

## **MINUTES**

### **Teacher Education Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, February 15, 2017**

**In Attendance:** Trevor Bachelder, Christiné Misch, Stefanie Muhling, Ron Phillips, Michelle Passmore, Parker Robinson, Carole Richardson, Barb Olmsted, Carla Webster

**Regrets:** Demetra Saldaris, Mike Parr, Todd Horton, Glen Hodgson, Linda Gordon

**Absent:** Jackie Young, Paula Mann, Jeff Scott, Lorraine Frost

#### **1. Welcome and Introductions**

Carole welcomed the Committee and a roundtable introduction ensued.

#### **2. Approval of Agenda**

Correction: Michelle Passmore will provide TELC report, not Chris Chabot.

**Motion #1:** That the Committee approve the agenda.

Moved by: Christiné Misch    Seconded by: Michelle Passmore

Carried

#### **3. Approval of Minutes**

**Motion #2:** That the Committee approve the minutes of February 23, 2016.

Moved by: Christiné Misch    Seconded by: Ron Phillips

Carried

#### **4. Dean's Report – Dr. Carole Richardson**

- We will have our first graduates of the two-year program this June.
- We will have our final graduates from the Bracebridge campus this June.
- There is ongoing discussion about changes to the two-year program. We have tweaked the organization of the program. Carole provided an overview of the BEd schedule.
- We are currently in the midst of the OCT accreditation for several programs. The site visit will likely be scheduled April 3-4, 2017. In the near future, we will be sending out emails to our stakeholders

requesting feedback. There has been some talk of a more streamlined accreditation process. There is no longer an artifact room. Everything is now provided virtually. Professors will still be asked to submit certain things in hard copy.

- We are working on the IQAP review of all BEd, MEd, and BPHE programs. This will involve site visits which have yet to be scheduled.
- We have sent out 590 offers to 525 potential teacher candidates. Multiple offers can be made to one student. Last year, we made 593 offers to 532 potential candidates so we are tracking almost identically. We anticipate that this will be the year that we will use to measure all years to come. This is the first cohort of students who've only known the BEd program to be two years. We have received far more applications this year from students who were out of school for a year and are coming back. Normally, offers go out on March 1<sup>st</sup>; however, one of the other institutions opted out of that "gentleman's agreement" so we and others have also sent offers out earlier. Students are not required to accept until March 15<sup>th</sup>. Of the offers made last year, we received approximately 180 acceptances. It's very difficult to predict what the number will be like this year, but the Registrar's Office is predicting the possibility of better uptake this year. We also have a concurrent program, but it's still too early to tell what the numbers will be like. The first students from the new concurrent program will come into the program in 2019-2020. By that point, our numbers could be double.
- One of our faculty members, Dan Jarvis, has put together a poster of every faculty member. These posters are hung around the school.
- BEd scheduled for 2017-2018 have been approved. A few changes were made based upon student feedback.
- Our call campaign starts up next week. We have done this for the past few years and have received positive feedback. Faculty members will reach out to students who were offered admission and answer any questions they have about the program.
- Some time ago Elizabeth Thorn donated a significant amount of money for the Thorn Chair (early literacy Chair). We've had a couple of people take on the role over the past few years and now we are putting out a full call for an internal appointment for a three-year term. The goal is to have someone in place by July 1, 2017.

##### **5. Associate Dean's Report – Dr. Barbara Olmsted**

- Barb provided an overview of the international/domestic Community Leadership Experiences. From the North Bay campus: 24 teacher candidates and two faculty facilitators will be leaving for Kenya on February 27<sup>th</sup>; 15 teacher candidates and one faculty facilitator will be leaving for Trois Pistoles, Quebec on February 26<sup>th</sup>; 4 teacher candidates and one faculty facilitator will be leaving for Fort Albany on February 26<sup>th</sup>. From the Brantford Campus: 33 teacher candidates and three faculty facilitators will be leaving for Italy on April 30<sup>th</sup>. This will be the final trip for Brantford. CLE continues to evolve. We continue to look into different opportunities and hope to offer more domestic opportunities in the future.
- This year, some teacher candidates put together the Teacher Candidate Advisory Council (TCAC) in an effort to strengthen communication between students, staff, faculty, etc. Although it has been a challenge to find meeting times that work for all involved, it has been a successful start.

- The Ministry of Education and Faculty of Educations will be co-hosting a forum again on May 9<sup>th</sup> in Toronto. The call for proposals should be sent out soon.
- Our new practicum reports have all been approved and finalized. The first year practicum reports may need to be revised based on the organizational tweaks we've made to the BEd schedule.
- Books for Brook campaign - Brook Doseger, a graduate from our program, tragically lost her life in Kuwait. People wanted to do something to honour her life and passion for literacy. Over 200 books have already been donated and will be distributed within the community. Brook's mother and grandmother were recently on campus and made a significant donation in Brook's name. We will work to establish a memorial award.
- The call for nominations for convocation awards has gone out.

#### **6. TELC Report – Michelle Passmore**

- The Boundaries presentation didn't happen because the presenter couldn't make it. Michelle asked if there is a way to have it scheduled right in to the timetable. Carole indicated that it's very difficult to have all of the organizations meet with the students once in each year and that although we do our best, it may not always be possible. Parker said that all of the affiliates agree that this presentation is critical and that there is concern for the students if they do not receive it. Carole informed the group that we do cover this content in depth in our courses. Also, attendance may be low because if students feel like they can access information online, they will. Their schedules are full and they need to make choices. Next year we are hoping to schedule Professional Week back in for the year one students so attendance may be better.
- OTF wants to know how Nipissing supports associate teachers. Carla provided a summary of supports including: faculty advisors, Practicum Handbook, Associate Teacher website, timely communication, morning coffee breaks funded by TELC, Associate Teacher Award, Associate Teacher Incentive Program, etc. Stefanie gave kudos for the efforts made to support associate teachers and indicated that this is a priority for the Ministry and other institutions as well.

#### **7. Ministry of Education Report – Stefanie Muhling (via teleconference) & Christiné Misch**

- Stefanie indicated that the keynote speakers for the Faculty Forum have not yet been confirmed, but knows of two who are available. It will be wonderful to see proposals from Nipissing.
- In December, the Protecting Students Act received royal ascent. Stefanie provided a brief overview of the Act.
- In January, an external research project on NTIP was expanded. Stefanie provided a summary of the project. The goal is to find ways of supporting all new Ontario teachers.
- Stefanie provided a staffing update and indicated that they are trying to fill two key positions, so she is currently filling multiple roles.
- Christiné thanked Nipissing for its involvement in Ministry committees and initiatives. Most recently Nipissing, Canadore, Laurentian, and Cambrian were invited to attend a regional engagement session about the well-being of students in Ontario. Our region is very large geographically, so it was offered in four locations. It was a very successful session.

- Christiné has spent time in the school in Fort Albany and would be willing to meet with the faculty facilitator if he has any questions.

#### **8. Other Business**

Carole opened the floor for further discussion or questions.

Parker indicated that TELC has struggled to get teacher candidate representation and wondered if TCAC could elect a representative. Carole invited Michelle to provide us with a formal invitation that could be forwarded to TCAC.

#### **9. Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be determined at a later date.

Meeting adjourned.