



Group Meeting Notes

TEI Group: Special Education

Date/Time/Location: 08/07/17
WY Hall, Room 312,
Laramie

Members in Attendance: Michelle Buchanan, Wendy Gautner, Jenny Krause, Dawn Scarince

Support in Attendance: Jeanette Joyce, David Yanoski

Information Reviewed: Recapped what has happened since the submissions in mid May. One of the Special Ed submissions lost its grant funding due to a late submission by the partner organization. However, it is possible to rework and resubmit as completely TEI funding. The second proposal for undergraduate special education degree was too much of program reform that the board and funder indicate should be the work of the UW. Marzano then shared the work of the other RWG in order to frame what it might mean to be "innovative" and "outside the box."

Discussion: There was much discussion around the new direction. Questions included Why are we looking at other University programs if the goal is to do something new? If there is no program, and we are proposing one, how is that not innovative? Where is the research base? Why are we working in isolation from the other RWG? Answers focus on the "feeling our way" through the new directives. We can gain inspiration from other universities and re-imagine for a Wyoming context. We can conceptualize innovative elements for an undergraduate program, but the program itself is outside of our domain. We are now looking for a research base that gives evidence for space for innovation and support for components of what we are doing, rather than proof that it works.

There was also discussion around the new proposals, that seem less about teacher preparation. As long as there is a clear link to pre-service teachers, we are able to push the envelope.

Next, there was an extensive brainstorming session: what is needed? how can we help accomplish the goal? Ideas included:

- Distance learning
- Masters program for students without a special ed background
- Para pipeline
- Special Ed certification for in-service teachers
- Hub for teachers, parents with resources about special education
- Coaching centers housed in Community Colleges

Jenny presented her initial ideas about a coaching program to provide coaching to mentor teachers and student teachers on co-teaching models, MTSS and other topics of interest. Coaching could be provided by a combination of outside expertise, the Wyo DOE and UW. This would benefit both student teachers, and build capacity in the mentor teacher and their school. The group agreed to do some more work to flesh out this idea.

Trustees Education Initiative Work Group Meeting Notes

Votes/Actions: None

Deadlines / Tasks / Aiming for the January 15th deadline
Responsibilities: David will update the google doc with the brainstormed ideas, and all
 should contribute thoughts, questions
 Anaya will send a doodle pool for next meeting for late August, early
 September

Next Meeting Details: Scheduled 2/23/2017 10-12 in the Clay conference room. Request an earlier
 start at 9 am.