

Minutes of the Meeting of the UCTE
February 6, 2006
318 KSC

Those Present: S. Mitchell, A. Shearer, T. Steuernagel, C. Bowen, L. Walker, N. Barbour, R. Vande Zande, T. Minick, A. Sandmann, L. Zurbuch, S. Rilling, M. Weinstein, C. Bersani

1. On a motion by M. Weinstein seconded by L. Walker, the minutes of the meeting of October 27, 2005 were approved unanimously. S. Mitchell indicated the guidelines will be posted on the website.

2. N. Barbour initiated a discussion of the role of the UCTE in respect to the Praxis II test. Issues discussed included: the appropriate forum(s) for the discussion of Praxis II; the relationship of Praxis II to the definition of “completer”: relationship of Praxis II to pedagogic and content courses; timing of the taking of Praxis II in relationship to student teaching and placement interviewing.

Action Item: For the next meeting S. Mitchell will put together materials, including test result data, program sheets, and institutional reports. He may also invite a person to address the group concerning Praxis II.

3. A discussion occurred concerning the role of the UCTE in the consideration of curricular proposals from content areas that would impact teacher education as well as curricular proposals from teacher education that would impact content areas. The sentiment of the group was that UCTE is a good forum to review these, although the items would come to the groups for informational purposes only. The possibility of S. Mitchell’s participation in EPC as a representative of UCTE was discussed.

Action Item: For the next meeting T. Steuernagel will check with the associate deans to determine if there any pending curricular proposals that should come to UCTE. T. Steuernagel will also check with L. Williams to determine if Arts and Sciences is continuing to look at the content areas in respect to Praxis II.

4. R. Vande Zande presented her thoughts on possible directions for the UCTE, including the idea the group could serve as a “think tank.” Enthusiasm was expressed for this idea, including the notion of the UCTE focusing on interdisciplinary instruction. As the discussion turned to more general topics, there was support for exploring ideas such as a living learning community, a Center for Interdisciplinary Teaching and Learning, and summer interdisciplinary workshops/classes for in-service teachers.

Meeting adjourned at 11:30am

Respectfully submitted,
T. Steuernagel. & S. Mitchell