

## Unit Conversation

March 2, 2015

As a follow up to the Education Forum held on 2/19/15, teacher education faculty and staff used the March 2015 unit conversation to further develop ideas for short-term and intermediate-term goals related to the major themes emerging at the Forum.

Each participant then voted for their highest priorities among the ideas listed. Goals from each area are listed below, in the order of priority for that topic.

### **RELATIONSHIP BUILDING/COMMUNICATION**

- **Update the School of Education/Teacher Education website with appropriate and up-to-date information.** *This is an immediate need, ranked as the #1 short-term goal. To be completed by the end of this semester.*
- **Create a single site or space** with pertinent information for faculty, students and staff involved in educator preparation. This would include calendars, deadlines, unit-wide information, interface with OCE and other pertinent websites. *This is a short-term goal, to be completed by the beginning of the Fall 2015 semester.*
- **Bring teacher educators together at least once per semester.**
  - Create unit priorities each semester/year
  - Examine data, topical issues, Forum
  - Convocation week – meeting with Dean (department, college, unit-wide meetings)
- **Update the Teacher Education distribution list** to include current faculty and staff, including office managers – so we are all on the same page and receiving the same information. *This is a short-term goal, to be completed this semester.*
- **Create a cohesive Teacher Education identity.** This includes opportunities to socialize/collaborate, clothing for purchase with logo and Teacher Education, flash drives, etc.
- **Share information and “talking points” about each program involving educator preparation** – including teacher licensure programs, higher education, educational administration, human relations, school counseling, etc. This is a long-term change, but should start now.

### **INTEGRATION OF TECHNOLOGY**

- **Develop a comprehensive technology plan** for the School of Education/Teacher Education Unit. *This is an intermediate goal that should begin as soon as possible.*
  - Include the responsibilities identified below, as well as course materials, devices, etc.
  - Reconvene the Space and Technology Committee to accomplish this work.

- **Determine responsibilities:**
  - Faculty buy-in, training, support, course load
  - Students – BYOD?
  - Administration – support
  - Developing proposal for technology integrationist functions
- **Change mindset about online courses**
  - Develop an undergraduate course in online pedagogy for all teacher candidates
  - Identify by program, courses that could be offered in an online format
- **Develop our capacity**
  - Replicate, integrate “power-up” and find ways to sustain such initiatives that continue to developing our capacity
- **Update SMART classrooms** – and make them smarter.

### **ADVISING**

- **Update the School of Education/Teacher Education website.** Include degree map access, pathways to licensure, video clips of advising processes and general advising information. This needs to be kept up-to-date! Identify who is responsible for updates!! *This is a short-term goal; to be completed prior to the start of the Fall 2015 semester.*
- **Create a forum for advisors to meet and share ideas.** Use one of the unit conversations and/or time at convocation(s) for faculty to share ideas and suggestions regarding advising. *This is an intermediate goal.*
- **Create and “advising day” for all K-12 and secondary candidates.** *Intermediate goal – to be discussed in K-12/5-12 meetings and implemented in the 2015-16 academic year.*
- **Provide advising training for new faculty.**
- **Invite the Advising Center’s SOE liaison (Berit Merrill),** to join meetings such as unit conversations, DAC, etc.

### ***It is the recommendation of the participants that the following occur in the near future:***

- Identify clear responsibility for updating websites.
- Invite Henry May to an upcoming DAC meeting to address our needs
- Provide training in the new web update software for all identified users
- Collect up-to-date advising, degree maps, and licensure pathway documents from each program – these will “live” on the updated website and will be systematically reviewed and updated.
- Reconvene the Space and Technology Committee – with membership from each department in the SOE plus representatives from the 5-12/K-12 licensure areas. First charge: develop a comprehensive plan for integration of technology – including input from P-12 administrators and current students

- Update the Teacher Education distribution list to include all faculty, staff and administrators involved in the work of preparing candidates for work in P-12 school settings.