

Assessment System and Evaluation Team (ASET) Minutes

November 12, 2013
Shared Conference Room
2:00 p.m.

Present: Christine Benson, Joseph Haughey, Mike McBride, Josh Peters, Joyce Piveral, Matt Symonds, Patricia Thompson, Michele Veasey, and Amy Wilson

Agenda Item 1: Approve Minutes from October 8, 2013 Meeting

The minutes from the October 8th meeting were reviewed to refresh memories about discussions from last year. Dr. Symonds made a motion to approve the minutes which was seconded by Mr. Peters. All were in favor.

Agenda Item 2: Old business

ACT Data:

Mr. McBride is still working on analyzing the ACT demographic information that was discussed at the last meeting.

Employment/Retention Survey:

Questions that were discussed at the previous meeting have been added to the survey. Alternative emails for students will now be collected through the student teaching application and the survey will be implemented using SurveyMonkey. Program coordinators will send out the survey to their program completers and emphasize the importance of the information being collected. The results will then be shared with program coordinators and used for program improvement. Lastly, it may be possible to implement the survey in December of 2013. If not, the survey will definitely be implemented by May 2014.

Moving the third meeting of the ASET team:

There was discussion about moving the third meeting of the ASET team from the 2nd week in November to the week before Thanksgiving. More data would be available to review at that time.

Mini-dispositions:

223 mini-disposition surveys have been sent to students this semester. Students then forwarded the survey to their K-12 on-site supervisor to complete. These surveys are due at the end of trimester and only 10 have been received thus far.

Feedback from these surveys has been complimentary and there was some discussion about using this anecdotal data on department websites. It should be noted that if department did use this data all identifying information would be removed prior to publication.

Mike Wood, MSTA primary lobbyist:

Mr. Wood came and talked to the Leadership Team about all the changes being made at DESE. He stressed the importance of providing the public with a positive message and letting everyone know that the teacher education program is preparing students to be good teachers and administrators because often only bad examples are showcased. As a result, Mr. McBride is partnering with Dr. Gordon to write an article for MSTA magazine about how well students are doing in our program. In addition, Mr. Wood noted that his organization is hoping to begin to work more closely with universities and MACTE.

Agenda Item 3: Usage Rates of Faculty

Mr. McBride provided an update on student and faculty usage of Tk20. 3500 assignments have been sent using Tk20. 550 of these assignments were not submitted by the students. Additionally, 157 assignments were submitted by students but were not graded by faculty.

Agenda Item 4: Field Experience Data

Portfolios have been sent out to students in all courses where there is a field experience component so the students can upload their field experience log and a reflection of their experience. Faculty in these courses are encouraged to ask their students to upload this information because it is not currently tied to the course grade.

Student demographic verification forms from student teaching were analyzed to determine the demographics of the student teaching placements. 85% of students in the placements are white with African American being the second largest population followed by Latino. A third of students are eligible for free or reduced lunches and the percent of white students eligible for free or reduced lunches is increasing each semester. After reviewing the data, it was recommended that a plan needed to be developed to place student teachers in a more diverse setting.

In addition, the demographic verification forms need to be completed during practica courses to determine the diversity of the practica placements. It was stated that if diversity is valued in placements that this should come from the practicum experience since students are not allowed to choose their own practicum placements. Students might not choose their own diverse placements because they might not realize they enjoy teaching a certain population if they haven't been exposed to it.

Mr. McBride noted that he planned to have his student workers look up demographic information for school districts on the DESE website and create a diversity database on Tk20. There was a question about whether to gather district, building, or classroom data on diversity. The building data would probably be more helpful than the district data because diversity could vary greatly from building to building. It was thought that classroom data would be easier and more accessible during the student teaching experience.

Agenda Item 5: Other Business

There was a discussion about the grading of Teacher Work Samples and it was thought that it would be helpful to find a way to hold faculty accountable for not grading their assigned work samples.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Wilson

Cc: Christine Benson
Karen Detrixhe
Gregory Haddock
Michael Hobbs
Gayla Kobialka
Brain Lanier
Cheryl Malm
Mary Ann Penniston
Joyce Piveral
Michael Steiner
Patricia Thompson
Barbara Crossland
Leslie Galbreath
Egon Heidendal
Kim Hullinger
Joe Kreizinger
Terry Lovelace
Mike McBride
Joshua Peters
Shelby Scarbrough
Matt Symonds
Michele Veasey