

**PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION UNIT QUALITY ASSURANCE COMMITTEE – YEAR TWELVE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 2015**

Members Present:

Laura Aboyan, Office of Assessment
Katie Barber, Richland School District 2
Mary Anne Byrnes, Assistant Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Fred Greer, EDST Representative and Chair
Tommy Hodges, ITE Representative
Lisa McAlpine, Richland School District 2
Jim Mensch, PEAT Representative
Tiffany Rogers, Office of Assessment
Nicole Spensley, Office of Institutional Research and Assessment

Program Representative:

Craig Kridel, EDFI and Museum of Education

I. Call Meeting to order

Dr. Greer called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

II. Introductions, Overview of Meeting, and Approval of Minutes

Dr. Mensch moved to approve the minutes. Dr. Hodges seconded the motion. The minutes from both the February and March meetings were approved.

III. Review of the Museum of Education

Dr. Kridel gave an overview of the Museum of Education. The Museum functions as a method of presenting exhibits and serving as a resource for the professional community. It also provides assorted programming and web exhibitions. There have been several projects that have been successful, but have not been continued as they seemed to work better as a one-time event. The museum also does quite a bit of work with public pedagogy. Dr. Kridel is currently working on compiling a reader's guide to books of the century paired with never before seen video footage of the authors. Both the museum and Dr. Kridel's work are well known in the education community. Dr. Kridel is the museum's curator. In order to take on this role, he receives a one course-course release over the course of the academic year. The museum officially puts on one event and several smaller exhibits annually. The majority of events and exhibits deal with Civil Rights history and social justice. Recent events have included the Remembrance of the Orangeburg Massacre in February 2015 and a showing of a film on desegregation in 2014 in conjunction with Columbia's annual Indie Grits festival. Dr. Kridel also issues the Travelstead Award annually and plans up to four events for students each year. Dr. Kridel says that it is often difficult to ascertain the impact of any event or exhibit. Events are often remembered by local civil rights leaders, who are usually very much involved in the planning and execution. This kind of involvement brings both local and national recognition to the museum.

Dr. Byrnes asked what the reach and impact of the museum is, specifically who visits and how they visit (e.g. digitally, in person, event attendance). Dr. Kridel said it is difficult to keep track. It often varies based on the specific exhibit or event. For example, the digital footage of John Dewey went viral. People across the country tend to hone in on certain events (e.g. So Their Voices Will Never Be Forgotten, Reader's Guide). Presentations of the Travelstead and Witten awards usually draw standing room only crowds in Wardlaw 126. Dr. Kridel also receives occasional feedback from students who participate in events.

Dr. Barber asked how Dr. Kridel identifies and plans opportunities for exhibits. Dr. Kridel said it depends on the event. For example, the events surrounding desegregation fit in with USC's larger programming about integration and desegregation. Some events, like lectures and readings, are recurring.

Dr. Greer asked if Dr. Kridel works with other archivists either at USC or elsewhere for technical help and support. Dr. Kridel said yes, much of that work is contracted out because there are better technologies that are available than the resources he has.

Dr. Barber asked about the budget. Dr. Kridel said funding comes from the College of Education and is sufficient to meet his needs. He would love to curate the museum full time, but he would miss teaching. He currently enjoys the balance between the two.

Dr. Byrnes asked about succession planning. Dr. Kridel said there are a few people who are interested in taking over once he retires. He expects that they will come in and completely revamp things and define things in their own way.

IV. Review of Educational Foundations of Inquiry

The program serves a service role in the College of Education. It provides service to both undergraduate and graduate students, particularly in the area of qualitative research. The new Graduate Certificate in Qualitative Research Program, which was formally approved in August 2014, developed because of interest in qualitative research from across the university. Undergraduate courses deal with issues of race, class, gender and social justice. EDFI 300 is often referred to as a "call to teach," because student are able to use this course to discover what it means to be a teacher. Enrollment has increased over the past five years.

Dr. Byrnes asked about enrollments in the certificate program, the intention of the program, and what kind of student they are looking for. Dr. Kridel said anyone at USC can enroll in the program. They are only in first year of the program, but there are six people, who are all currently enrolled in a doctoral program, who have applied. There is one student who is currently finishing the certificate program. Dr. Byrnes asked how many credits in the program can be double counted toward another graduate degree. Dr. Kridel said the program is 18 hours, and all 18 should be able to be counted elsewhere.

Dr. Byrnes asked the average number of graduates in the PhD program each year. Dr. Kridel said the field of foundations is going through a transformation so the program has been very cautious about enrolling doctoral students. There is a significant lack of academic jobs in the field. There were five students enrolled in fall 2014. The PhD will never be a large program because the faculty are more concerned with providing service to the College of Education.

Dr. Greer asked about the make-up of people enrolled in the certificate program. Dr. Kridel said people from across the university have applied. The impetus to start the certificate program came from meetings with other programs across the university.

Ms. Aboyan asked about the program's capacity. Dr. Kridel said the faculty are trying to work through those issues now because there are faculty members who are leaving at the end of this year. To this point, there have not been capacity issues, but fluctuations in enrollment make it difficult to assess how the program might be affected in the future.

V. Committee Consensus on Programs

The committee discussed the assessment materials for the Museum of Education and came to the consensus that it is performing at the "**Meets Expectations**" level. The committee would also like to commend Dr. Kridel for his work with the museum and his achievement of national recognition.

Strengths of the program were noted and include:

- Curator's passion and expertise
- Clear identity
- Caliber of events and exhibits
- National, regional, and local recognition
- Only museum of education in South Carolina

Areas for Improvement were noted and include:

- None cited

The Committee Further Encourages:

- Creation of a formal plan for succession and transition to a new curator
- Investigate additional methods for tracking impact
- Create inventory of archives and exhibit materials

The committee discussed the assessment materials for the EDFI program and came to the consensus that due to the limited data available, we are **unable to provide a rating at this time**. We look forward to the program's growth and use of data collection to inform the practice of the program.

Strengths of the program were noted and include:

- Provides a unique credential for those interested in qualitative research
- Wide appeal across the University

Areas for Improvement were noted and include:

- Define key learning outcomes for the program

The Committee Further Encourages:

- Additional advertising and marketing
- Investigate fluctuations in enrollment to provide a basis for staffing decisions.

VI. Schedule for Future Meetings

Programs to Review 2015-16

- Special Education (MAT/MEd/PhD) – September 2015
- Early Childhood Special Education (MEd) – October 2015
- Early Childhood Education (BA, MEd, PhD) – October 2015
- Elementary Education (BA, MAT) – November 2015
- Language & Literacy (MEd, PhD) – November 2015
- Higher Education (Cert., MEd, PhD) – January 2016
- Educational Psychology & Research (MEd, PhD) – February 2016
- Teaching & Learning (PhD) – February 2016
- Middle Level Education (BA/BS) – March 2016
- Secondary Math (MAT/MT) – April 2016
- Secondary Science (MAT/MT) – April 2016
- Secondary English (MAT/MT) – May 2016
- Secondary Social Studies (MAT/MT) – May 2016

VII. Other Business

Ms. Aboyan will coordinate meeting times for the 2015-16 academic year over the summer. Dr. Greer adjourned the meeting at 3:12 p.m.