

Minutes from CAEP Unit Assessment Committee
March 11, 2015

Attending: Deborah Buswell, Cala Coats, Vicki DuPontous, Tracey Hasbun, Jannah Nerren, Barbara Qualls, Pauline Sampson, Chris Sams, Nancy Shepherd, Scott Slough, Liz Vaughan

Dr. Jannah Nerren brought the draft of Professional Dispositions Statement for final review. The draft had been presented as a first reading at the January Professional Educator's Council (PEC) meeting and revisions had been solicited from the PEC as well as the committee and applied. The committee made final revisions and will present the document for final approval from the PEC in April.

Dr. Nerren brought information from TEA regarding the necessity of a candidate interview for all applicants to the educator preparation program. She suggested that perhaps the TEA interview requirement could be combined with the CAEP dispositions assessment requirement.

While some in the room were in favor of interviews as a component of the dispositions assessment, others felt that the number of candidates was too large to do so effectively.

Dr. Scott Slough suggested ethnographic interviews, with digital means preferred over fact-to-face interviews because of time constraints. He suggested that a scenario-based interview instrument could be implemented in this way.

Dr. Deborah Buswell expressed that a digital interview is not as accurate as a face-to-face interaction, as body language cannot be adequately seen, nor can probing follow-up questions be asked.

Dr. Pauline Sampson expressed concern at the distance – Skype is a possibility.

The superintendent program typically has about 25; the principal program numbers can be as high as 90 – 120 plus applicants. This is a concern when considering the TEA requirement of intake interviews.

It was suggested that we should investigate what Lamar is doing about interviews since they have such high numbers in their online programs.

Dr. Liz Vaughan presented information from AACTE on the measurement of dispositions. She brought forth an example from Niagara University that the committee agreed upon as an acceptable model for a survey instrument based on the final dispositions statement document values and measurable criteria.

Some points from this:

The Niagra assessment rubric defaults to the

- “I have no reason to believe otherwise” on a three-column rubric. This is useful and adaptable to dissemination through LiveText.
- “I have no reason to believe otherwise” could be a protective veil for the student.
- If we use our existing statement – we have 6 values – the bullets could be selected to be the best predictors of these values.
- There was much discussion about the 2.75 statement on the new dispositions statement. It was decided that since this is measured by other means, it would be eliminated from the statement.

Dr. Barbara Qualls talked about professional certification being different and therefore requiring a different dispositions assessment.

Dr. Buswell also expressed that we should consider two different instruments for graduate and undergraduate programs.

Dr. Slough says our PBIC students are worse – more trouble – wasn’t undergraduate choice –
Initial and Advanced Cert needs to be different

It was also pointed out that there needs to be consideration of the Academic Partnerships (AP) students.

It was decided that a statement would be added to the professional dispositions statement that will be vetted by SFA legal counsel prior to publication.

The draft of this statement is:

I have read and understood the professional disposition statement for educator preparation. I understand that I must exhibit these professional dispositions to be admitted and complete in the educator preparation program.

It was determined that after all edits are applied and legal counsel has cleared the document, the committee will present the dispositions statement at the April PEC meeting for final approval.

Moving to the creation of the assessment instrument, committee members will individually select from a minimum of 3 of the bullet points from the dispositions statement that they believe to be the best predictor of each of the 6 values and will submit to the committee Chair by April 1. The Chair will look for themes, compile the submitted points, and create a working document for another committee meeting to be held in early April. (Doodle poll will be emailed to determine date and time.)