



♦ Licensure Committee Advisory Council Minutes ♦ April 12, 2011 4:00-5:30pm

Date: 4/12/2011
Time: 4:00 – 5:30 pm
Location: MLC Library Board Room
Attendees:

- **Advisory Council Members:** Chuck Beitlich, Shelly Boelter, Andrea Harder, Kim Haroldson, John Isch, Jill Morgan, Barb Polzin, Sue Schwarzrock, Steve Weber
- **MLC Faculty:** Bob Klindworth, Division Chair; John Meyer, Director of Graduate Studies; Al Spurgin, Professor of Education; Paul Tess, Director of Clinical Experiences; Cindy Whaley, Professor of Education & Licensure Officer
- **MLC Staff:** Ken Board, Licensure & Post-baccalaureate Assistant; Gina Dunham, Public School Placements Assistant

Call to Order: (4:01pm)

- Dr. Whaley called the meeting to order with welcome and introductions.
 - Introduced Ken Board and Gina Dunham as Advisory Council Assistants
 - Welcomed to the Advisory Council – Prof. John Meyer, Dir. of Graduate Studies

Approval of Minutes for October 12, 2010 Meeting (4:02pm)

- Approved by: All

Membership Information -- Tab 2 (4:02pm)

- Dr. Whaley asked the Committee to review the membership information in Tab 2.
 - Please make sure your membership information is updated.

New Program Plans -- Tab 6 (4:03pm)

- Dr. Whaley explained the new elementary program plans for the 2011-12 school year.
 - Elementary K-6
 - Elementary K-6 w/endorsement
 - Double Majors:
 - Early Childhood/Elementary
 - Elementary/Communication Arts and Literature

Minutes continued

- Elementary/Mathematics
- Elementary/Physical Education
- Elementary/Life Science
- Elementary/Social Studies

Elementary Licensure -- Tab 10 (4:06pm)

- MLC's newest plan is Elementary K-6 with an Endorsement (Minor)
 - Specialties will no longer be available at the MN Dept. of Ed. after August of 2012
- Elementary Licensure Options:
 - Standard K-6 (stand-alone)
 - Standard K-6 w/Minor (minor leads to an endorsement)
 1. Communication Arts and Literature (5-8)
 2. Mathematics (5-8)
 3. Science (5-8)
 4. Social Studies (5-8)
 5. Spanish (K-8)
 6. Educational Technology (K-12)
 - MLC students will declare their minor (optional) at the end of their freshman year.
- MLC also has Minors that do not lead to an endorsement
 - Coaching
 - German
 - Music
 - Physical Education
- MLC graduates also receive a Theology minor that does not lead to an endorsement
- All students are required to pass the appropriate MTLE tests for licensure
 - Students seeking a minor must pass an additional endorsement test
- Dr. Klindworth: *"Endorsements have given our students many more opportunities. However, this transition period has put more pressure on office staff and advisors. Overall, it is a positive step forward for our MLC students."*

Early Childhood Licensure -- Tab 9 (4:13pm)

- Dr. Whaley referenced Tab 9 – Early Childhood plan
 - New courses have been added in the Early Childhood major
 - EDU2101: The Arts & Movement in ECE
 - EDU3116: Teaching Religion in ECE
 - EDU3115: Teaching Mathematics & Science in Primary Grades
 - MLC's Early Childhood program is a 4-year program
 - Birth – Gr. 3 (age 8)
- Early Childhood Center update (Dr. Klindworth):
 - Our governing body has made a resolution that we raise the current structure when adequate funding is in place and a new center will be constructed on that site; in the future, locate it in on our campus. A real blessing to our students to be interacting with that age level in a very intimate way.

Minutes continued

- We're optimistic that it will be a reality within 5 years. We are going to expand the number of 3-5 year-olds to 40. We plan to have infants and toddlers as well in that set-up.
- Currently, our early childhood student teachers need to go elsewhere for their infant/toddler experience. We'd like to alleviate some pressure elsewhere by making experiences available on our own campus.

Secondary Licensure -- Tab 14 (4:19pm)

- Licensure options:
 - Communication Arts & Literature (5-12)
 - Mathematics (5-12)
 - General Science (5-8), Life Science (9-12)
 - Social Studies (5-12)
 - Recently approved by the Minn. Board of Teaching (BOT)
 - Physical Education (K-12)
 - Recently approved by the Minn. Board of Teaching (BOT)
 - World Language & Culture: Spanish (K-12)
- Licensure Update: The following programs have been approved by the MN BOT
 - Classroom Music: Vocal and Instrumental (K-12)
 - General Science (5-8), Chemistry (9-12)
 - General Science (5-8), Physics (9-12)
 - World Language & Culture: Spanish (K-12)

Clinical Experiences (Lutheran) Report by Professor Tess -- Tab 12 (4:24pm)

- Student teaching numbers are difficult to predict from year to year. The reasons could be grouped into three categories:
 - a) Changes in programs,
 - b) Students changing majors,
 - c) Flexibility in newest programs.
- We are planning on continued growth in the number of secondary and early childhood student teachers. In speaking with our recruitment office, I learned that over 40% of incoming freshmen are double majors. Recruitment would like to see that percent grow to at least 50% in the next couple of years.
- Urban Experiences:
 - One of the objectives of any clinical experience is to gain a valuable, real-world understanding of the work of a teaching minister. A growing number of students is showing an interest for gaining experiences in urban settings in order to learn the work of an urban teacher. For example, during the EFE weeks of spring break this year over 25 students participated in experiences in urban schools.
 - As more students complete EFE's in urban settings, more student teachers are indicating a preference for student teaching in an urban school. Unfortunately, the number of urban classrooms that we use as placement sites has been small. In an effort to increase placement opportunities, we

are making a concerted push to encourage more classroom teachers to serve as supervisors. This year we had six classrooms in urban settings. My goal is to double that number for next year.

- Two interesting programs are part of the push. MLC has developed a partnership with the Center for Urban Teaching (WLC. Milwaukee) which could open doors to more classrooms in the Milwaukee area thanks in part to the Center's connection to the teachers working with the Center. Another program may provide classrooms in the Miami, FL, area as I have applied for a grant to send four student teachers to Divine Savior Lutheran Academy in the spring of 2012.
- MLC received a grant to send 4 MLC students to Doral, Florida, for urban ministry.

Post-Baccalaureate – Tab 11 (4:30pm)

- Dr. Whaley shared exciting news about our Post-baccalaureate Programs (veteran teachers that have graduated from D/MLC before we were approved for licensing are coming back to get their Minnesota license.
 - Early Childhood and Secondary Post-baccalaureate programs will begin this summer. In general, the program consists of coursework, MTLE testing, and a professional experience.
 - Currently, our Post-baccalaureate program is open to veteran teachers who graduated from D/MLC.
 - Refer to the Post-baccalaureate Requirements chart for general requirements.
- We recognize concern from people in the community over new developments in the state which will be required to become a teacher.
 - MLC will not be changing their requirements. Their requirements will remain the same to become a licensed teacher.
- Our Post-baccalaureate program has continued to grow.
 - Currently, we have 62 people that have completed the Post-baccalaureate program and obtained Minnesota licensure
 - We currently have 36 people that are in-process

Master's Program – Tab 16 (4:38pm)

- Dr. Whaley introduced John Meyer as the new Graduate Studies Director.
 - John grew up in New Ulm. His father was a professor at DMLC in the Music Division. Prof. Ed Meyer graduated in 1958 as a classmate of Dr. Isch.
- Prof. Meyer showed a PowerPoint presentation, illustrating past graduate studies students.
 - Graduate Studies Program began in 2005
 - Currently there are 82 graduate students in the program (one in Vietnam)
 - 13 Master of Studies in Education degrees have been awarded
 - 8 more students are expected to graduate in May

Minutes continued

- The total WELS teachers *without* advanced degrees is at least 1,900. We would like to make a program that encourages as many of our teachers as possible to continue their education.
- Our program currently serves D/MLC graduate from 1970-2001 (see the charts in Tab 16)
- We also now offer a “combo” master’s and licensure elementary program. In this program, a graduate will obtain an MSE degree with an Minnesota elementary K-6 license.
- Dr. Spurgin: “We appreciate Dr. Meyer for doing this work on our staff—a true blessing.”

Teacher Performance Assessments (TPA) (4:50pm)

- Minnesota is considered an accelerated state
 - It will be a requirement next year that every student teacher (parochial and public) will have to be a part of this TPA.
 - Every undergraduate will have to pick a particular lesson to teach over 3-5 day segments, reflect on it, lesson plan, plan, prepare, video record lesson, write essay on how lesson went, reflect more, write how they would change the lesson (20-25 pages of written reflection).
 - We have already done a trial run with a secondary student teacher in Mathematics.
 - We are currently in the process of doing a trial run in the Early Childhood and Elementary Programs.
 - The assessments will be done by an outside reviewer. We will be trained on how to assess other institutions’ students.
 - The purpose of TPA is to learn how to make teachers more effective.
 - However, we do not want to see a teacher’s other lessons suffer because they are spending too much time on the lesson be assessed.
- This is the pilot year for TPA.
 - The 2011-12 School Year will begin the “Full Field Trial”
- Kim Haroldson: “My MSU student teacher had a hard time ‘balancing’ her assignments for TPA with the needs of her current students.”
- Bob Klindworth: “What kind of orientation did you receive from MSU in regards to TPA?”
- Kim: “We had about a one-hour meeting of instruction.”
- TPA Concerns:
 - What will be the impact of implementing TPA moving too quickly?
 - Should there be an increase in honoraria for TPA supervisors?
 - Are there privacy issues with video recording student teachers in the classroom (eg. Students appearing in the recording?)
 - Kim: “It’s getting more difficult to take a student teacher because of testing, assessments, and performance-based pay. Can I ‘afford’ to take a student teacher? We would all need ‘quality’ student teachers if it is going to affect our classroom assessment.”

Clinicals (5:16pm)

- Cindy Whaley: “Is it possible to make the clinical an everyday experience instead of once a week?”
- Andrea Harder agreed that it is difficult to take a clinical student because one cannot predict the weather, etc. and what is going to happen from week to week. It’s hard to get to know a student from seeing them just once a week. This makes lesson-planning difficult.
- Steve Weber: There may need to be more “creativity” with the clinical experiences, especially when the renewal of our contract is dependent on how well our students perform.
- Andrea Harder: “We fed breakfast to our students every test day and scores were up. We’re doing it again this year.”
- Kim Haroldson: “On a positive note, clinical students from MLC are wonderful to have for various reasons.”
- Cindy Whaley: A possibility to think about—make our clinical experiences less “teaching” and more “helping out” for the teacher?

Motion

- Motion made by Barb Polzin and accepted by the entire council to share with the administration that additional help be given to the Education Office with the additional workload from all the new programs.

Closing Remarks (5:30pm)

- Cindy Whaley: “Please let your teachers know how much we appreciate all they do. Thank you for your partnership with MLC.”

Next Scheduled Meetings

- Tuesday, October 11, 2011
- Tuesday, April 10, 2012
- Tuesday, October 9, 2012

- 4:00-5:30pm
- MLC Board Room

Meeting Adjourned (5:32pm)