

**OREGON ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES  
FOR TEACHER EDUCATION**

MINUTES

APRIL 29, 2009

WARNER-PACIFIC COLLEGE

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Present:

Jan Albrecht, Concordia University  
Janine Allen, Corban College  
Mark Ankeny, Pacific University  
Dana Barbarick, Cascade College  
Steve Bernhisel, Linfield College  
Tom Greene, University of Portland  
Bob Hamm, University of Phoenix  
Randy Hitz, Portland State University  
Eloise Hockett, George Fox University  
Carol Lauritzen, Eastern Oregon University  
Lynn McMahan, Marylhurst University  
Keith Menk, Teacher Standards and Practices Commission  
Debi Miller, Multnomah University  
Deb Miller-Allen, Portland State University  
Rita Moore, Willamette University  
Linda Samek, George Fox University  
Shelley Smolnisky, Pacific University  
Heather Stanhope, Eastern Oregon University  
Sam Stern, Oregon State University  
Sue Thompson, Western Oregon University  
Bruce Weitzel, University of Portland

Guests:

Jim Buck, Oregon School Personnel Association  
Teresa Ferrar, Oregon Education Association

1. Meeting called to order by Jan Albrecht, 12:07 pm
2. Introductions

### 3. Announcement

Linda Scott Tom went to Oregon Legislature yesterday to talk about ethics issue. Visited with four legislators (committee that is looking at universities paying directly to cooperating teachers). Issue for committee: someone on ethics commission is very concerned that amount will not be listed on taxes. Will know soon. Talked about direct payments and vouchers for college credits.

### 4. HB 3468 Creation of an advisory committee to develop a survey of teacher education institutions. (Randy Hitz).

- a. This bill has died so it is not an issue now. Vickie Chamberlain and Hilda Rosseilli helped legislators to understand that the bill was not a good idea.
- b. Hilda: Vickie is interested in having a survey devised by us and not by legislature. Linda: Will this come up again in the future? Randy: Not a bad idea to do this but this bill would have formed an advisory committee unnecessary and would be funded through fees paid by universities.
- c. Hilda: Meetings in past with Susan Castillo and others; one kernel of idea: It would be useful to gather information from principals with standard questions and have institutions add more items. From Ohio an idea: Information would not be distributed with specific college information. It could have turned out to be a ranking of colleges. Ohio got around this by maintaining the survey as an on-going project so there would not be public dissemination of these data.
- d. Randy: We should be able to have a more careful discussion.

### 5. Randy Hitz: [handout] Oregon Coalition for Quality Teaching and Learning. Chalkboard would be just the convener of the group. Will involve all the major players, including ODE, TSPC, OEA and COSA. Build intelligent conversation. Will meet May 7 as whole group.

- a. Which professional development needs are most pressing in the state?
- b. What are the partners' priorities in terms of the quality teaching and learning agenda and our partnership with NCAF?
- c. Where are the perceived areas of overlap/redundancy/omission relative to the professional development opportunities for educators currently being offered across the state?

### 6. Hilda: Thanks to Tom Greene who looked at minutes and followed up with tasks. Letter to Jim Cibulka. Redesign for NCATE based on crucial feedback on institutions. Visit NCATE website for webinar and document that walks through the proposed changes. Meeting of NCATE board in mid-May so we will know more at that time. Some dramatic changes that can make things easier in some cases. Still not enough dramatic changes for SPA organizations.

7. Hilda: Oregon Mentor Initiative evaluation data: Had chance to review data first-round participants. More data next year. Some findings:
  - a. Administered in Nov-Dec. 700 mentees who participated.
  - b. 51% first-year teachers; 47% second-year teachers; 17% prepared out of state. School District participants listed on ODE website. Geographically well distributed throughout the state.
  - c. 59% were assigned mentors in their own content areas. 86% assigned to mentors at the same authorization levels. 60% reported mentors were influencing them to stay in teaching.
  - d. Six areas were most useful activities: 1) resources and materials; 2) assisting with CR management; 3) providing emotional support; 4) providing support on content knowledge; 5) observing in the CR; and 6) suggesting additional teaching strategies.
  - e. Eloise: open-ended questions? Hilda: had both open-ended and check-offs. Can disaggregate data to give back responses to institutions from which the teachers graduated. Mark: overwhelming teachers left teaching because of lack of support for dealing with CR management, planning, differentiate instruction. Hope that Bev Pratt can present information at Fall meeting.
  
8. What OEA has in mind (Teresa Ferrer): This is a really difficult year for teachers. In the last six months I have been working on challenging issues such as layoffs, reductions of salaries and benefits in districts. I wanted to let you know that we're in pivotal times in Oregon. We will likely lose some of our new teachers and maybe even some of the mentor programs. The mentor teachers were discouraged because of all the work they put into the new teachers.
  - a. In \$16B in general fund, predicted, \$3-6B cut in education. We don't know the final amounts yet. Additional forecasts in Fall and January 2010. In April, a survey to 1/5 to 1/6 of districts we have data from. We know what other districts are going to do because some districts are reluctant to put into writing:
  - b. Shortfall dollars: average amount is \$7.4M, from 500,000 to \$34M reductions. Average 4 days shortfall. Now, predictions are perhaps even doubled. 1-15 days taken out of school year.
  - c. Layoffs average 36 teachers, anywhere from 4-300. Probably double that now. Salary reductions: freezes across the board; six districts COLA reductions. Insurance pay reduced and out-of-pocket increased. Tuition reimbursement disappeared. Other incentives just disappeared. Early retirement incentives may not be successful. House Education Committee will waive requirements—librarians in every school, TAG, others.
  - d. No indications from DOE any type of slow-down in graduation requirements and other initiatives. Pressure is still there. Losing a lot of teachers—unprecedented numbers. Teachers on CAPs working on additional endorsements. What OEA wants is some relief for those who remain. We hope we can allow teachers out of work will

be able to stay in the profession in some way. Teachers will end the school year psychologically and emotionally damaged.

- e. We hope TSPC will change some rules—for example, educators who want to or need to can apply for one-year extension for their license to finish their requirements for renewal. New teachers concerned about taking exams at \$200 a time to complete CAP. OEA wants someone to say to teachers “We are offering you a lifeline. Here is what we can do.” Need some creative thinking on this.
  - f. Mark: Are local associations trying to save jobs or salaries? Teresa: One statewide economic summit where we laid out 10-year projection and thought of where we can produce more revenue in this state.
  - g. Also, regional trainings and this is the basic question. OEA believes that every local has a different situation so the answer is never the same. We will ensure that the state statutes are adhered to by districts regarding layoffs—merit, seniority, other criteria—but each local sees it differently.
  - h. Shelley: Do you have a sense of how many districts doing layoffs and districts doing salary benefits, freezes? Teresa: Every option is a bad option. Some options have a negative long-term effect. Which option will get the attention of the public in the local communities? This crisis is an opportunity to get the public involved in long-term solution. If we don’t do it in the best of times, we surely won’t be able to do it in the worst of times. Tom: Veteran teachers are afraid to retire.
  - i. Teresa: We encourage districts to keep incentives to get people to retire. OEA wants to get as many ideas as possible. We’re working hard on Senate and House floors.
9. PrISM (Linda Samek): Housed at Teacher Research Institute at Western Oregon. offerings are short and intensive format classes for math and science. Scholarships for teachers. If need hours for Initial II license, this is a great way.
10. Teacher Work Sample conference in July (Hilda Rosselli): Proposal to OACTE to sponsor keynoter at institute. The cost of sponsorship for Sharon Robinson, president of AACTE, is \$1200 and would include acknowledgment of OACTE as sponsor of the speaker. Planning committee considered canceling the conference because of budget issues everywhere, but we have more pre-registrants than we had in the past. **Move Randy Hitz/second Tom Greene. Approved.** We have excellent presenters including director of Center of Teacher Quality; others. People from lots of places are coming. First day looks at TWS but second and third days look at performance assessment. Hilda: People around the country look to Oregon for leadership in TWS.
11. Treasurer’s report (Rita) \$10,329.72 in treasury.

12. Webinar: “What Every Teacher Educator Should Know about 21st Century Assessment” (Hilda): May 5-7. Sponsored by AACTE Committee on Professional Preparation and Accountability.
13. Priority areas for future work on teacher preparation in Oregon (Hilda): Strengths, Challenges, Priority Areas (handouts). Hilda would like to send out survey to schools for best practices, data, or whatever we want to brag about in our programs. Linda: This is a great agenda item; Linda presented this at George Fox consortium. Carol: good to continue this discussion. Keith: Vickie has talked to do a follow-up to this, including ODE.
  - a. Mark: SB 441 would have allowed districts to hire people without appropriate background (no teaching licenses). Keith: The bill reduces all accountability. Allows districts to hire just about anyone. Passed out of committee 3-2 vote. Restricts TSPC from going after districts that deliberately misassign. Referred to Ways and Means with a do-pass recommendation. Would go to House next if it passes. DOE testified that this could risk federal dollars. Bill is short on specifics and long on generalities. Its attempt is to give local autonomy to districts. Carol: Ironic because so many licensed teachers looking for jobs. Hilda will send PPT to Bob for distribution to OACTE. Randy: This bill will probably not go anywhere. Use materials from Oregon Coalition for intelligent conversation. Tom: We should not completely ignore this though.
14. Research (Linda Samek): Middle level teachers and principals who responded from an online survey. Face-to-face interviews with principals and teachers. Would like to follow up with teacher educators. Contact Linda for 20-minute interview face to face or by phone on middle level standards and what teachers at middle level should do and be. Online survey would have been sometime in February-March-April 2008.
15. Linda: Put in plug for Wednesday pre-conference in July. Send new faculty and also the veterans who are not very knowledgeable about performance assessment. Start with Meredith Brodsky giving history and context, and then hands-on and interactive. Useful to send newest faculty members along with long-term faculty members to continue the conversation. Good information can be gleaned from TWS. Conference is cheaper is register before May 30.
16. TSPC (Keith, Tom, and Sam): Debby Miller-Allen: Are rules changing for ESOL? Why omitted? Tom: Probably an error. Keith: Must adopt the date and then agenda can be changed to include ESOL.
  - a. Bill coming dealing with social worker issue.
  - b. Restricted transitional license: Keith: In discussions with other licensure boards, we have been giving this type of license but we don't follow up to see if the students are adequately prepared. Movement to keep from issuing restricted license. We need to

look at restricted license but we don't go back to follow up. People hold these licenses but we don't know if they are employed by the districts.

- c. Advice giving to districts: If looking at needing SpEd, for example, don't move from another type of license, but districts need to make sure the teachers are in coursework appropriate for what they are teaching. Examples: communication disorders.
  - d. Restricted Transitional: We have been flexible with this but it may not be best for students. TSPC needs to track closer.
  - e. Cut scores for three new tests: Civil rights, ESOL, Administrator.
  - f. Praxis score adjustments: 2 .7
  - g. Took off test information off TSPC website because it was outdated constantly. We are working on a system that allows someone to input the test, when it was taken, to see if test was passed. The website now allows a c/u to see if a test score is valid.
17. Jan: Presentation to Jim Buck plaque and card for his many years of service as liaison to OACTE from Oregon School Personnel Association.
- a. Challenging times everywhere. Felt almost physically ill at limited number of opportunities for new graduates. May not improve next spring. Dismal period. I don't know how to get around this except by perseverance. Maybe silver lining with efficiencies. Lots of conflicting information about how districts are dealing with the issues. We have never encountered problems like these. Colleges and universities are doing a superb job preparing new teachers for the field. Collaboration is helpful to all of you.
  - b. Mark: Who will replace you? Jim: Haven't heard yet but should know next week.
18. Mark Ankeny: Day on the Hill: I don't have an agenda yet for what the day will look like. Others who have gone before: Randy: You will have to make appointments with Congressional delegations. Start with Wu and others on the Education committee. Hilda will be there as well. Quotations, good stories from your programs.
19. Hilda: Sincere appreciation to Jan Albrecht serving as president. Plaque and plant.
20. Jan: Sincere appreciation to Bob for secretary and Hilda as president-elect.

*--Bob Hamm*

*University of Phoenix | Oregon Campus*