

## **SAM Committee Notes**

10/27/2014

**Attendance:** Carla Miller, David Westby, Lynette Molstad-Gorder, Gale Wiedow, Kathy Callies, Carrie Ahern, Crystal Pauli, Katie Abraham

**Note taker:** Billie Hoekman

**Discussion prior to meeting:** Gale reviewed standard three from CAEP for teacher education candidates. He handed out a copy of the standard. Kathy noted that more and more incoming freshmen students are using the CLEP exam or bringing in AP credits toward the normal freshman entry-level courses, and neither affect the GPA. The requirement of a 3.0 GPA (CAEP standard 3) would cause students to need to do exceptionally well their first two years in order to meet that requirement.

Crystal began the meeting with giving everyone a chance to review the agenda that included the purpose of the SAM committee, admission requirements for the teacher education program and to student teaching.

Crystal discussed the changes to the PPST Praxis exam and the implementation of the CORE exam. There are no study materials provided by ETS for the CORE exam and Lori Engebretson is working as best she can with students to prepare them. Currently we are using the ETS suggested cut scores: Reading 156, Writing 162 and Math 150. Questions were raised on the 3 strikes rule that was in place for the PPST – are we still using that for the CORE since we cannot provide study materials to help the students prepare? Should a passing score still be required for admission to teacher education if we cannot properly prepare students and are using basic cut scores that have not been researched? Crystal also noted that USD is doing a yearlong study of student scores for the CORE and are granting admission to students who have taken the test regardless of their score. Discussion was held on whether or not DSU should do the same. Could we also gather ACT, CAAP, PPST and CORE scores to make some correlations to help determine a valid cut score? Some noted that when the Praxis II Content was first required that a range score was used at first while a single cut score was being determined. Many felt it would not be fair to hold students to a single cut score for the CORE exams when no study materials are available. Gale felt a decision from this committee to collect data for a year before setting cut scores would be acceptable to the COE faculty and PEU members. Kathy questioned whether or not the teacher education coursework is designed to help identify students who may not be ready if we are not using the CORE exam scores during this time frame? Crystal confirmed the coursework would show any weak areas in student knowledge.

There was also discussion on whether or not to require students with partial/low PPST scores to take the CORE if we are not considering the score anyway. It was agreed that students who did not pass a PPST exam would need to take the correlating CORE exam anyway.

### **Admission to Teacher Education Decisions:**

**Group One – Meets all Requirements** – M/S Wiedow/Miller to approve admission. Motion carried.

**Group Two – Currently Enrolled in a Required Course** – M/S Miller/Molstad-Gorder to approve provisional admission. Motion carried.

**Group Three – Needs Testing or Retesting –**

Kathy noted she would like to see the two students ( [REDACTED] ) who have one remaining PPST exam to complete take the correlating CORE exam to begin making some comparisons between tests and scores. Carrie researched these students' CAAP scores and noted that both had done well on the CAAP. Gale agreed that students should take the corresponding CORE exam in place of any PPST exam that did not have a passing score.

Crystal called for a motion regarding CORE and PPST score requirements for admission to teacher education.

M/S Callies/Molstad-Gorder that all students be required to take the CORE exams in any or all areas where no passing PPST scores have been previously recorded. In the event a student does not pass the CORE exams, the student could still be admitted to teacher education provided the student successfully completed the CAAP exam. This exception will be in effect during the 2014-2015 academic year while data is collected on student test performance to determine proper cut scores for the new CORE exams. Motion passed.

Crystal called for a motion on the students in Group Three. M/S Miller/Molstad-Gorder to approve provisional admission. Motion carried.

**Group Four – Currently Enrolled in a Required Course and Needs Testing or Retesting –** M/S Abraham/Miller to move [REDACTED] to Group Two (Currently Enrolled in a Required Course) and be approved for admission under that motion because she has taken the corresponding CORE exam in place of the Math PPST exam and passed the CAAP exam (based on the previous approved motion regarding CORE/PPST/CAAP testing requirements) and to approve provisional admission for the remaining students in Group Four. Motion carried.

**Group Five – Needs Verification of Community Service –** M/S Molstad-Gorder/Ahern to approve provisional admission. Motion carried.

**Group Six – Needs Verification of Community Service/Needs to Test or Retest –** M/S Wiedow/Miller to approve provisional admission. Motion carried.

**Group Seven – Achieve the 2.6 GPA Requirement –** M/S Wiedow/Abraham to approve provisional admission. Motion carried.

**Group Eight – Achieve the 2.6 GPA Requirement / Testing –**

Discussion was held on an option of academic amnesty for [REDACTED]. Kathy felt there might be a possibility that it would help the student's GPA and requested to have more time to investigate. M/S Wiedow/Westby to table the admission decision for [REDACTED] pending a review by the Registrar's Office for academic amnesty. Motion to table carried. A second short meeting will be scheduled as soon as the Registrar's Office has information to report regarding [REDACTED] case. M/S Molstad-Gorder/Ahern to approve provisional admission for the remaining students in Group Eight. Motion carried.

**Group Nine – Achieve the 2.6 GPA Requirement/Testing/Currently Enrolled in a Required Course –**

Discussion was held on student readiness, available courses that could still be taken outside of the professional block and Carla recommended a denial based on these things. M/S Wiedow/Abraham to deny admission. Motion carried.

**Admission to Student Teaching Decisions:**

**Group One – ELED majors/Co-op –**

Discussion was held on the merits of each student. M/S Wiedow/Molstad-Gorder to approve provisional admission pending successful completion of coursework with the exception of [REDACTED] on the list because of low GPA. Motion carried. M/S Wiedow/Molstad-Gorder to approve provisional admission pending successful completion of coursework AND successfully raising GPA to meet the required CUM GPA of 2.6 for [REDACTED]. Motion carried.

**Group Two – SPED majors –** M/S Molstad-Gorder/Abraham to approve provisional admission pending successful completion of coursework. Motion carried.

**Group Three – K-12/Secondary majors –**

Crystal noted the highlighted GPA for [REDACTED] is above the required minimum and to disregard the highlight. M/S Wiedow/Westby to approve provisional admission pending successful completion of coursework. Motion carried.

**Request for Out of Area Student Teaching**

Crystal reviewed the student letter to the committee, giving background information. M/S Abraham/Molstad-Gorder to approve [REDACTED] request to teach out of area, Motion carried.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 5:15 p.m.