laura Stoneking will obtain a list of CAEP-trained reviewers in advance.

Additionally, a team has been working on updating the CAEP partnership agreement which has expired, tailoring the CAEP templates to the New Hampshire rules and programs. Laura Stoneking detailed that she met with the Commissioner, who asked her to simplify and shorten the agreement as it currently contains many policies and procedures that belong in the handbook rather than the agreement itself. This shortening will hopefully decrease confusion. The draft should be ready for review in early January.

Co-Chair Ward noted that the CTE has not yet dealt with many CAEP reviews or reports. A clear protocol or flowchart carefully laying out the full process would be a valuable tool moving forward. Tanya Sturtz mentioned that clarification is needed on how AAQEP and CAEP compare to state standards.

Michael Fournier asked if an advantage of CAEP for IHEs would be the advantage of reciprocity with respect to certification. Brian Walker affirmed that this was true for at least some states. However, very few states have reciprocity so this perk is not the driving factor behind choosing to go through CAEP.

Colby-Sawyer/UEI Teacher Preparation Program Partnership

This discussion was moved to the January meeting, as Co-Chair Kelly Moore Dunn was unable to attend this meeting.

Laura Wasielewski requested access to any relevant Colby-Sawyer material beyond what's available online, and Co-Chair Ward agreed to send around relevant documents.

NHDOE UPDATES

Bureau of Ed Prep and Higher Ed

Laura Stoneking is sending out notifications to the six relevant institutions. NHTI should be on the list but is not; they are going to submit a substantive change to align the one program that is not aligned. No students are currently enrolled in the program. This would mean all NHTI's programs will be on one expiration date.

Lucy Calkins has publicly acknowledged a change in view regarding her reading program. The Commissioner will share the relevant information with superintendents because there are probably many public schools with a Calkins reading program which will be affected by the news.

An article about removing barriers by using high-leverage practices in distance learning was shared for reference.

An interesting article from the NCTQ regarding teacher licensing tests was shared and discussed. Research shows that lowering the standards demanded of teacher trainees or not using a test at all, is counterintuitive and creates a disadvantage to students when candidates are not held to a standard.

Laura Wasielewski questioned of the MTEL data presented in the article was even relevant when speaking of New Hampshire's different requirements, and questioned as well the necessity of core tests of basic knowledge to begin with. Bryan Belanger concurred with her and further discussed that the best practices in assessment as taught to candidates are very far indeed from the practices used on candidates. It is challenging to tell a student they cannot move forward because they didn't pass a test, when best practices tell us these tests aren't good measures to begin with.

An in-depth discussion ensued about the dichotomy of practices used to educate candidates versus the practices they are taught to use. Furthermore, several individuals questioned how it is possible to evaluate a candidate's disposition and performance rather than their content knowledge, as the former can have a weightier impact on their efficacy as a teacher than the latter. Tanya Sturtz wondered if the core testing is actually evaluating what truly needs to be evaluated, or if it's missing the mark.

Laura Wasielewski mentioned that there is a test prep course offered, which makes the core test about passing the test rather than about mastering the content of the test. Michael Fournier pointed out that although everyone likes to think they know all about education because they used to be a student, in reality most people forget what teachers are actually dealing with on a daily basis: medical issues, allergies, angry parents, behavioral issues, active shooters, bomb threats, and more. None of the tests check candidates' ability to handle any of those situations.

Ken Darsney said that the tests are looking for the skills that were considered most important 15 years ago. However, over time the focus has changed and the skills considered most important today are different. Candidate testing has not caught up with the times.

NEW BUSINESS

PSU Substantive Change Request

Brian Walker introduced the change request. It is a 69-credit psychology program that has SPA approval through NASP, and they want to move towards being an education specialist. Cindy Waltman, the program coordinator, explained that the NASP wanted the program to be consistent across the country. CAGS certification is unique to New England. A move to Ed.S. would streamline reciprocity in school psychology.

For students who went through CAGS, there were three educational leadership courses they had to take at the end of their program. Many students would get jobs working in schools and neglect to take these three courses because they did not seem relevant. The requested change is to change those three educational leadership courses for three courses more relevant for school psychologists. PSU wants to make this change immediately. The students currently enrolled in the program are expecting the change. It would benefit them as they would be eligible for a higher pay scale when they are hired. This would be the first Ed.S. offered by PSU.

Council members questioned if PSU has the degree granting authority for an Ed Specialist degree. Laura Stoneking was unable to find a definitive answer while searching the relevant documents and will have to do further research on the matter.

Cindy Waltman stressed that the program mirrors both state and national association standards, and that this change would not affect that. She further clarified that students who enter the program with an M.ED will not get another one and will only earn an Ed.S. Students who enter without an M.ED will receive both degrees: 33 credits to earn the M.ED and a further 36 credits to achieve Ed.S. status.

MOTION: Tom Julius made the following motion, seconded by Laura Wasielewski, to approve the substantive change request by Plymouth State University to change the School Psychologist Program format from an M.ED to an Ed.S. in School Psychology.

VOTE: The motion was approved by vote of the Council present, with Brian Walker abstaining.

NHDOE UPDATES

Bureau of Ed Prep and Higher Ed

The discussion regarding teacher content testing was continued. Bill Ross explained that the wording of the administrative rule allows for a substitution to be made, such as an equivalent SAT, ACT, or GRE test. Additionally, Massachusetts is moving to accept other tests aside from the MTEL but has not yet completed that move.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Professional Standards Board Chair Update

PSB Pro-Ed Standards

PSB Chair Cynthia Lucero reported that there will be a discussion about Pro-Ed standards at the February PSB meeting, as well as a proposal from the New Hampshire Alliance on College and Career Readiness, regarding a new certification for Work-Based Coordinator. Further people are needed on subcommittees to develop and revise standards.

Diane Monico requested to share the Pro-Ed standards draft. This was agreed upon and the draft will be discussed at the next CTE meeting, to provide feedback prior to the next PSB meeting. PSB Chair Lucero mentioned that CTE is looking to add an addendum to the standards, a guiding document that would give further detail. Suzanne Canali-Woodcock requested a crosswalk between the old and the new Pro-Ed standards for assessment program purposes.

PSB Special Education Standards

Laura Wasielewski mentioned that the licensures for special education and ESOL does not require candidates to have a prior elementary or secondary certification. This is a challenge for many districts where they wind up needing two educators for a self-contained classroom: one educator with the content knowledge and a second with the special education or ESOL expertise. PSB Chair Lucero agreed to bring this matter to the attention of Kirk Beitler, chair of the ESOL subcommittee.

CAEP Agreement

Co-Chair Ward said the group will continue to meet and work on this and will bring a new version to the January CTE meeting.

CTE Handbook

Joan Swanson reported the group has not met since the last meeting.

Program Review 602 rules

Suzanne Canali-Woodcock reported no updates.

603-606 Admin Rules (standards)

Co-Chair Ward reported no updates.

Title XV Education 190:1-190:7 (legislative rules- 1951)

Laura Wasielewski shared a draft of new, updated language and proposed changes to the statute that establishes the duty, purpose, and membership of the Council. The document has not been updated since its 1951 inception.

Laura Wasielewski proposed the following changes:

- Establishment section: no changes
- Membership section:
 - o Change "Statute-appointed group and others" to "Shall consist of every institution of higher education offering approved ed prep programs, in addition adding a layperson, licensed educator, licensed administrator appointed for three-year terms".

- No changes to the terms of reimbursement for mileage and having meeting facilities, administrative assistance, and necessary supplies.
- Duties: Add a requirement to file an annual report to the New Hampshire State Board.
- Duties: As an advisory board to the State Board on matters relating to educator preparation, the Council shall coordinate a process for state program educator preparation review and the CTE shall file an annual report to the NH state board.
- Meetings: Change "meet at least twice a year" to "meet at least eight times a year".
- Officers: Terms of two years, with a preference for offset terms for better continuity.
- The 1951 wording regarding meeting rooms, clerical assistance, and employment of consultant services: leave as is.

Additionally, the bylaws would all be changed and updated to further clarify and come into line with the 2020s reality.

PSB Representative

Diane Monico reported nothing further.

AAQEP

Brian Walker related that AAQEP is happy to come speak to the CTE so everyone can learn more about it. They will be scheduled for the February or March meeting before an MOU is pursued.

CTE Handbook

Relevant Council members arranged meetings to continue working on the handbook. It is currently riddled with inconsistencies and is barely used as it is in nearly unusable condition. The plan is to make it usable, comprehensive, not cumbersome, and a one-stop shop for all handbook needs.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Joan Swanson made the motion, seconded by Ken Darsney, to adjourn the meeting at 2:55 p.m.