Educational Studies Department  
MEETING MINUTES  
Friday, October 17, 2014  
9:00 am – 11:00 am  
Education 115

**Present:** Terry Burant, Jeasik Cho, Angela Jaime, Ed Janak, John Kambutu, Jenna Shim, Leslie Rush, David Des Armier, and Stephanie Ksionzyk

**Absent:** Audrey Kleinsasser and Kyoung Ho Lee (absent with apology)

John opened the meeting at 9:03am.

**I. Welcome & Approval of Agenda**

John asked for additions to the agenda, and proposed an addition to department head’s report. The following items were added: J- Comparative Institutions and K- Stephanie’s Schedule. Under announcement, John proposed the following addition: B- David Des Armier. Ed moved approval of the agenda as amended. Terry seconded. Motion carried.

**II. Approval of Minutes**

John noted that although the minutes show that the Department’s T&P meeting was scheduled for December 17, it has since been changed to December 18 at 8:30am. He also reminded faculty that T&P packets are due to the department on December 5. Ed moved approval of the September 19, 2014 meeting minutes. Jenna seconded. Motion carried.

**III. Announcements**

A. **October ... Happy Birthday, Ed!**

B. **David Des Armier**

David announced that he received a job at Northern Connecticut State University, which will start in the semester of 2015. So, David will not be teaching EDST 2450 for Ed.Studies in the spring. He will also be gone for a few weeks in November for job orientation. Mary Wehunt will be filling in for him in his section of EDST 2450, and he will also continue to stay in touch with Terry while he’s gone.

**IV. Department Head’s Report – John Kambutu**

C. **Summer Teaching...**

John passed around a copy of last summer’s course schedule and asked faculty to please let him know if they are interested in teaching this upcoming summer (2015).

F. **Dean’s Search**

John reported that the committee for the Dean’s Search is still being formed, and there is no official word yet. Ed reported that there has been a debate at the university level as to whether or not to delay the search. He also mentioned that Old Main might be considering forming an administrative task force to help run the college, but Academic Affairs seem to like having a Dean in place before the task-force is formed. But the Trustees seem to think it’s best to conduct the Dean search after the task-force is put in place. Michael, Leslie, and Suzie are being very proactive regarding Dean search matter/s.

G. **Update on Michael’s 23 County Tour**

Michael’s tour has been going very well; he is having great conversations with stakeholders statewide, and really enjoying himself. It has been a great opportunity for connecting with people throughout Wyoming and to increase the College’s public relations efforts.
H. Partnership co-hosting the 2015 NNER Summer Symposium

The 2015 NNER Summer Symposium will be co-hosted by Wyoming’s School/University Partnership and will be held here in Laramie. Angela is hoping that this could be an opportunity to bring in more content on diversity to the Symposium. John encouraged faculty to help and participate. Ed suggested that it could be held at the new Gateway Center; he will bring the idea to Audrey.

VII. Search Committees

A. Assistant Professor positions – Jeasik Cho & Angela Jaime

Jead reported that the committee has received about 10 applications for each Assistant Professor position. They have sent out advertisements to many places. Ed suggested posting to some free wiki sites. Angela said their tentative timeline is to have a committee meeting before Thanksgiving, phone interviews before winter break, and in-person interviews in January.

B. APL Position – Jenna Shim & Terry Burant

Jenna reported that the committee has been receiving applications through email, and they will need to set up a committee meeting.

John reported that a suggestion was brought forward to provide incentives to faculty who will help advertise for the job openings at conferences. The proposal was supported and faculty were willing to advertise to the following fall conferences: Angela – NNER, NAME; Jenna – AESA, CoTESOL; Ed – AESA, History of Education; and John – NNER. John then suggested providing extra funding to those faculty for the two conferences they planed to attend at $250 for each conference attended. Ed moved to provide those faculty who help advertise our open job positions with $250 in travel funds per conference. Angela seconded. Motion carried.

VI. Department Head’s Report – John Kambutu

K. Stephanie’s Schedule

The search committees thanked Stephanie for the work she has been doing for the position searches. Jeasik hadn’t realized that this is her first time going through this process. John also thanked Stephanie for all of her quality work in/for the department. Additionally, he reported that because Stephanie sometimes works outside her usual hours, in order to avoid going over 40 hrs. a week, she sometimes leaves a little early, usually on Friday afternoons, but she always leaves a note.

IV. Faculty Senate Updates – Ed Janak

Ed reported that there are two bills regarding T&P before the Senate. The UniRegs don’t specify that faculty need to be evaluated every year. The first proposed bill is to end the Dean’s review of first year faculty, and the second is to take away the current focus on time (6 yrs. after promotion to associate professor with tenure), but instead focus more on national and international reputation in order to be promoted to full professor. Ed reported that the Senate will also be discussing a proposed gun bill seeking to allow concealed-carry on campus. The Senate’s current position is that the policy we have in place now is good and there is no reason to change it.

VI. Department Head’s Report – John Kambutu

D. Tenure & Promotion ... 3rd Year and 5th Year?

Since the UniRegs don’t specify that faculty need to be evaluated every year, there has been discussion to end 3rd and 5th year reviews. The College of Arts and Sciences has already done this. The Leadership Council discussed this at their last meeting, and the consensus was to leave the College of Education’s T&P process as it is and thus continue with 3rd and 5th year reviews. The reasoning is that it keeps faculty organized and it also provides valuable feedback. There is also the...
concern of a self-fulfilling prophecy for those who are required to be reviewed in 3rd and/or 5th year. Ed voiced his concerns that we may be the only College on campus to continue with the practice of 3rd & 5th years reviews.

V. Faculty Peer Evaluations – Ed Janak

The validity of teaching evaluations has been questioned more and more, and because of this, there has been a push to do more peer evaluations. There are also opportunities to use technology to increase the number of peer evaluations. For example, on campus faculty could videotape themselves teaching and then send the video to other faculty for review and feedback.

VI. Department Head’s Report – John Kambutu

A. First Year Seminar … Approved by College – Will go to USP committee

Ed reported that his FYS has been adopted as a FIG (Freshman Interest Group) course. The College of Education is also leading the University in numbers of FYS’s.

B. USP Classes … Approved by College
   i. EDST 2450 – H designation
   ii. EDST 2480 – H designation
   iii. EDST 3000 – COM2 designation – Will go to USP committee

John thanked the faculty for their hard work on all of the USP classes and approval paperwork. We also received a thank you note from Leslie for all of the USP work that the Ed Studies departments has done.

Jenna reported that she and Leslie are also working on creating a new ESL course for undergraduates that will be designated as an EDST course and asked for faculty’s support as this course moves along in the approval process. Angela voiced her support of making sure we keep all of our credit hours in the department. Jeasik pointed out that he was on an article about 5 years ago that had a plan for the ESL program as it went into the future, and he will make sure to get that out to the faculty. John supported the proposed ESL courses and reminded faculty that ESL Program is included in Ed. Studies Academic Plan.

E. Grade Scale … Pluses & Minuses

John reported that, at the College level, the decision was to leave the grading policy as is, that is, faculty have a choice whether to include pluses and minuses. However, questions have arisen regarding prerequisites and grade requirements. John asked those present if they use pluses and minuses; no one does. John’s desire is to have a conversation with the entire department about this matter, since any decision made will affect all faculty. This issue will be put back on the agenda when more faculty can attend a department meeting.

I. Wyoming Scholar Repository (WySR)

John passed around info on the WySR and invited faculty to consider using the WySR. David said that the WySR can be used to store conferences; for example, the College of Education Research Symposium is currently stored there. He suggested, maybe we could do this for the NNER Summer Symposium. John added that faculty can deposit their research, presentations, etc. there, and more people can access it. There will be workshops held that will show faculty how to use the WySR. John mentioned that Leadership Council expressed an interest in having a college-wide WySR workshop in the summer.

J. Comparative Institutions

The Dean’s Office is asking for a list of comparator and/or aspirant institutions to UW, to help determine a more accurate salary range for faculty. John asked faculty to please send him potential institutions.
VIII.  Summer Reflections & Looking Forward … What’s next for 2014-2015?

Ed Studies has a history of focusing on scholarship. Sometimes, we get caught up in day-to-day things and can’t always reflect, so John wanted to give faculty the opportunity to share any successes, challenges, etc. that they’ve had.

John visited Terry’s class yesterday (10/17) and learned a lot that he plans to use in his classes. He realized that in class, he defines curriculum, but he doesn’t provide enough examples. He recently had a paper published called *Do You Speak African?*, based on a study exploring ethnocentricity and the misconception of Africa as a country rather than a continent. He’s also working on his second edited book on social studies in the age of globalization. His teaching is going well, and he finally feels like he is settling down and feeling good about his maturity relative to teaching.

Terry will be discussing her summer experiences in her T&P narrative. She taught at Marquette University in Milwaukee, and it was a great source of professional development for her. She has taught Education students there since 2001, but this year, she had dental students. Most of the students she teaches in the summer are in the Teach for America program, and Terry knows a lot about their teaching contexts in Milwaukee. However, the Dental students she taught were from all over the world.

David taught a class at Southern Utah University over the summer, and he realized how different teaching pre-service teachers vs. in-service teachers was. ELLs were brought up a lot during his class. He has been able to bring in many things he learned from the in-service teachers to his EDST 2450 class. John can identify with this as well, with his EDCI 5790 class, which is taught to in-service teachers. A lot of what is in pre-service classes is very idealized.

Jenna wrote an article based on being asked “Where are you from?”, the emotions that result from that, and how it affects/disrupts teaching. She also recently visited north Casper where the ELL population is 25%, and is probably as urban as Wyoming will get. There are a few teachers there that have gone through the ESL program. She’s planning on helping implement a survey with the teachers to see what challenges they face. The school will drive the study, and she will facilitate. She plans to have meetings in the future and hopefully will be able to go every week.

This summer, Jeasik became a USTA tennis umpire which has provided many life lessons. As an umpire, you will not overturn a call if there’s any doubt. The umpire mentality is to be very generous, which has carried over into his own matches, and as a result, he’s been losing a lot more matches. David added that he could see how this could happen with teachers and students too.

Angela and Jeasik are currently working on a couple of papers that stemmed from the Korea trip they took during the summer of 2014, including one from the keynote for the KAME conference. Jeasik’s contact in Korea is working on having visiting scholars come to UW, and Jeasik will hopefully teach in Korea next year for his sabbatical, if it is approved. Angela thanked Jeasik for all of the hard work he did while in Korea, especially with translating.

IX.  Important Dates

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<tr>
<th>October 2014</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>CoEd Homecoming Hospitality Lunch, 11:30-1:30, Indoor Practice Facility, southeast corner</td>
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<td>22</td>
<td>DropBox for Doc Sharing Brown Bag Session, 12pm, ED 4 (sponsored by Secondary Education)</td>
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<tr>
<td>23-25</td>
<td>NNER 2014 Conference, Cincinnati, Ohio</td>
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<td>29</td>
<td>Partnership Governing Board Meeting – 10:00-2:00, Casper</td>
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<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>College T&amp;P Process Review, 3pm, ED 117</td>
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<td>31</td>
<td>Reappointment, tenure &amp; promotion candidates must identify their voting group. Department heads submit information to the Dean's Office</td>
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November 2014
3-7 Advising Week
5-9 NAME Conference – Tucson, AZ
10 Scholarship Banquet, 6:30-8:00 pm, Hilton Garden Inn
13 College T&P Process Review, 12pm, ED 117 (feel free to bring your lunch)
14 Summer school schedule due in the Dean’s Office
14 Due date for external reviewers to return their comments back to Dept heads for T&P candidates

X. Adjournment
Terry moved to adjourn the meeting. Jeasik seconded. Adjourned at 11:12am.

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Stephanie Ksionzyk
Office Associate