



Missouri State UNIVERSITY

Diversity Committee Meeting Minutes

September 6 | 1:00 p.m. | Carrington 203

I. Call to order

Margaret Weaver called to order the regular meeting of the EPP Committee on Diversity at 1:02 p.m. on September 6, 2017.

Present: Mandy Benedict-Chambers, Gilbert Brown, Andrew Homburg, Ashley Leinweber, Taryne Mingo, Sarah Nixon, Nate Quinn, Tuesda Roberts, Ximena Uribe-Zarain, Margaret Weaver.

II. Approval of minutes

May 10, 2017 minutes stand.

III. Announcements

1. Fall Scholarship Applicants

- a. The committee interviewed eight scholarship applicants. The committee recommended two, three were not recommended, two decided not to attend MSU, and one applicant was not eligible.
- b. The committee does not have an established policy regarding scholarship recipients serving on the Committee on Diversity. It was informally started last year. Is the committee comfortable with the two new recipients attending the committee meetings? Would the committee consider having past recipients attend? Discussion. Committee is in agreement that new recipients attend the committee meetings and invite past recipients adding that it is optional that they attend.

2. EDC 345 and Teacher Education Admission

- a. At the May 2017 meeting the committee agreed to accept charges for specific matters provided verification was received on some items. One of those matters was regarding whether students should take EDC 345 after being admitted to the Teacher Education Program. There is nothing in writing stating a student must take the course after admission. The committee may want to consider putting forth a proposal. It was discussed at prior meetings that making EDC 345 a requirement after admission was a way to get around the articulation agreement. However, this mechanism does not exist. Nothing prevents a student from taking the class before admission. Discussion. Some faculty has included EDC 345 as part of their teaching plan. The instructor requires 40 – 45 hours as a pre requisite to taking the class. Enrollment has been increasing. This would not affect students transferring from OTC.

Requiring EDC 345 as a pre requisite before admission to the Teacher Education Program may impact programs and their sequence of courses. Discussion. Review of issue: An AAT was signed with OTC to transfer one of their classes in as EDC 345. Committee and EPPC are concerned about what is being taught in the OTC class. Discussion. There is a high demand for the class.

At the last committee meeting, Dr. Jamaine Abidogun mentioned that charges were forthcoming from EPPC. Dr. Andrew Homburg, EPPC Chair, emailed the committee a charge: “Assume an oversight role for EDC 345 as a unit core course for MSU’s EPP.” Committee chair met with Dr. Homburg and discussed what “oversight” encompasses. It was at first thought that oversight was for a unit-wide assessment. It was explained that oversight meant over OTC. The charge did not come with specific guidelines so the committee may have latitude as to exactly what the oversight entails. Discussion. Concerns are expressed that the AAT has not been read by the committee and legalities are unknown.

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Questions about training faculty, who will monitor uploads to Taskstream or is monitoring even required. Discussion.

The class from OTC is counted as EDC 345 at MSU. There's a push for a unit-wide assessment for CAEP.

It was suggested that MSU general counsel and Dr. Chris Craig attend the next committee meeting to speak to the letter and spirit of the AAT. Clarification of university obligations would be helpful in determining the direction the committee takes.

Clarification needed as to the motivation of the charge. Question regarding whether AAT is with OTC only or is it statewide. There are concerns that other community colleges will want a similar agreement. It was articulated by Dr. Craig, in a previous meeting, that a unit-wide assessment linked to this particular AAT would keep other community colleges at bay. Data collection begins this semester for accreditation. It is very late to begin a new unit-wide assessment. Discussion. The course from OTC is a 200 level course while EDC 345 is a 300 level course. Discussion. This is AAT with OTC is a done deal.

Legal counsel discussed. Reiterated that legalities of the agreement must be known. A second question would be to inquire as to why this agreement was signed without input of the EPP. Discussion. Suggestion that the committee draft a letter stating that AATs not be signed in the future without appropriate input. The charge is broad. The committee is still waiting on answers for questions asked last spring. There is a question as to whether there is any other committee that oversees a course in this manner. Discussion. Dr. Craig tied this to a unit-wide assessment last spring and thought this was probably the best place to do it. MSU did not do well on diversity in the last accreditation. It is too late to start collecting data for CAEP. Also, it is not a separate standards. It is supposed to be met across all standards. Discussion. There is no mention of CAEP in the charge. Is this about CAEP or is this a response to the AAT? Discussion. A rejoinder to the CAEP report could be a consideration. Concerns that EDC 345 could become a sticking point in the accreditation process. Discussion. There are other data points beside EDC 345. CAEP will be looking at clinical experiences and diversity logs. Discussion. Do we even need this unit-wide assessment?

Dr. Homburg joins the discussion. The committee would like clarification on oversight and whether the committee needs to draft a letter regarding future AAT agreements. Dr. Homburg believes the letter is within the parameters of the committee. Clarification of oversight is that, minimally, the committee needs to review the OTC syllabus to ensure it fits within the parameters and scope of what MSU has in place as far as diversity. Legal counsel is brought up. Dr. Homburg thinks this would be helpful. Any decision the committee makes does not supersede the agreement but it will bring out concerns.

Clarification requested on oversight: Oversight of the course or a possible unit-wide assessment within the course? The overall goal is that students understand diversity, therefore, it makes sense that oversight comes from a committee whose goal it is to ensure that our students understand diversity. Actual oversight of the assessment is not exactly what is expected but more oversight of the instructors and outcomes. It is asked whether there are courses that we receive from other colleges that follow this same process. MSU does not do that. Discussion. Where are equivalencies determined? Before the AAT, OTCs course would not have been accepted as a transfer to EDC 345. Discussion. The articulation agreement is a done deal. Why is oversight needed? There is faculty concern that signing the agreement did not follow proper avenues. EPP Executive Committee met with Dr. Einhellig regarding the signing of the AAT with OTC, and currently there is a draft in the works for future AATs and the proper process. Discussion. General Counsel, Dr. Craig, and Dr. Homburg will be invited to the October committee meeting.

IV. Adjournment

Margaret Weaver adjourned the meeting at 2:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by: Vicki Kramer