

**Licensure Advisory Council**  
**October 13, 2015**  
**4:30-6:40 pm**  
**Chapel Fellowship Room, Martin Luther College**

**Attendance**

**Advisory Council Members:** Chuck Beitlich, Mindy Berkner, Shelly Boelter, Heath Dobberpuhl, Melissa Hunter, John Isch, Vickie Tambornino, Steve Weber, Ron Wels

**Absent:** Jennifer Brunick, Kim Haroldson, Tim Plath, Greg Thiesfeldt

**MLC Faculty:** Darryl Hanneman, Earl Heidtke, Larry Lotito, Jennifer Mehlberg, John Meyer, Jonathan Roux, Paul Tess, Cindy Whaley, Jeff Wiechmann

**Absent:** Benjamin Clemons, James Grunwald, Bob Klindworth, Jennifer Krause, Al Spurgin

**MLC Staff:** Debbie Witte

**Absent:** Kristal Miller

**Welcome**

- I. Dr. Cindy Whaley called the meeting to order at 4:39 pm
  - a. Thanks to faculty members for their involvement
  - b. Licensure Advisory Council (LAC) input is appreciated by President Mark Zarling
- II. Continue the 2-hour meeting format for LAC
- III. Each member introduced themselves to the rest of the council.

**Approval of minutes**

The minutes of the April 14, 2015 meeting were unanimously approved as distributed.

**Fall enrollment**

- I. 2015-16 enrollment is 721
- II. Vice President Jeff Wiechmann is pleased to be steady; enrollment is always open

**New faculty**

- I. Daniel Fenske, Professor of Science replaces Professor Roger Klockziem
- II. Peter Baganz, Professor of History replaces Professor David Schroeder

**New Licensure Advisory Council members**

- I. Mindy Berkner, Spanish (grades 9-12) Sleepy Eye High School
  - a. Supervises 5-year student teachers and clinical students
  - b. Helps with MLC Spanish program
- II. LAC should have a council member for each discipline, equating to every program offered at MLC
  - a. Need Physical Education representative – Vickie Tambornino offered Ben Olson as a possible representative
  - b. Early Childhood Education (ECE) – Professor Jen Mehlberg no longer serves as the ECE representative since she is no longer the lead teacher and director at the Learning Center

**MTLE pass rates**

- I. Year-to-date information, current through 2014-15 school year, shows a drop in results for both MLC and all Minnesota scores.
  - a. The Board of Teaching is now accepting passing scores from both ACT Plus Writing/SAT exams to be allowed in place of taking the MTLE Basic Skills test for reading, writing, and math.

- b. ACT Plus Writing/SAT exam scores are not included in the data with the MTLE scores which results in the drop in overall scores. Therefore, better students with higher scores are not included in these results.
- c. Dr. Cindy Whaley explained that students are encouraged to use the Academic Success Center for help
  - i. to alleviate test anxiety prior to taking MTLE tests
  - ii. to remediate areas of weakness both before testing with student permission
  - iii. to help English as a Second Language (ESL) students
    - 1. Dean Earl Heidtke commented that ESL learners are given 50% more time on testing
    - 2. At the April 2016 meeting the MTLE results will be reported by gender and ethnicity.
- II. Vice President Jeff Wiechmann requested that the Licensure Office research and report at the April 2016 meeting the actual number of students who are taking the MTLE exam and those who have been exempted due to their ACT/SAT scores.
- III. Mr. Heath Dobberpuhl explained differences in ACT Plus Writing and MTLE writing
  - a. ACT Plus Writing requires one, hand-written essay
  - b. MTLE Writing has 2 computer-based essays
  - c. Dean Earl Heidtke commented on the need for test preparation to learn the test format

#### **Special Education update**

- I. Special Education (SPED) Request for Initial Program Approval (RIPA) will be submitted to the Minnesota reviewer.
  - a. Baccalaureate SPED license will be Academic and Behavioral Strategist
  - b. Continuing Education will have an online 11-credit Learning Disabilities add-on to a current 5-year MN license
- II. SPED RIPA for masters' program will be submitted for possible approval in April 2016
  - a. Masters' of Science in Education with SPED emphasis
  - b. Able to apply for Learning Disabilities license

#### **edTPA data summary**

- I. Dr. Cindy Whaley summarized the edTPA (Teacher Performance Assessment) which is done during public school student teaching.
  - a. Three tasks: Planning, Instruction, and Assessment
  - b. Different programs based on teacher candidates' majors, i.e. elementary literacy, elementary math, ECE
  - c. Passing Minnesota score is 38 (13-13-12)
  - d. Passing World Language – Spanish score is 29 (10-10-9)
- II. MLC scores are expected to increase
  - a. Orientation time is lengthened from 8 hours to 10 hours
  - b. Does the time of year affect edTPA scoring?
    - i. edTPA requires 3 consecutive lessons to be taught
    - ii. Teacher Mindy Berkner commented that MCA testing interferes with the daily schedule during PS4, breaking lessons into smaller increments
    - iii. Fieldtrips, year-end activities, and conferences interrupt the 5-week student teaching experience

#### **edTPA remediation policy**

- I. Dr. Whaley solicited comments from LAC about remediating students after their edTPA score results
  - a. Vice President Jeff Weichmann suggested that MLC adopt a minimum cut score of 30 as a starting point
    - i. Maximum score is 75 based on 15 rubrics
    - ii. Average edTPA score is 45

- iii. We do not want to hinder our graduation rates which would affect the supply of available teacher candidates for WELS by tying edTPA scores to graduation requirements
    - iv. Minnesota requires a score of 38 as of January 2016, but does not tie this to individual initial licensure; MLC currently requires only that students pass in order to show improvements in our programs
  - II. PS4 student teaching makes remediation difficult since scores are available after May graduation
    - a. In-house scoring would help implement remediation more quickly after the student teaching experience.
    - b. Professor Jon Roux commented that for 2015-16 the Education Division recommended that edTPA be completed in the first student teaching experience in each semester to avoid year-end edTPA time constraints.
  - III. The Education Division accepted no remediation policy for the 2015-16 school year since Minnesota is currently allowing each institution to decide/implement its own policy
  - IV. Teachers Mindy Berkner, Missy Hunter, and Vickie Tamborino concurred that a longer public school student teaching experience would benefit edTPA by giving more time for student teachers to create relationships with students to make a meaningful learning experience.
  - V. LAC would like a follow-up report at the April 2016 meeting

#### **May 2015 Graduation**

- I. 86 assignments, 2 unassigned (who didn't fit into unfilled positions), 40 unfilled positions
- II. There are fewer available candidates since 2011.
- III. Principal apprentices are assigned male candidates who will one day be a principal

#### **Principal Training Program**

- I. 3-Year incremental program for candidates who volunteer at no cost to themselves
- II. First graduation will be in May 2017

#### **Emergency teachers**

- I. 6 emergency teachers, undergrads with a waiver to serve in a school due to a need for a teacher
- II. Those individuals who successfully completed student teaching, usually double majors with 4 years of course work completed

#### **Conceptual framework**

- I. Standards of Effective Practice: Caring completes the graphic

#### **Student Teaching**

- I. In 2016-17 public school student teaching will increase to 6 weeks beginning August 29, 2016
  - a. Teacher Ron Wels agreed with the change which will allow students to start fresh and see planning.
  - b. Teacher Mindy Berkner added that they could see orientation.
  - c. Teacher Missy Hunter saw the benefit in student teachers meeting parents and experiencing the first day of school
- II. The number of ECE student teachers continues to increase, but is hard to predict as 30% of students change majors between freshman and senior year.

#### **Forms conversion**

- I. Orbeon forms take data from online form and enter it directly into the MLC data base.
- II. Disaggregate information by session, program, major or individual
- III. Thank you to Aaron Spike, Network Services, who crafted the software
- IV. Program Effectiveness Report for Continuing Approval (PERCA) is available on the Portal for professors to submit their Standards of Effective Practice (SEP) and content information from their syllabi

**Closing remarks**

- I. Upcoming meetings
  - a. Tuesday, April 12, 2016
  - b. Tuesday, October 11, 2016
- II. The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm by Dr. Whaley.

Respectfully submitted,

Deborah Witte,  
Administrative Assistant to the Licensure Officer