UTeach-Liberal Arts Advisory Committee Meeting
Thursday, May 23, 2019
Glickman Center - RLP
12:30 - 2:30 pm

Attendees: Tina Melcher, Eric Bowles, Kristen Pereira, Marilyn White, Kirsten Kit Begum, Jacqueline Jones, Scott Bush, MilyBett Llanos-Gremillion, Susanna McConnell, Kat Kelley, Sara Ruiz, Cindy Stewart, Alreign Bauzon, Chad Bissinger, and Elyse Guilstorf

Not in Attendance: Will Barrera, Patricia Garcia, Michael Mahoney, James Wyatt

Introductions

Nearpod
Describe your feelings about the impact of UTeach-LA on education by drawing or inserting a visual.

Advisory Goals

Updates
- UTeach-LA Numbers - While we maintain our students once they enroll, our enrollment numbers are down.
- Marketing
  - UTeach-LA Day – March 28, 2019
  - UTeach-LA Polos – Student Advisory Committee asked for polos for 640-360 students.
- Teacher Appreciation Day – May 9, 2019 – 300 paletas were passed out to all who wrote down the name of their favorite teacher on our graffiti table.
- Follow us on Social Media-Flyers passed out with our various handles.
- Student Advisory Committee met on April 16, 2019.
- Videos – Coolest Reason to Become a Teacher and Try 101 – Lori and Eric created the videos and posted them to the various social media platforms.

Scholarships
- Friends and Patricia Sandlin Pennington Scholarships have been extremely helpful to our students while they are in student teaching and preparing for certification.
- Marilyn White APSI Scholarship helps students be more classroom ready.

Professional Educator Fitness Spectrum
Tool that helps our program assess students.

Add Alternative Degree Tracks
Psychology (SS), Sociology (SS), International Relations and Global Studies (SS/LOTE)
**Curriculum Alignment**
Purchased Nearpod for our faculty to use to introduce and demonstrate/model to our students.

**Teaching Channel**
We are exploring this option for our students. If we choose to move forward, students will be asked to purchase a 1, 3, or 5-year subscription. Why are we moving this direction? It is aligned to edTPA, discussed below. Students will be able to upload videos to it and then be able to provide reflection.

**New Dean – Dr. Ann Huff Stevens**
We hope to meet with her soon.

**edTPA**
It is a national pedagogy (portfolio) assessment currently being used by many states. Certification programs and alternative certification programs are a bit concerned about the assessment. One of the concerns is that the cost of certification will increase. There are going to be some programs piloting the assessment this next year. We are supposed to be implementing it in the fall of 2020.

**Goals 2019-2020**
Keep recruiting...

**Group Work**
What’s coming down the road?
Example: Changes in curriculum, etc.

**Top Two Ideas: What’s coming down the road for your campus, district, department, or world?**

Michael Lopez, Chad Bissinger, Scott Bush, and Kristen Pereira

- **TEA**
  - Data driven.
  - Larger budget.
  - Centralization of state education.
    - Less local control.
- **Lack of qualified teachers**
  - Because of the lack of student interest.
    - Leads to a dearth in talented candidates.
  - Schools are increasing class sizes to make up for budget shortfalls and lack of qualified teachers.
  - Programs and student shortages.
- **ELL**
  - Increasing diversity of school population.
    - Creates its own challenges for teaching.
• Vertical teaming/alignment
  o Middle school teachers and high school teachers working together.
  o District wide subject meetings.
• Equity
  o Will an equal system still exist down the road given what is happening in legislature/privatization?
  o What does equity look like?
  o Where is the money coming from?

Nina Wilson, Kit Belgum, Alreign Bauzon, and MilyBett Llanos-Gremillion

Kit - Marketing ideas
• Provide UTeach-Liberal Arts T-shirts to the signature course instructors;
• Provide 1 slide for signature course instructors to share in their courses for the signature courses (what it is, a brief quote from a testimonial, etc) for day 1 or day 2
• Could reach every freshman when they enter UT.
• Could give discussion points to TA’s or UA’s in UGS classes.
• Work primarily with Liberal Arts **faculty who are teaching UGS’s the main office and college office has the list of faculty who are teaching the UGS's**

MilyBett - Alumni
• Are we still tapping into alumni to give testimonials as to where they are now and how it’s impacted their careers?
• Could potentially be added to the videos?
• A student panel of UTeachers and former UTeachers to share and answer questions about the program.

Alreign
• 4th semester language class... what are the bridge classes for Spanish?
• Go to the 1st grammar classes to discuss the UTeach program (could add a PowerPoint slide that we share with the professor).
• Can we reach out to engineering to discuss the benefits of having engineering students study and partner with German studies? Ex. Also, other languages and how they can benefit other departments. German partnership could result in money and opportunities for students. Future UT Students.
• Get in contact with sponsors of students who want to be teachers while they are in high school.
• Information about professional organizations provided to High School students. (American Association of Spanish Teachers; ACTFL)

Julia Haug, Kat Kelley, Elyse Guilstorf, and Cindy Stewart

Portfolio change – We already have things that do that; why would we change the whole program for a changed test? Most of our students need to focus more on ELs, for example, not more “test prep.”
Losing funding in AISD for Social & Emotional Learning teachers

- Not focusing enough on mental health issues – family trauma, how to react to these students and making them feel like they’re in a safe place
- The ways we are seeing this issue are so diverse; for a while I thought that we had different challenges, but the challenges are the same, they just have different causes.
- For example, Syrian refugee w/PTSD has panic attack during “armed gunman drill”
- Abuse issues
- Deportation concerns
- Anxiety issues
- Living in food deserts
- Displacement by gentrification
- Concerns about politics
- Just knowing our content and having clever ways to engage students is only part of the question.
- At 640, it should be about engaging with students directly, instructionally and beyond; more content and pedagogy needs to be integrated prior to this point.
- (The supplemental English courses “were not as helpful as they should have been” and the “Rhetoric for English Teachers course is not an actual rhetoric class.”)
- We’re restructuring into Academies, trying to pay attention to student needs and interests, taking a course you’ve taught for years and trying to make it work for students in different Academies.
- Teaming
- Project-based Learning (UTNS colleagues are doing it with interns/STs because the students do PBL in their program) / the Buck Institute
- Interdisciplinary, student choice, authentic stuff (like they do in AGS)
- Finding texts to support choice for MS ELA courses
- Being asked to teach English as a skills-based subject / pushing student choice so much that it seems like they want us to drop anchor texts (current ELA UTeachers get UbD and concept-based curricular design; it seems that previous cohorts, <F2013, did not)
- Drama-based instruction (coming out of UT)
- Brain breaks
- Biggest struggle I’ve seen from student interns or student teachers is “not having the charisma to command a classroom” // improv exercises
- Add a couple of high school students to the Advisory Board (get volunteers from our student teachers’ kids)

Kris Martin, Marilyn White, Susanna McConnell, Sarah Ruiz

- Project Based Learning...PBL Works...within the next two years.

- SLO- Student Learning Objectives... Each student in one class period is tracked, goals are set for students and then check points are set throughout the year
• Power Walks- informal observations of teachers (5 things that the district has set and then the data is reviewed with the teacher at the end of the year.)

• AP students will have to pay at the start the start of the semester for their test. ($40 cancellation fee). Should there be a cap on the number of AP classes?

• Districts looking at how to decrease stress. Challenge Success...students and teachers talking about stress.

• Have students give constructive feedback on each other’s presentations.

• Teacher burnout...how do we support teachers? Compassion Support - Outside counselors come and talk to teachers about stress and teacher burnout. How much does the safety on campus play into stress? What are some things that teachers can do to have less stress? (Not grade every night)

• Mental Health in high school.

• Undergraduate Studies 10. Camp Texas (summer)

• FIGs