

Middle Grades Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday May 6th 2021

Members present: names and role/position

Faculty members: Holly Pinter (program coordinator for ELMG undergraduate programs), David Virtue (Botner Distinguished Professor), Nancy Luke (ELMG faculty), Bob Perkins (ELMG faculty)

Guests: Kayleigh McAlister (8th grade ELA Cane Creek Middle, adjunct WCU), Beth Poteat (The Catamount School grades 6-8, adjunct WCU), Nancy Ruppert (professor, UNCA middle grades), Tyler Whittenberg (chief counsel justice system reform for the Southern Coalition for Social Justice)

1. Welcome and Introductions- Holly Pinter
 - a. Welcome from Holly Pinter
 - b. Introductions
 - c. Advisory Board Purpose

2. Current Program Status (Holly) [Data Summary](#)
 - a. CFAST pilot
 - b. EdTPA continued pass rate
 - c. Continued work on backmapping EdTPA preparation tasks
 - d. PDP

Summary of conversation and group suggestions

-Candidates still seem to struggle with academic language later in the program despite an emphasis on this in EDMG 410

-Noticing that there isn't enough emphasis (from candidates) on the desire for feedback. Need to try to find ways for feedback to be valued by all stakeholders

-Find was across the program to focus on the practice of re-writing

-Use UDL and SIOP methods to modify existing lessons and work to get strong with connecting research

-potential to workshop the same lesson across courses to support developmental progression of lesson planning skills

-Possibly we could use an interdisciplinary topic that we carry across methods courses and seminars (something even like current events)

- Is there a growth measure we could use to score lesson plans?
- Possibly we should have goal setting as part of the grade
- Potential to have students do peer feedback and conferencing before it gets turned in. Perhaps use the table talk feedback protocol (shared by Nancy Ruppert here)

3. New Business Items

- a. Diversity and Inclusion (David)
 - i. Guest Tyler Whittenberg (<https://southerncoalition.org/staff/tyler-whittenberg/>) Shared some from his work at the Southern Coalition for Social Justice advocating for our program to focus on these elements in pre-service education:
 - 1. Focus on adolescent development
 - 2. Discipline as pedagogy
 - a. Your response to negativity should be positive
 - b. Focus on agency (difference between accountability and obedience)
 - 3. Nancy Ruppert shared terms to utilize in our study
 - a. Intersectionality
 - b. Culturally Relevant
- b. Methods Courses
 - i. Capturing content knowledge
 - ii. Planning (lesson, unit, yearly)
 - iii. Assessment

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM