UCONN
NEAG SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
Curricula & Courses Committee

To: C&C Committee Members

From: John Zack, Chair

Date: March 7, 2023

Re: Minutes of the Curricula & Courses Committee Meeting held March 7, 2023

In attendance via Microsoft Teams: John Zack, Saran Stewart, Alex Freidus, Ann Traynor, Dorothea Anagnostopoulos and Diane Matteau

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1) Approval of December, 2022 meeting minutes
   o *John Zack began the meeting at 10:04am. It was noted that Mike Young and Rachael Gabriel could not attend. They did, however, send their electronic votes on the agenda items.*
   o *Ann Traynor made a motion to approve the December minutes, Saran seconded, and all voted in favor (6-0, includes Mike and Rachael's electronic votes)*

2) Course Revisions

   a) **EDLR 6303: Data Driven Leadership for District and School Improvement, Equity, and Policy Development (CAR 23-18245)**

   Explanation: This request is made to update the course title and content to more appropriately reflect the objectives of the course and the Neag School's commitment to ensuring equity remains at the forefront of all educator development programs.

   Current Catalog Copy:
   Data-Driven Decision Making for School Improvement and Policy Development

   Provides school leaders with the knowledge necessary to improve instructional programs and improve policy by relying on data-driven strategies and tools. The course meets in seminar/lab format with students working on data-driven problems, analyses and developing action plans as a result. Students work on several case studies and a major project of personal, professional significance.

   Proposed Catalog Copy:
   Data-Driven Leadership for District and School Improvement, Equity and Policy Development

   This is a course on education leadership and how successful leaders use data to inform vision and drive change in schools and districts that enables the improvement of student outcomes and greater equity. Its purpose is to prepare Superintendents and other school leaders to use data to inform, plan and implement the change process in their schools and districts. The Course will focus on specific data derived from the most important measures available to Connecticut

education leaders; the effective use and management of that data; and the strategies, best practices and leadership tasks necessary to improve the quality of education for all students.

- o *Zack reviewed the course catalog copy change above for EDLR 6303 and opened it up for discussion.*
- o *He brought up the concerns Rachael had shared prior to meeting about Equity appearing in the title, but nowhere on the syllabus. She feels we should suggest to make equity more transparent or explicit.*
- o *After the group discussed, Zack made a motion, Alex seconded and all voted in favor to return the CAR for revision and email Laura Burton noting the following:*
    - ▪ *For the course description and objectives, more deliberate language around the analysis and use of equity in data driven decision making is needed. Course objectives for a 6000-level course should present higher level orders of thinking and address what students leaving the course will be able to do - centering the language of the course objectives around student skills instead of what the course will cover, including objectives that focus more on application and analysis.*
    - ▪ *The course catalogue copy should reflect the revised focus on equity.*
- o *Saran and Alex will also meet with Laura about the discussion around the course and reviewing in the larger EDLR monthly meeting.*

APPROVAL BY DEPARTMENT: February 21, 2023
APPROVAL BY DEPT. HEADS: February 21, 2023

3) Program Revisions

   a) **EPSY: Teacher Certification Program for College Graduates (GPAR 23-MADA-74UWQT)**

   Current Catalog Copy: Concentration in Special Education (Grades K-12). Required courses: EDCI 5050, 5055, 5060, 5065; EPSY 5092 (three credits), 5113, 5116, 5119, 5121, 5123, 5141, 5142, 5195 (three credits), 5221 (one credit), and 5396 (nine credits). Required courses total 49 credits.

   Proposed Catalog Copy: Concentration in Special Education (Grades K-12). Required courses: EDCI 5050, 5055, 5060, 5065; EPSY 5092 (three credits), 5113, 5116, 5119, 5121, 5123, 5140, 5141, 5142, 5195 (three credits), 5221 (one credit), and 5396 (nine credits). Required courses total 52 credits.

   Justification: These changes would apply to all TCPCG Special Education cohorts, creating a common plan of study for each. This will improve planning and create a more consistent experience for each cohort.

   The only change to the program of study is to add 1 online asynchronous course which is currently being taught in the Transition Certificate Program by current faculty. This will not affect current teaching load, nor supplant other instruction, it will only enhance our program of study. (*See GPAR for additional detail*)

   - o *Zack reviewed the TCPCG program revision above and opened it up for discussion.*
   - o *He shared his concerns about adding an additional 3 credits to an 11-month program that is already at 49 credits.*

- *Others shared their concerns about how this may impact the student's ability to pass edTPA since it will be taken in the Spring semester.*
- *After a lengthy discussion, Zack made a motion to approve, Ann seconded, and all voted in favor to approve this change. (6-0, includes Mike and Rachael's electronic votes)*
- *The Committee notes the following with this approval: "The C&C approves the GPAR change. We encourage the program to closely monitor the success of TCPCG special education students in passing the edTPA given the course demands of the Spring semester."*

APPROVAL BY DEPARTMENT: February 3, 2023
APPROVAL BY DEPT. HEADS: February 6, 2023
APPROVAL BY C&C COMMITTEE: March 7, 2023
APPROVAL BY NEAG FACULTY: March 17, 2023

4) Discussion on C&C Procedures moving forward
   - *Since the two proposed amendments to the Faculty Governance document both passed by majority vote, any C&C recommendations will now be brought to the full faculty for approval, generally by electronic vote.*
   - *The group discussed this change and felt that in the interest of time, conducting an electronic vote after each meeting will be most effective.*
   - *After the minutes are done, Diane will compile the information to be voted on and send out via List Serv and Neag News Wednesday – Friday following the meeting.*
   - *We will give faculty one week to complete their vote.*

   - *The meeting adjourned at 11:00am.*