

Teacher Testing Subcommittee of the Assessment and Compliance Committee

Meeting Minutes for July 24, 2014, 10:00 – 11:05 A.m.

Members in attendance:

Jim Muchmore
Krystal Jansen
John Lychner

Members Absent:

Shaila Rao
Deb Berkey

NOTE: Although scheduling conflicts prevented Shaila and Deb from attending the meeting, a quorum was reached.

Discussion Items:

- 1) Purpose of the Teacher Testing Subcommittee.
- 2) PRE Scores.
- 3) MTTC Scores.
- 4) Elementary minors vs. majors.

Action Items:

- 1) A proposal to develop a new major in Elementary Language Arts, to be housed either in the Department of English, or in the Department of Special Education and Literacy Studies (see “Proposal 2” attached).
 - Motion to submit proposal to ACC made by John Lyncher.
 - Seconded by Krystal Jansen.
 - Motion PASSED.
- 2) A proposal to develop a new major in Elementary Social Studies, to be housed in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Educational Studies (see “Proposal 3” attached).
 - Motion to submit proposal to ACC made by Krystal Jansen.
 - Seconded by John Lyncher.
 - Motion PASSED.

Proposal 2

A Proposal from the Teacher Testing Subcommittee to the Assessment and Compliance Committee of the Educator Preparation Governing Council

July 24, 2014

A review of the test scores for candidates in Elementary Language Arts has shown that WMU candidates completing the current minor in Language Arts have an unacceptable rate of passing (3-year average from 2010-2013 was 58%). To address this issue, on June 11, 2014, the Teaching Testing Subcommittee (TTS) recommended to the Assessment and Compliance Committee that a new major be established in Elementary Language Arts. To that end, the TTS further recommended that the department of TLES be empowered to begin the process of aligning WMU coursework to the state standards for Language Arts and determining a program of assessments that will provide evidence of candidate performance on the standards.

Now, in addition to this past recommendation, we wish to further recommend that the new major in Elementary Language Arts ought to be established in one of the following two departments: 1) the Department of English; or 2) the Department of Special Education and Literacy Studies. The basis for this recommendation rests on the fact that virtually all of the content-specific courses and/or teaching methods courses for the new major are housed within these two departments. We leave it to the EPGC Executive Committee to determine which of these two departments is best suited to house this new major.

We also recommend that this decision be made as soon as possible, so that the designated department may initiate the university's curriculum change process in time for the new major to begin accepting students in the fall of 2015

We ask that the Assessment and Compliance Committee (ACC) support this proposal and forward it to the EPGC Executive Committee without delay.

- Motion to forward this proposal to the ACC made by John Lyncher.
- Seconded by Krystal Jansen.
- Motion Approved.

Proposal 3

A Proposal from the Teacher Testing Subcommittee to the Assessment and Compliance Committee of the Educator Preparation Governing Council

July 24, 2014

A review of the test scores for candidates in Elementary Social Studies has shown that WMU candidates completing the current minor in Social Studies have an unacceptable rate of passing (3-year average from 2010-2013 was 58.4%). In order to increase the candidates' content knowledge in Social Studies, The Teacher Testing Subcommittee (TTS) recommends establishing a Social Studies major in Elementary Education, similar to the existing majors in Elementary Education Math and Elementary Education Integrated Science. To that end, we further recommend that this new major be housed in the Department of Teaching, Learning, and Educational Studies (TLES). The rationale for this arrangement rests on the fact that TLES already houses the new major in Elementary Integrated Science that passed through the University's curriculum change process in the 2013-14 academic year, and TLES is fully capable of running both majors.

We further recommend that TLES initiate the curriculum change process without delay, so that the new major in Social Studies will be ready to accept students in the fall of 2015.

We ask that the Assessment and Compliance Committee (ACC) support this proposal and forward it to the EPGC Executive Committee as soon as possible.

- Motion to forward this proposal to the ACC made by Krystal Jansen
- Seconded by John Lyncher
- Motion Approved