

University Committee on Initial Educator Licensure

Minutes

April 19, 2024

**Teams Meeting**

**1:00 – 3:00pm**

1. Sub-Committee Meetings
   * + Assessment and Accreditation (P. Fix)
       1. Content Test (with DEI committee)
          1. Spring Meeting Review/Update
          2. Steering Committee meeting planning for April
     + Placements and Partnerships (K. Gross)
       1. DRC Accommodations Review of Draft Recommend Language
       2. Investigate Possibility of University Wide Resources/Symposium for CT coaching and mentoring
       3. Discussion for Partnership/District Communication Improvement
       4. NIU Swag for Student Teachers
       5. Student Teacher Orientation Planning
     + Curriculum, Policies, and Procedures (L. Gerzel-Short)
       1. CRTL Standard Review and Compile Matrix Responses from 8 programs; 1st Draft Due October 2024
          1. Draft Template Discussion
     + Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (C. Taines)
       1. Proposal of Resolution to adopt a Responsive DEI Process for Student experiencing discrimination issues in the field for customization by each program.
          1. Input for language and support has been provided by University level constituents
          2. Research and resources will be provided to programs
          3. Timeline for implementation by the end of the 24-25 academic year provided to programs is included
          4. Programs would then return their own processes to UCIEL informational and feedback purposes under the consistent philosophy provided and alignment with NIU’s philosophy and statements

Proposed implementation meeting of NIU, Candidate, Cooperating Teachers, Districts for any issues that arise

NIU departmental contact for questions/issues provided to each candidate

Candidate Directions to obtain policies at placements

Include NIU Resource Centers Contacts and Ally Trainings

Possibility of instituting a Clinical Orientation component for cooperating teachers

Added to the agenda candidate clinical orientations and the Student Teaching Orientation to inform candidates

* + - * 1. Suggested NIU Legal Council Review
      1. Transportation Equity
      2. Interventions for Students in the Field Experiencing issues

1. 1.45 pm Approval of Agenda 1st – Lydia Gerzel-Short; 2nd – Rachel Warren **APPROVED**
2. Approval of Minutes from March 22, 2024 1st – James Cohen; 2nd Lydia Gerzel-Short **APPROVED**
3. Reports
   1. University Office of Educator Licensure and Preparation
      * Legislative Updates (details will be sent via email) This week is the 3rd reading deadline.
        1. HB 5455 Bill – Community College Entitlement
        2. Student Teaching Stipend Bill
      * Entitlement Audit ISBE response Update
        1. Small number of questions regarding process-Programs contacted for the evidence
        2. Additional details will be provided after the final ISBE response
        3. May 12 deadline for initial response to ISBE
      * Diverse Educator Recruitment and Success Plans
        1. ISBE contracted with the American Institutes for Research to assist EPPS for student success of diverse candidates
        2. Action plan due January 2025
      * CRTL Information and Resources
        1. Subcomittee is meeting and looking at common service courses to be most efficient for CRTL matrix alignment.
      * Placement Coordinator Collaboration – Updates after 1st meeting-Ideas for Process Improvements
      * Licensure Advisor Alliance – Updates after 1st meeting-Ideas for Process Improvements
      * ILTS Voucher Updates
        1. Practice-All distributed for Initial Licensure to Student Teach/Entitlement
        2. Practice-Subsequent/Additional endorsements requests will be run through testing services website; link provided in chat
           1. <https://www2.registerblast.com/niu/Exam/List>
        3. Regular-Sent on 11/20/23 – if not used; will be redistributed on May 1
      * Updated Entitlement Worksheet uploaded to all SharePoint sites on 4/19/2024
   2. Assessment and Accreditation – P. Fix
      * First Coalition for Educator Equity Meeting held on 3/28/2024 to develop interested parties for participating in a steering committee and discussions for solutions from many institutions
      * May 1, 2024 first steering committee meeting-Resolution to be added to the agenda
      * Coalition Summary provided to UCIEL
      * Discussed next steps for the Approved Resolution Dissemination – Follow up with Katie Davidson
   3. Placements and Partnerships – R. Warren
      * No update on DRC recommendations of draft language
      * University Wide Resources for mentoring of Cooperating Teachers research for state allocations to implement at NIU
      * Discussion for District and Partnership communication-Consistency is requested, but each program has different requirements for their candidates
      * UOELP will create a repository of materials for a central location to share knowledge and forms and district communications
      * NIU Swag for Student Teachers and FALL STO 2024. Please provide estimated numbers to Rachel Warren
      * Student Teaching Orientation 8/23/2024 in person for Butell Hall
   4. Curriculum, Policies, and Procedures – L. Gerzel-Short
      * Developing a Draft Matrix for Programs for CRTL for service courses to assist in program matrix creation
        1. Service Course review should be returned to committee by July
        2. Each program will need to submit to UOELP in August
        3. October of 2024 feedback from ISBE to implement changes/Alignment by Spring 2025
   5. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion –C. Taines
      * Proposal in New Business Discussion
      * Collaboration with Assessment and Accreditation for Content Test Equity meetings
4. New Business
   1. UCIEL Chair Elect to be Chair beginning Fall 2024
   2. Proposal Statement for Diversity Equity and Inclusions Process for Candidates Experiencing Discrimination
      * Response to reports of bias in the field/placements
      * Customizable proposal statement that has some central/consistent processes when experiencing these biases. Research and resources as well as ideas have also been provided as part of the proposal language for programs to utilize
      * Motion to approve the resolution 1st – Lydia Gerzel-Short; 2nd Cynthia Taines
        1. Programs requested to commit to developing their own processes during Fall 2024 and provide to DEI subcommittee for feedback and a finalized process implemented by Spring 2025 term so candidates can be informed moving forward
        2. **APPROVED**
   3. 2024 – 2025 Calendar

VII. Announcements

* 1. Next meeting date scheduled for May 10, 2024, Virtual meeting 1-3pm

1. Adjournment 1st Lydia Gerzel-Short; 2nd Paul Fix **APPROVED**