

Department of Educational Studies
Department Meeting Agenda and Minutes
November 19, 2015

Present: Ali A. Abdi (chair), Cash Ahenakew, Lesley Andres, Shauna Butterwick, Steve Cardwell, Elaine Decker, Jason Ellis, Gerald Fallon, Mona Gleason, Garnet Grosjean, Erika Hughes, Deirdre Kelly, Jennifer Kelly, Michael Marker, André Mazawi, Amy Metcalfe, Bathseba Opini, Wendy Poole, Sam Rocha, Shermila Salgadoe, Michelle Stack, Alison Taylor, Rob Vanwynsberghe, Pierre Walter, Handel Wright

Regrets: Vanessa Andreotti, Jennifer Chan, Jo-Anne Naslund, Leslie Roman, Hongxia Shan, Fei Wang

Student Reps: Sarah McCabe, Neila Miled, Amber Shilling

Sessional Rep: Carolina Palacios

Minutes of EDST Department Meeting November 19, 2015

1. Approval of agenda

André requested that “Committee on grant-tenure appointments” be added to the agenda. It is now agenda item #12

2. Approval of minutes

Deirdre requested an amendment to item #7 “UBC-SNDT Collaborative Program”. The phrase “UBC will offer four courses as contribution” will be changed to “UBC is in discussion to offer up to four courses as contribution.”

Mona requested that an addition be made to item #5 “PhD Student Survey”. The following sentence will be added: “The department was very encouraged by these results and was supportive of the PhD committee bringing recommendations to the department”.

3. Business arising from the minutes

See additions above

4. Topics for Discussion/Decision

a. Head's report (Ali)

Ali pointed out the importance of the ongoing Critical Dialogues and Graduate Students' Seminar Series. He encouraged all faculty members to attend these talks.

The hiring freeze continues. The Dean's and Provost's offices will resume their discussion on this issue when the Faculty of Education's review is complete

b. Operations Report (Shermila)

Originally, the Faculty of Education gave PDCE an \$800,000 operating grant. PDCE used this grant to budget cohorts and distribute program surpluses. The distributed surpluses have decreased since the Dean's office took over the grant. This is due in part to the grant being used to cover the deficit of the Faculty.

The Faculty is now operating under budget model C. This means every cohort must have 18 students enrolled in order to break even. However, there are a few cohorts still operating under budget model B, including the three cohorts which began in September.

Discussion:

One faculty member asked what the new budget model will mean in terms of future cohort planning. In particular, what will be the cost of hiring sessionals to teach in the cohorts. Faculty were told that the salary for sessions has been built into these cohorts at \$6,000 per 3-credit course and \$30,000 per year per cohort. Another faculty member commented that when planning cohorts, the department is careful not to overextend teaching requirements, thereby negating the need to hire sessionals. Currently, this department's cohorts are taught by EDST faculty and for this reason we are financially better off than other departments. A faculty member suggested inviting Mary Bryson to the department to speak to the most recent budgetary changes.

5. ETS support survey (Natasha Boskic)

ETS distributed a survey in order to collect information on the type of technology faculty currently use, what they would like to see introduced, and where they feel they need the most support.

Services provided by ETS include:

- tech rovers
- technology orientation
- workshops
- drop in sessions

Discussion:

One faculty member commented on the difficulty of updating their website on the department webpage and the lack of support available. Natasha replied that unfortunately ETS doesn't control this matter. However, if the faculty member sends an email, ETS will do their best to provide website assistance. Another faculty member commented on how the personal faculty websites are viewed as 'branding' by Central. This, in turn, limits the number of changes and technological additions faculty can make.

6. Sustainability education cohort (Rob)

In May, Rob was contacted by the Provost's office and asked if he would like to form a partnership with City Studio. UBC would like to put more of its students through City Studio in order to provide them with community service training. After gaining approval from Ali and the Dean, Rob began creating and advertising the new cohort.

Discussion

Faculty asked which courses would comprise the new cohort. Rob stated that EDST 500, 516, 590 will be coupled in a summer institute to launch the cohort. Other courses that will be incorporated include program planning and group inquiry courses.

7. EDST 403 & 404 secondary (Amy)

Amy is a member of the Teacher Education Advisory Committee (TEAC). The committee is thinking of combining the one credit courses EDST 403 and 404 into a single two credit course. Amy told the committee that three unit courses work best for EDST. However, the committee would still prefer the two credit option.

Discussion

Many faculty members commented on how TEAC does not think the TEO third inquiry seminar is working. The EDUC 452 inquiry course has received the bulk of TEAC's criticism. However, there are aspects of this course which correspond with EDST 404. Several faculty members suggested that these two courses should be modified in order to work better together.

TEAC will be told the department is willing to support the creation of a three credit course from EDUC 452, EDST 403 and EDST 404. However, EDST is unable to agree to the two credit option as it would prove too difficult to implement.

8. EdD student supervision (Deirdre)

Deirdre explained that the EdD program has a unique supervision model. As many EdD students are working full time, the majority of the courses are scheduled in the summer or on weekends. Unfortunately, this limits the number of faculty students are able to meet. Deirdre would like to organize a “speed-dating” type event for EdD students and faculty. This would be an informal event to introduce faculty and students. At the end of the event the faculty members will have met students who need not only advisors but committee members as well. Faculty members are asked to email Deirdre with ideas on how to facilitate this event.

9. Sessional report (Carolina)

Carolina has been consulting with EDST sessionals. They will be meeting shortly to discuss current issues, such as:

- unpaid work
- summer contract dates and their negative impact on benefits
- university-wide variations in full-time teaching loads and their impact on salary and benefits

Some of these items, in particular full-time teaching loads, are not tied to the collective agreement. This means the Faculty of Education has the ability to make positive changes for sessionals.

Carolina will provide an update and further information on sessional issues in the new year.

10. Program development update - transformative educational leadership program (Steve)

The Transformative Educational Leadership Program (TELP) operates several budgets out of PDCE. The program emerged to fill the need of a leadership program for senior staff. This is not only a management program, but one which allows the participants to understand the concepts of leadership. TELP was originally intended to attract senior leader participants, such as superintendents. However, many teachers have enrolled as well. Several participants have expressed interest in earning credits, with a goal to complete an EdD in the future. There is now a goal to move this program into EDST in order to make it less of an outside experience.

TELP examines several important themes, including international and local perspectives on system change. Other themes that are examined are managing and leading through simplicity and complexity, linkages to the dimensions of practice and whose knowledge is valued: considering an indigenous worldview. This year the program has focused on the concepts which affect those in the K-12 realm.

However, social services and postsecondary employees have shown a great deal of interest in the program. Therefore, there are plans to modify the program to encompass those outside of the K-12 sphere.

Discussion:

One faculty member asked if there has been a discussion between TELP and the EdD coordinators. Steve met with David and Deirdre, in an effort to recruit and attract a diverse group of students. This method will also prevent TELP from becoming insular. Steve also has an advisory committee, which includes superintendents and faculty members.

11. Program development for principals in China (Steve)

The university is in talks to offer a training program for principals in China and Canada. As of now the program will consist of a five day excursion for Canadian principals to travel to China and a ten day visit for Chinese principals to Canada. This program will be an opportunity for all to shape perceptions of leadership. Anyone interested is asked to contact Steve for more information.

12. Committee on grant-tenure appointments (André)

There are several different ways for postdocs to become a part of this department. EDST needs to draft a policy which will clarify the diverse type of appointments. In order to draft this policy, a committee will be set up. The committee will comprise of faculty members and students. Once the policy is created, the committee will bring it to the attention of the Faculty Association in order to ensure it complies with current regulations. After the committee has secured the FA's approval, the policy will be brought before the department for vetting.

13. Announcements

Congratulations were given to the following individuals:

- Garnet and the ALGC program for winning the Excellence in E-Learning Award
- Maren Elfert in recognition of her work on finding new and worthy homes for the books in the Coolie Verner Memorial Reading Room

Handel and Mona announced the results of the one-time student funding distributed by the department. Five MA and five PhD students were selected to receive the funding. Handel and Mona also thanked the PhD and MA committees for their assistance in adjudicating these awards.

Handel introduced Professor Jennifer Kelly, a visiting scholar from the University of Alberta. The Centre for Culture, Identity and Education will be hosting Professor Kelly until the fall of 2016.

On November 24th there will be a book launch to mark the publication of Sam Rocha's newest book. The launch will take place from 4:30-6:00pm in the Pon G lounge and all are welcome.

14.Adjournment

Adjourned at 2:40pm