

COMMITTEE ON TEACHER EDUCATION (COTE)

Friday, October 20, 2006
Administration Building – AO 103
3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

AGENDA –

1. Update on Math/Science Teacher Education Center.....Gavrin and Murtadha
2. Pathways Initiative..... Murtadha
3. SOE Data from Program Review.....Houser
4. Professional Development Activities in High Schools..... Seybold
5. Assessment of Content Knowledge and Skills.....Borgmann

MINUTES –

Members present: G. Bersier (for M. Anton), T. Banta, J. Bertsch, S. Blackwell, S. Fox, A. Gavrin, L. Houser, K. Murtadha, J. Seybold, C. Toll, J. Watt, G. Williams

1. Charles Barman described the **Urban Center for the Advancement of Science/Mathematics Education (UCASE)**. This center is a joint undertaking of faculty in the School of Education and the School of Science. Its mission is to “advance science and mathematics education by promoting excellence in teaching and learning, research and scholarship, and supporting services for students that enhance persistence and achievement.” UCASE intends to create and strengthen partnerships with K-12 educators, museums, civic groups, and other informal learning organizations.

Specifically, Science and Education faculty and staff will work together to develop four-year programs leading to the certification of secondary teachers in life sciences, physical sciences, and earth/space science. In addition, they will develop recruiting strategies to attract high performing science and math students—particularly those from underrepresented groups--into teaching. They also will develop workshops designed to disseminate good practice in teaching and learning for P-12 science and math teachers. COTE members Jeff Watt and Andy Gavrin are working closely with Barman on the planning for UCASE. Kim Nguyen will serve as the UCASE advisor for science and math students interested in teaching. The vision for UCASE is to become a site for collaborative work on science and mathematics education. Funding has already been received from the Robert Noyce Scholarship Program and the National Science Foundation.

2. Dean Murtadha described the **Pathways to Success** program proposal that is being developed by Vice President Charlie Nelms, Dean Gerardo Gonzalez, Dean Murtadha, and Philip Seabrook. The proposal focuses on a selected set of

high schools and their feeder middle and junior high schools in Marion, St. Joseph, and Lake counties with the purpose of improving graduation rates and increasing matriculation into postsecondary education, particularly in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics—the STEM disciplines. The target population includes students of color and students from families in chronic poverty—those who are most at risk and least likely to persist and succeed in STEM-related coursework and careers. Indiana University is requesting \$5M in base funding from the General Assembly this year to support the Pathways to Success initiative.

3. L. Houser provided information about upcoming **reviews** by the Indiana Department of Education-Division of Professional Standards and the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Houser reported that decisions have not yet been made as to which teacher education programs will be reviewed by the State and which by NCATE, talks are underway to determine this. Houser emphasized the fact that evidence of outcomes is particularly important in the NCATE process, and IUPUI intends to use Praxis 2 scores and student portfolios scored with rubrics for common sections among its sources of evidence.
4. J. Seybold provided a detailed summary of **SOE involvement in secondary schools**. Examples of the activities she described include field experiences for students in Blocks I, II, and III as well as the T2T program; curriculum planning in connection with development of the Crispus Attucks Medical Magnet High School; coaching for the IPS small high schools transformation project; and cadet teaching programs for high school students at Lawrence North and Decatur Central. Seybold noted that all IUPUI efforts in connection with small schools have been consolidated at Northwest High School; SOE faculty spend ½ day each week as coaches there. Action research designed to use students' strengths and weaknesses to modify curriculum and instruction is being encouraged.
5. COTE members discussed the spring symposium now planned for **Friday, March 30** with **James Gee** from the University of Wisconsin as featured speaker. Gee has captured attention in recent years for his research on the influence of video games on teaching. Cathy Toll asked about our purpose for the spring symposium, and members emphasized its importance in building community in support of teacher education. Members suggested that following a brief reception at 3:00 p.m. on March 30, Gee provide a presentation, followed by responses from two people who have read and used Gee's research. We will ask Gee to provide an article for all to read prior to the date of the symposium—if he would like to do that.

COTE members suggested that earlier in the day on March 30, Gee be invited to speak at a forum for faculty and students. Literacy leaders in the community might also be invited for conversation with Gee. New COTE member Jamilyn Bertsch agreed to identify an IPS teacher who is familiar with Gee's research who could serve as one of the respondents. Toll or S. Fox might serve as the second respondent. All COTE members are encouraged to submit ideas for Gee's activities and presentations on March 30.