

NCATE Steering Committee Minutes
March 29, 11:30 to 1:00

Attending: Barbara Gerner de Garcia (Educational Foundations), Pat Hulsebosch (NCATE Coordinator), Tom Jones (Graduate Education), David Martin (UG Education), Roz Rosen (Administration and Supervision)

Apologies: Lynne Blennerhasset (Psychology), Ronald Dreher (Physical Education), Fran White (Counseling)

Guests: Paul Singletary (GSPP Dean's Office-Title II Officer). Jay Innes (Dept. of Ed, UG Program Director)

I. Title II and Gallaudet University

Paul Singletary reported on the legislative mandate – Title II. This law requires all universities to report the pass rate of their teacher education candidates (initial licensure) on licensing examination (PRAXIS test). The pass rate of the university will be compared to that of other universities in the state, and must be made public by communications with school guidance counselors and published statements in catalogs and other recruiting documents. The first deadline for this report is April 5 so Paul is currently preparing the report for King Jordan's signature. Universities are concerned about the wide-spread dissemination of high-stakes testing results.

Paul distributed copies of the original law, the actual report (attached), along with a contextual statement regarding test bias for deaf students written by David Martin. Paul also distributed an information booklet on Title II and directed our attention to pages 1 and 2 which suggest questions to consider related to our Title II data.

Paul said that Tom Allen has discussed additional contextual information, such as the fact that our scores are from a relatively small pool of students, and will be compared among a relatively small pool of universities in the DC area (compared to those in larger states). A further complication in our pool of candidates is that many the candidates in our graduate programs are in those programs to get an initial license, while at most other universities only the BA students are initial license students. This report will include all graduate students in teacher preparation programs, although the reports from most other universities will only include BA students. Future reports will have to remove the students who already have teaching licenses.

The Steering Committee discussed responses to Title II. We discussed the need both to gather and aggregate other kinds of documentation and assessment information that can describe our candidates in multiple ways. We also discussed the need to examine the results of the PRAXIS tests to determine what we might do to strengthen the basic skills backgrounds of our candidates. These two strands will be the focus for our Faculty Forum on May 2.

II. Faculty Forum

We revisited the date and location, and discussed format (see above notes on Title II).

III. Updates

Standards Committees reported on their progress (also see committee minutes).

We discussed the schedule for the visit of TJ Oakes on April 17 (see attached).

The NCATE website is up and running. Niya will work over the summer to improve navigability and attractiveness.

We returned to the Conceptual Framework to make a few revisions. The CF will be distributed and discussed at both the Student-Faculty Luncheon and the Faculty Forum.

IV. Student Faculty Luncheon Planning

We brainstormed how we might use this event both to gather information and to inform. Tom suggested that eventually we will want a brochure describing our Conceptual Framework and that we use the day to help flesh out what the CF means for our students. He proposed that we distribute the CF, divide students into groups, each with one of the “fingers” or continuum on the hands, and have them brainstorm experiences in their programs that represent those continuum. We would also want them to describe gaps or weaknesses in their programs around those themes.

Fran White has offered to work with Pat to further develop plans for the day.

Next meeting will be April 17, with T.J. Oakes (NCATE Consultant)