

IUPUI COMMITTEE ON TEACHER EDUCATION

2003-2004

The IUPUI Committee on Teacher Education (COTE) met monthly in 2003-04, beginning in September 2003. In general, meetings were focused on (1) developments and issues within the IUPUI School of Education that were of interest to all IUPUI faculty engaged in teacher education and (2) concerns related to the implementation of the No Child Left Behind Act and its impact on colleagues in the public schools.

Discussion topics related to the set of internal issues included the following:

1. Adjustments to elementary and secondary education advising sheets.
2. New elementary/middle school program.
3. Dual licenses.
4. A proposed Center for the Assessment of Learning.
5. Developments in English as a New Language (ENL).
6. The New Urban Teacher Collaborative.
7. End-of-Course Assessments for secondary school students.
8. Professional Development Schools.
9. New licensing standards.
10. Transition to Teaching program.
11. The unit assessment system.
12. The new Indiana cultural competence law.
13. Preparing health teachers.
14. K-12 wellness initiatives.

Guests invited to join us for presentations on these issues included Marilee Updike, ESL Coordinator for the Indianapolis Public Schools, and Thom Upton, Professor of English at IUPUI, who shared their expertise on English as a new language. As a result of that discussion, Upton was asked to lead the development of a 21st Century Teacher project proposal for funding in 2004.

In connection with No Child Left Behind, we heard presentations at the September meeting from Charles Little, Executive Director of the Indiana Urban Superintendents Association and Dean Gerardo Gonzalez. On November 12, Lowell Rose, Emeritus Director of Phi Delta Kappa, offered a workshop on NCLB for COTE members as well as invited guests from the community. On March 30, Sonia Nieto, Professor of Education at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst, was guest speaker for a workshop at the Eiteljorg Museum focused on the experiences of urban teachers. Again COTE members were joined for this event by teachers and administrators from area schools as well as other community stakeholders. Group discussion at the Nieto workshop yielded a number of suggestions for action by COTE. These will be considered at the next COTE meeting on April 29, 2004 and may become items for consideration and action during fall 2004.