

Arkansas State University
COPE MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, October 19, 2022, at 3:30 pm
ELS 216

Members Present: Amanda Lambertus, Anette Hux, Mitch Mathis, Savannah Cormier,
Nina Crutchfield, Colleen McNickle proxy for Sarah Labovitz,
Joanna Grymes/Diana Williams, Alicia Shaw, Lisa Rice,
Joan Henley proxy for Karen Graham, Julie Milligan,
Natalie Johnson-Leslie

Absent: Savannah Cormier

Ex-Officio

Members: Mary Jane Bradley, Lance Bryant, Nicole Covey,
Audrey Bowser

Zoom: Tonja Fillippino, Allison P (guest)

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- I. Call Meeting to Order at 3:30 by Dr. Amanda Lambertus
 - a. Change the order of the meeting to New Business section 4(3)
 - b. The order of the meeting was changed after the approval of the minutes
 - II. Reading and Approval of Minutes from the September 15th Meeting
Mitch Mathis moved the motion, and Dr. Julie Milligan 2nd the motion. All were in favor, hence, the motion to approve the minutes was carried.
Dr. Lambertus moved to section 4(3) of the agenda
 - III. Old Business – Update on email sent to Dr. Bradley
Back to the regular meeting at 3:53 pm
The questions addressed
 - (1) Who are members of the EPP
 - (2) Who are the members of COPE? Are additional seats needed?
 - (3) The purposes of both the EPP and COPE

Statements from the Head of Unit-Dr. Bradley

1. Regarding Membership
 - a. **Question:** Who is a member of the EPP?
Answer: As noted below the governance handbook is an accurate description of membership.

Question: Do we still need to have a notification of interest and a commitment to the EPP?

Answer: No. Not sure what you mean by “notification of interest”. Programs fitting the membership description are part of the unit by default given the programs they offer and from my understanding cannot “opt out”.

Excerpt from Handbook (pg. 9): The EPP Faculty consists of individuals employed by the university, including adjuncts and instructors, who teach one or more courses in education, provide services to candidates (e.g., advising), supervise clinical experiences, or administer a portion of the EPP unit. Initial approval for membership in the EPP Unit requires that university faculty meet the criteria as described below.

- I. Possess the appropriate terminal degree and have appropriate specialization for professional education or has unusual or exceptional qualifications for their teaching/supervision assignment
- II. Hold or have held a teaching, school counseling, school psychology specialist, or administrative license (appropriate to the university assignment).
- III. Demonstrate continuing involvement with the public schools

b. **Question:** Who is a member of COPE?

Answer: The membership description begins on (page 5). Specifically, the EPP has three new standing committees: Technology, Diversity, and Recruitment. According to the COPE handbook Chairs of standing committees will be members of COPE.

Question: Do we want to add or need to add three more members to COPE?

Answer: Hence, the dilemma and question I posed during our first meeting – It is my opinion that we do not need to add 3 additional seats to COPE for the chairs of these “standing committees” as COPE is large enough already. I also am not in favor of having the chairs attend as “non-voting” members. As a unit, I believe we want to monitor, collect data, and assess these areas of tech, diversity, and recruitment annually and on an ongoing basis but adding their chairs to COPE in my opinion seems unnecessary. Similarly, the graduate program in reading has requested a seat on COPE – It is my opinion and concern that doing so will then create the potential need to add a seat for all individual programs with the unit – which is excessive. The current seats (departmental, college, and area programs) are intended to “represent” and provide a voice for all believing that faculty from all programs within the unit can identify and serve with them.

Excerpt from Handbook (page 4): Each standing committee will elect a chair and a recorder annually (see Appendix C for Annual Timeline for Governance Elections/Appointments). Chairs of standing committees will

be elected for one-year terms. The respective chairs of the standing committees will automatically be members of COPE. To ensure broader representation, the chair of a standing committee will be ineligible to serve concurrently as the chair of an area program. Membership of standing committees will be three years without succession.

There was much discussion yesterday regarding this point, as it would increase the size of COPE (is COPE getting too big), would the new members need to be voting members or advisory members to COPE, are we asking EPP Faculty to take on too much service (as it is usually the same people that serve on multiple committees).

Question: What about creating an ad hoc committee to discuss membership on COPE regarding the standing committees?

Answer: We believe the current membership of COPE can discuss, ad hoc is not needed.

2. Regarding the Purpose of EPP and COPE

- a. **Question:** Does the purpose of the EPP need to be revisited? I am not sure I can find a clear statement of Purpose for the EPP. I think that it is embedded in other headings throughout the Governance Handbook.

Answer: Page 5 “advisory council to the Head of the Unit” “provides oversight, documentation, and evaluation . . . “

- b. **Question:** Does the purpose of COPE need to be revisited in light of possible new membership?

Answer: We believe the purpose, spirit, and intent of COPE should remain.

After presenting the response from the Head of the Unit, Dr. Lambertus asked if we should revisit the purpose of the EPP.

Dr. Bryant asked, does everyone in the room feel confident with the current composition of COPE? The consensus/answer was a unanimous YES.

The spirit and membership of COPE should be maintained. The consensus was yes.

Dr. Grymes asked, does it mean we need to update the handbook? The answer was pending the completed updates to the faculty handbook by that committee on which Dr. Lambertus is a member, working on the editorial changes.

IV. New Business

a. Course Proposals

i. Teacher Education (Joanna Grymes)

Dr. Grymes moved the motion that all TE course proposals are evaluated in one block, and Dr. Henley 2nd the motion to be treated as a group.

1. 22U_EBS18_PM_TE UG Substitution policy change
2. 22U_EBS19_CM_RNDG3223 prereqs
3. 22U_EBS20_CM_MLED 4073 error fix
4. 22U_EBS21_CM_ELED 4053 prereqs
5. 22U_EBS24 BSE ELED online
6. 22G_EBS69_PM_RDNG MSE Course sub policy

Discussion:

Dr. Lisa Rice noted that only items 1-5 had asterisks for the BSE online program offered through AOS. Dr. Covey clarified that she wanted to figure out the adjuncts needed for the yearly rotation yearly; the adjuncts needed for supervision. The *asterisk beside the course will be the course to be taught by adjuncts. The traditional and online programs are identical and parallel. However, the programs are totally separate. If a student starts at A-State Jonesboro traditional, the student cannot switch mid-stream to AOS online. This approach is similar to the degree sites. A request has been made for the AOS faculty to be on campus to teach in the new AOS program to keep the programs parallel.

Music department concerns

Dr. Colleen McNickle proxy for Sarah Labovitz from the Music department provided this statement of concern.

"A-State is currently seeing continually lowering on-campus enrollment. If we offer a 100% online elementary education degree, I think we run the risk of exacerbating the low on-campus enrollment issue even further which will continue to have effects on our operating budgets and ability to fill vacant faculty positions. Also, do we really think that an initial licensure program for education should be able to be earned 100% online? I personally feel there will be too much lost in an 100% online delivery system."

Discussion:

Dr. Bradley provided some historical context regarding why we are providing the AOS parallel program. Dr. Bradley noted that based on the retreat in 2021 Stan Jones indicated to the colleges what programs would have AOS online degrees—no discussion, no choice given, no questions asked.

Dr. Bradley gave an update on the genesis of the program development. All but 2 colleges, Agriculture and math/science were slated to have the AOS programs. All 5 programs must have BSC Elem and BSC MLED. However, MLED was taken off the table

ELEM education will have 2 BSE programs 1 online and the other 1 traditional. The question was asked if the current administration (with a new provost) feels the same way about having parallel programs.

Dr. Bradley informed COPE... “We are going forward.”

The premise of the AOS program is to attract totally different types of students. Dr. Covey reminded the group that students who want the traditional college experience will come to campus. However, as a university, we must be ‘non-traditional’ and grow our teachers, especially in the DELTA region. With several competing programs online by other colleges and universities, competing for the same pool of students, we must develop a quality program to attract students to increase enrollment. With the teacher shortage, the state wants to license anyone who volunteers. The teacher candidates doing this AOS program will only be licensed in Arkansas. Feeling ‘comfortable’ with the control the department currently has—Dr. Covey indicated the A-STATE online BSE will be better than none when compared to our competitors. The number of teachers on waivers is increasing. Many schools started with up to 43 vacancies at the start of the school year.

Dr. Alicia Shaw asked if there are any objections to how the online program will impact the traditional ELEM program. The response included the teacher education department will have to (stack) find creative ways to integrate Art, Music, and PE for teachers in the AOS program. SPED for undergraduates is also going online.

Dr. Nina Crutchfield (AGRI) asked, “How does this online program impact the internship experience?” In response, it was explained that the TE department is looking at the year-long residency program. We can have a master teacher/lead teacher to supervise interns. There must be consistent structures; growing pain we are all going to make it. Dr. Julie Milligan reminded the group “one thing we do at the graduate level is base mentors do the supervising in schools.”

With reference to the meeting with state department personnel from (DESSE), Carlie and Edi – mentioned lead teachers and master teachers have the training—in all states and territories. Dr. Covey indicated the work being carried out in the PLCs to work on rigorous online course delivery will help. She indicated we had to think carefully through the issues, having a model that is nationwide with no walls of separation but reciprocation across state borders

Dr. Bowser—indicated the need to “try to work through the AOS students not having site mentors.” A decision needs to be made regarding honorarium/money. Different kinds of supervisors are needed based on revenue sharing; AOS program revenue sharing needs to pay these bills for supervisors.

Dr. Amanda Lambertus asked for a motion in favor of approving the 6 TE program as written. The motion was 2nd by Dr. Joan Henley. Motion passed.

ii. Educational Leadership

1. 22G_EBS82_CM_ELAE 6543

Course modification

Dr. Grymes moved that the proposal 22G_EBS82 is accepted and this was 2nd by Dr. Julie Milligan. Before the full vote, Dr. Henley suggested we remove Prattad's name from the assessment plan

The proposal will be amended by Dr. Alicia Shaw before it is sent to Dr. Amanda Lambertus prior to being sent to the Dean

The question was asked if item 21 on the curriculum form needs to be filled out. The answer is NO.

Pending the removal of the name in the assessment section, the motion was voted on and motion passed.

iii. School Psychology and Counseling

Approved individually

1. 22G_EBS71_PM_EdS School Psy Track

The motion was made by Dr. Joan Henley and 2nd by Dr. Grymes

There was no discussion.

Vote Carried/motion passed

2. 22G_EBS72_PM_EdS School Psy Program coursework

Motion by Dr. Joan Henley 2nd by Dr. Alicia Shaw

There was no discussion.

Vote Carried/motion passed

3. 22G_EBS73_CD_PSY6000

Motion by Dr. Alicia Shaw 2nd by Dr. Joan Henley

There was no discussion.

Vote Carried/motion passed

4. 22G_EBS74_CD_PSY7523

Motion by Dr. Joanna Henley 2nd by Dr. Julie Milligan

There was no discussion.

Vote Carried/motion passed

5. 22G_EBS75_CM_COUN 6223
Motion by Dr. Joan Henley 2nd by Dr. Alicia Shaw
There was no discussion.
Vote Carried/motion passed
6. 22G_EBS76_CM_COUN 6233
Motion by Dr. Joan Henley 2nd by Dr. Joanna Grymes
There was no discussion.
Vote Carried/motion passed
7. 22G_EBS77_NC_COUN 6063 update
Motion by Dr. Joan Henley 2nd by Dr. Alicia Shaw
There was no discussion.
Vote Carried/motion passed
8. 22G_EBS78_NC_COUN 6483 update
Motion by Dr. Alicia Shaw 2nd by Dr. Julie Milligan
There was no discussion.
Vote Carried/motion passed
9. 22G_EBS79_NC_COUN 6653 update
Motion by Grymes 2nd by Henley discussion none
Vote Carried/ motion passes

Allison on zoom: Happy to answer any questions; super excited about the coursework students takes. This is a diagnostic course to offset mental illness. Thanks for the support and guidance of the COPE committee. The help is greatly appreciated.

The general track has not gone through the college committee as yet. However, Allison will be invited to the next meeting.

V. Committee Reports

- a. IPAC—Dr. Lisa Rice: working on Praxis 2 test score and how to address such
- b. APAC—Dr. Nicole Covey for Dr. Karen Graham--No report
- c. Technology—Dr. Tonja Fillippino nothing new since the EPP meeting
- d. Diversity—No meeting
- e. Recruitment—Mitch Mathis football tailgate for October 29 canceled; baseball game tailgate
- f. Other—Dr. Joanna Grymes’s question regarding the governance handbook
 - i. Start the process of reviewing the COPE governance document
 - ii. The faculty handbook is being reviewed in detail
 - iii. Additional PRT document lifted from the COPE governance document

- iv. Looking for consistency
- v. Head of Unit--capitalized
- vi. Looking for consistency
- vii. Content not changed...intentionally lifted from COPE document we need it to be consistent across both unites
- viii. The COPE document in 1997 when NCATE came Teacher Education Planning Committee (TEPS)-the whole governance was declared ineffective Bob Fisher provost commissioned to re-write the document Bonnie Lynch left and a 2nd-year Terry Roach convened with Dr. Bradley to get the information in the handbook based on the NCATE accreditation requirements
- ix. Motion Joanna Grymes
 - x. Once the faculty handbook committee completes the editorial 3e of the faculty handbook revision of the governance the COPE committee will adopt the statement Alicia Shaw 2nd for us to adopt only that section Motion passed...
- g. We were charged to go back and look at the COPE governance document not been updated since 2017—changes were NOT implemented/adopted
- h. The place to start Dr. Grymes will look back at the comments for the first 9 pages
- i. Dr. Lambertus recommends sending back the governance document so that we revisit the document as a full committee to make editorial changes to match the faculty handbook language.
- j. Questions/comments regarding procedures and policies will be discussed in our next meeting

VI. Other Business—

Dr. Grymes will remove Prattada's name from the assessment section of the curriculum documents before it is sent to Dr. Lambertus to be signed

The curriculum changes recommended will be sent to Dr. Bradley for final approval

VII. Announcements

VIII. Adjournment

Motion made by Dr. Alicia Shaw at 4:28 pm and seconded by Dr. Joan Henley