Wyoming Teacher Education Program (WTEP)
Information for Spring 2014 Mentor Teachers and Residents/Student Teachers

LiveText Assessment and Data System
In 2011, the College of Education began implementing a data collection system called LiveText. LiveText allows the collection and aggregation of data required for accreditation and serves as a course platform for instructors to share resources and assignments with students and grade their work. LiveText is also the sole method for submitting the edTPA to Pearson for scoring.

LiveText will impact mentor teachers' participation in the Wyoming Teacher Education Program (WTEP) in minor ways. The midterm evaluation, final evaluation, and Reflections Survey will be built into LiveText so you can complete them online. Early in the Spring 2014 semester, you will receive an email with instructions for logging in to LiveText. The email will include information on how to use LiveText to complete the required evaluations and surveys. You will also be provided with contact information for centralized LiveText support and also for on-campus LiveText support. Please keep emails from LiveText for reference.

Student teachers/residents will submit their edTPA portfolios to their UW faculty/supervisors through LiveText. It is also possible that additional assignments required during the residency semester will be submitted for evaluation on LiveText. In addition, student teachers/residents will submit their edTPA portfolios to Pearson for scoring through LiveText. Information about how to submit the edTPA portfolio to Pearson will be provided shortly after the residency/student teaching semester begins.

edTPA (Teacher Performance Assessment)
The University of Wyoming College of Education is part of a 29-state consortium using the edTPA, a Teacher Performance Assessment designed to be used as a summative evaluation for residents/student teachers. For the edTPA, teacher candidates plan and teach a learning segment of 3-5 connected lessons, videotape some of this teaching, assess the students' work, provide feedback to support continued student progress, and finally, reflect on the effectiveness of their teaching practices throughout. The student teachers submit documentation that includes lesson plans, video clips of instruction, student work samples, and self-assessment of their teaching practices used during the learning segment. Student teachers will use LiveText, the College of Education's assessment and data system, to submit the edTPA work. Trained external evaluators (from Pearson Education) then score these assessments using a series of specific rubrics. Student teachers' scores are sent to the college, and then these are forwarded to student teachers.

The roles for mentor teachers in this assessment will be to allow residents/student teachers to plan and teach the required lessons, and, as in any part of the student teaching experience, answer any general questions student teachers might have related to planning, instruction, and assessment. Additionally, UW supervisors may ask mentor teachers for insights related to the student teachers' edTPA lessons, but mentor teachers do not have an evaluative role. As noted in the spring 2014 policy statement below, UW student teaching supervisors will be responsible for the evaluative component.

edTPA Policy for Spring 2014 Student Teaching/Residency
WTEP Spring 2014 residents/student teachers will all be required to complete the edTPA in their specific content/program areas. UW faculty/supervisors will review and evaluate residents'/student teachers' edTPA documentation. This review may also include consultation with mentor teachers. The student teaching supervisors will then assign a holistic "S" or "U" (Satisfactory or Unsatisfactory) score. All student teachers must obtain an "S" evaluation on the edTPA, in addition to meeting other requirements specified in EDSE/EDEL 4500 syllabi, to successfully complete/pass the residency course.

All spring 2014 residents/student teachers are also required to submit their edTPAs to Pearson (via the LiveText assessment and data system) for scoring. The scores from this external evaluation will be sent to student teachers and will be used as program data for accreditation purposes. However, successful completion of the edTPA for spring 2014 will be dependent upon the UW faculty/supervisor S/U evaluation and will not be dependent upon the Pearson/external evaluation. Submitted edTPA documentation, including teaching videos, will only be accessed by UW faculty/student teaching supervisors, mentor teachers, and then once submitted via LiveText, the Pearson evaluators. The Pearson scores come back to the College of Education and will be shared only with student teachers, faculty members, and college administrators. All data/documentation will be kept confidential.

Teacher Fair
The UW Teacher Fair will be held on March 13th and 14th, 2014 at the Hilton Garden Inn in Laramie. The interview sign-up will start on March 13th at 5:00 p.m. with interviews on March 14th. We are asking for all student teachers to be allowed to attend this event. For those with residency sites at a distance from Laramie, please allow the student teachers to leave on Thursday morning so they can travel safely during the day. The Teacher Fair is organized by the UW Center for Advising and Career Services and specific information will be provided on their website as we get closer to the date (http://uwadmnweb.uwyo.edu/CACS/).