**Minutes for Professional Education Council**

**April 20, 2022, 4:00 p.m.**

 Zoom Meeting <https://wcu.zoom.us/my/patriciabricker>

**Attendance: 24**

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| Patricia Bricker | Pam Buskey (Heidi Von Dohlen) |
| Holly Pinter (Carrie Rogers) | Adrienne Stuckey (Jess Weiler) |
| Candace Boan-Lenzo (Ethan Schilling) | Michael Boatright (Frank Forcino) |
| Tara Campbell  | Rachel Wike |
| Mary Ella Engel | Terry Rose |
| Maggie King | Nathan Borchelt |
| Karena Cooper-Duffy | Dereck Becker |
| Lee Nickles | Tom Watterson |
| Tracie Rice | Kim Davis |
| Jenny Stewart | Erin Callahan |
| Loidaly Gonzalez-Rosario | Michael Schallock |
| Angela Dills | Emilee Higdon |
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1. Welcome and Announcements

 SUTEP Sharing Event on Thursday, April 21, 2022, 3:30pm

Please feel free to join us on Zoom: <https://wcu.zoom.us/my/patriciabricker>

1. Approval of Minutes from March 16, 2022

Motion made to approve, second, passes, no opposition.

1. Standing Reports
	1. Dean’s Report, Kim Winter

Dean Winter unavailable today.

* 1. PEC Chair’s Report, Dr. Patricia Bricker
		1. Intern Assessment Measures (CTC, CPAST)
* CTC and CPAST: subcommittee is thinking about next steps and has recommended that we develop our own instrument for intern evaluation. People have to volunteer to be part of this process.
	+ Dr. Nancy Luke is going to chair a group that is going to be looking at intern assessment next year.
	+ Dr. Tara Campbell from the Office of Field Experience is interested in this work, and this will be a great connection for faculty and OFE working together to think about an instrument that will be successful.
	+ We are looking for others that would like to join us.
	+ The plan for next year is to maintain status quo while a new instrument is being developed. Most programs have been using the CTC, and that will be the same for Fall 2022. Maybe some people will pilot a new program for the Spring. Most programs will use the same program for the full year and transition to the new instrument in Fall 2023.
	+ The Elementary and Middle Grades programs have been piloting the CPAST. Dr. Kelly Tracy, Dean Kim Winter, and Dr. Patricia Bricker have decided to allow Elementary and Middle Grades faculty to decide what they want to do next year on a program level. This can include:
		- The same thing they have been doing with the pilot (piloting the CPAST and continuing with the CTC),
		- returning and just doing the CTC,
		- or trying to just use the CPAST.
		1. New CAEP Standards, Our Key Measures, and Next Steps
* We have a final meeting with the CAEP Accreditation Council on April 30, 2022. Dr. Lee Nickles, Dr. Lori Unruh, Dean Kim Winter, and Dr. Patricia Bricker will be attending this meeting. This is an opportunity for them to ask us questions for about 20 minutes. Will get final accreditation decision in May.
* We received positive feedback in the fall.
* This is a good time to think of where we are at and where we want to go.
* Standards have changed recently and are different from the ones we just used for accreditation. Next year will be a good time to look at new standards, our key measures, ones to keep using, and updates needed. Ex: internship evaluation instrument. Some people do not like the EDA (Educator Disposition Assessment). We can decide if we want to continue using this or find a different option.
* Keep instruments that are in place for the time being while we decide what we want to do.
* PDP (Professional Development Plan): Not required from CAEP or the State. Dr. Pam Buskey and Dr. Myra Watson are going to work together to develop an update for next year to be piloted.

 Curriculum – Dr. Patricia Bricker

* 1. Counseling, School (M.A.Ed.) [https://wcu.curriculog.com/proposal:6066/form](https://wcu.curriculog.com/proposal%3A6066/form)

The proposed change will make it a requirement for students to earn a minimum grade of "B" in COUN 605: The Helping Relationship. This course is the introductory counseling skills course; students must have A-level or B-level overall counseling skills to continue in the program. A "C" final course grade in COUN 605 will now necessitate the student re-taking the course. This is necessary to protect the public from potentially inadequately skilled professional school counselors.

* **Motion made to approve, second, approved, no opposition.**
1. Business
	1. Licensure and Testing Policy Subcommittee Recommendation (See report at the end of these minutes.)

Rachel Wike: Right now, we require a passing test score on the Praxis exam in order to recommend program completers for licensure. The committee has gathered feedback from our public school partners, academic programs, and program completers. We have put a lot of thought into where to go with this information. There were some that felt strongly that the exams should continue and some that felt that exams should not be required. The state does require these exams. The compromise: require candidates to attempt the exam. Have scores to show they have attempted the exam before recommending for licensure.

* Is a resubmission of edTPA required after one failure?
	+ We separated the licensure exam requirement and the edTPA requirement. This is just for the licensure exam and follows state guidelines.
* What will be the same?
	+ The exam scores are not required for internship or graduation.
* What will be different?
	+ We currently require the passing exam scores for recommendation for licensure. The recommendation is that the student needs to have taken the exam, but not necessarily have passed the exam, for licensure recommendation.

Feedback:

* From a hiring perspective, will a district understand that someone will have test(s) to complete? It would be better for the beginning teacher to have passed this test because it takes the stress off them not to have to take the exam later.
* The state says that you must take it within the first year and pass by the third year of teaching.
* School districts have resources and other teachers to help new teachers study and pass this exam.
* There is some interest in exploring a more formalized support for graduates who still need to pass exams.

**Motion made to endorse the recommendation from the subcommittee related to the licensure exam policy.**

* + **Motion made, second, passes, no opposition.**
1. Updates
	1. School Partners:
* Angela Dills:
	+ Getting ready for a lot of professional development next year with the Science of Reading.
	+ Wit and Wisdom curriculum rolled out this year.
	+ Lot of good things happening and good growth. Grateful to be in a better place this year than last year.
* Emilee Higdon:
	+ Works at Union Academy in Macon County.
	+ This year we have a grant to become a project-based learning school.
	+ On Monday April 25, 2022, we are having an event called Badger Bash. This is a student work showcase and 60 people have RSVP’d as of today.
	+ Emilee has started an international club. They are doing a Spanish song and dance at the Badger Bash, and at WCU on Tuesday, April 26th at the language competition. The kids are really excited.
* Maggie King:
	+ We still have children that are displaced from the flood in Haywood County.
	+ Learning that her role is to learn how to lead in real time.
	+ On the cusp of making real changes and hoping to continue influencing good changes.
	1. Admissions and Licensure, Rachel Wike No news at this time.
	2. Assessment and Technology, Dr. Lee Nickles We have submitted our CAEP annual report. Made it through the huge batch of interns in the Spring. 93% first time pass rate for edTPA. Best scores ever.
	3. Office of Field Experiences, Amanda Chapman Working on internship placements, 12-15 left for the Fall semester. We will be sending out dates soon for next year’s OFE applications. These will be posted on the OFE website. The Outstanding Perspective Teacher event will be on May 6th.
	4. Recruitment, Jenny Stewart We just received the proof for the middle grades video. Really excited that STEP with WCU will be going forward this fall. Going to partner with a diverse high school in Statesville, NC to take teaching as a profession classes and pair them with early college access engagement activities. The goal is to increase diversity in our teacher education programs and ultimately our workforce.
* Kim Davis: Is there professional development for beginning teachers in their fourth, fifth, and sixth year?
	+ Dr. Nathan Borchelt: In the summer we have people that come from across for the North Carolina Network of Math Teachers. Totally free. Meet monthly or bi-monthly and in the summer. Summer camp is coming up July 14-16th, 2022 at NCCAT. <https://sites.google.com/site/ncnmtc>
	+ There is real interest in collaborative professional development. NCCAT brings a different set of skills and expertise. There is potential. Some licensure models being discussed have methods of advancement for experienced teachers.

Meeting adjourned at: 5:00

Recommendation from Licensure Exam Policy Subcommittee, April 2022

Subcommittee Members: Myra Watson, Kim Elliott, Frank Forcino, Jennifer Barrett-Tatum, Karena Cooper Duffy, Brent Speckhardt, Maggie King, Erin Tapley, Rachel Wike

The Licensure Exam Policy Subcommittee was formed with the task of reviewing current licensure policy that requires passing licensure exams to be recommended by WCU for the initial teaching license. In an effort to gather updated information from stakeholders, surveys were conducted with partner school systems, academic programs, and select teacher education alumni. The results were split equally with half in support of requiring passing licensure exams and half in favor of removing this requirement.

**After much consideration, the Subcommittee consensus is to require candidates to ATTEMPT all applicable licensure exams prior to recommendation for an initial teaching license. This recommendation reflects the division in the data from stakeholders and is an effort to address significant issues such as (1) student cost and (2) support of LEAs as they help beginning teachers meet licensure exam requirements and address teacher vacancies. Advantages of requiring an ATTEMPT (official scores reported from ETS/Pearson directly to WCU student accounts) include:**

* **Gives state requirement “teeth” without holding candidate back**
* **Attempt could result in PASS and meet state requirement, which then**
	+ **Allows focus on other BT professional development**
	+ **Reduces burden on LEAs**
	+ **Could make candidates more marketable**
* **Candidates tend to perform better on exams while information is recent**
* **Provides data points to indicate content knowledge for accreditation**
* **Helps candidates to plan (take tests one at a time vs all at once, go with a buddy, use study guides, participate in study groups, etc)**
* **Trusts teaching training programs for preparation (instead of standardized test)**
* **LEA could appeal to WCU if the completer has not attempted the required tests, giving some flexibility in cases of financial hardship**

A recommendation for licensure after confirmation of an attempt of all licensure exams would require verification of successful completion of all other factors (CTC, dispositions, attendance, etc.). Also with this recommendation, it is important to note that the Subcommittee feels additional support for candidates is vital. We would like to encourage exploration of formalized support after graduation, possibly to include new partnerships with LEAs, NCCAT, WRESA, RALC, etc. In addition, a taskforce to research financial supports for students could be beneficial.

The Subcommittee was also tasked with reviewing edTPA policy. After much discussion, the Subcommittee could not come to a consensus for a recommendation. We found it difficult to separate the edTPA requirement for licensure and graduation. However, we would like to overlap with the edTPA Commission group to contribute information gathered during our meetings.