

Minutes from Meeting
1:00-2:30 pm
Rooms 2102 (Bloomington) and 3138B (Indianapolis)

Members Present: Scott Bellini, John Hitchcock, Kelzie Beebe, Jessica Lester, Leslie Chrapliwy, Christine Leland (IUPUI), Cristina Santamaria Graff (IUPUI)

Ex-Officio Present: Elizabeth Boling, Brendan Maxcy (IUPUI)

Members Absent: Marjorie Manifold, Sam Museus, Ghangis Carter, Karen Franks, Chad Christensen, Frank Di Silvestro

Staff: Matt Boots, Tracey McGookey, Liyao Zhao

Presenters: Joshua Danish, Suzanne Eckes, Erik Tillema, Daniel Whitmer

- I. Review and Approval of Minutes from September 26, 2016
 - *Leslie Chrapliwy moved to approve the minutes from September 26, 2016, as presented.*
 - *Brendan Maxcy seconded the motion.*
 - *All in favor.*

- II. New Business
 - A. **Revision for Learning and Developmental Science Minor Program**

The first item of business was a proposed revision for the Learning and Developmental Science Minor Program. Joshua Danish presented and fielded the questions on this item. He proposed two changes to the minor: 1) make the course program more flexible by allowing the faculty to sign off on a student taking a given course; and 2) EdD minor in Learning and Developmental Science should be available online in the bulletin. Boling raised the issue that this might allow for the circumvention of a 600-level course. The committee felt comfortable, however, with the faculty making decisions on a case-by-case basis.

 - *Scott Bellini moved to approve the revisions for Learning and Developmental Science Minor Program with the following changes: change the title of “Learning Sciences PhD and EdD Minor” to “Learning and Developmental Science PhD and EdD Minor”.*
 - *Jessica Lester seconded the motion.*
 - *All in favor.*

 - B. **Revision for MS in Educational Leadership Online Program**

The second item of business was a proposed revision for the MS in Educational Leadership Online Program. Suzanne Eckes presented and fielded the questions on this

item. The proposed change is for students to be able to create a 9-credit “strand” with their faculty advisor based on individual needs. Currently, students can create their own strands based on individual interests, but given that the strands do not appear on the transcript, the change will greatly reduce paperwork, and make it easier for students to create an interest-based course program.

- *Jessica Lester moved to approve the revision for MS in Educational Leadership online program, as presented.*
- *Scott Bellini seconded the motion.*
- *All in favor.*

C. **Revision for Educational Leadership Program**

The third item of business was a proposed revision for the Educational Leadership Program. Eckes presented and fielded the questions on this item. The proposed change was simple: allow students to take either A630 or A631, a more quantitatively oriented course. Moreover, A635, a finance course, should be stricken.

- *Leslie Chrapliwy moved to approve the revision for Educational Leadership program with the following changes: delete the sentence “And A635 is a masters course.”*
- *Jessica Lester seconded the motion*
- *All in favor.*

D. **Revision for Education Law Certificate**

The fourth item of business was a revision for the Education Law Certificate. Eckes presented and fielded the questions on this item. Currently, students take either A720 (Special Topics) or A600 (Problems in Educational Leadership) to fulfill the requirements of this certificate program. The change is to bring back A710, Research in School Law, to simply and clarify the course topic for students. The course is completely online. The certificate is 15 credits. Boots raised concern that the indented bullet in this proposal would allow for students to get a waiver. Eckes said that the indented bullet will probably be removed, but that if students make a good case, they can obtain a waiver for the course. Boling noted that students are allowed to do this anyway, as part of the advising policy. The committee added that students in the program are allowed to take “Politics of Education” at IUPUI over the summer.

- *Scott Bellini moved to approve the revision for Education Law Certificate with the following changes: delete the indented bullet regarding to A675.*
- *Leslie Chrapliwy seconded the motion.*
- *All in favor.*

E. **Proposal for Test of English Proficiency**

The fifth item of business concerned the tests of English proficiency offered at the School of Education (SoE). Currently, the SoE does not accept scores from the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). This test measures uses a 9-band scale, from non-user of English (band score 1) to expert (band score 9). Daniel Whitmer, associate director of sponsored student services from Office of International Services, presented and fielded the questions about the measure and related policy considerations. Whitmer has found that for many students in countries where IU is hoping to recruit students—Indonesia, Malaysia, and Oman, for example—students are limited to one test or the other (TOEFL or IELTS). Thus, students who are only capable of taking the IELTS will not perceive the IU SoE to be an option for their education. Moreover, many of other schools in the Big Ten, including, the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champlain, Michigan State, and Ohio State all accept both the TOEFL and the IELTS exams. Whitmer also raised issues of consistency and access that can arise if IELTS scores are not accepted. He was concerned that recruiting international students might be more difficult if the SOE does not accept the IELTS, given that all of the other schools on campus do so. And he added that incorporating the IELTS exam would allow for greater access to students who do not have a choice of exam in their home countries. Whitmer had heard little about whether one test was “easier” than the other. For him, it was mainly an issue of accessibility and competition with not only schools in the U.S. but also in the U.K. and Australia. Boling noted that she would bring the issue to a vote during the next meeting, and would propose the IELTS minimum to be 6.5, in accordance to the minimum score on the TOEFL exam.

F. **Proposal for Math Ed minor at IUPUI**

The sixth item of business concerned a proposal for Math Ed minor at IUPUI. Erik Tillema presented and fielded the questions on this item. Tillema explained that this would be a 15 credit minor (15 credits because a student with more credits is more likely to successfully enter another program or acquire a teaching position). Students will be required to take at least two doctoral seminars in math education. They would also take at least one research course in math education (M590). Boling noted that N518 is missing from the list. Tillema confirmed that that course should be included. The minor, if approved would appear in the IUPUI bulletin.

- *Brendan Maxcy moved to approve the minor with the following changes: add N518 to the bulletin.*
- *Cristina Santamaria Graff seconded the motion.*
- *All in favor.*

G. **Graduate Bulletin Language Regarding Dissertation Defenses**

The seventh item of business concerned the Graduate Bulletin's language regarding dissertation defenses. There is some ambiguity among the faculty whether all committee members of a student must be present at the dissertation defense. Boling proposed new language to remove some of this ambiguity, and which might be made concrete in an official policy, such as: "requirement for the student and all members of the research committee to be synchronously present at the dissertation defense with the student and a majority of the committee physically present." The language adds that two members of the committee must be physically present, with the others merely "synchronously" (Skype, etc.) The committee expressed concern that any policy would be overly punitive toward students when faculty members fail to follow through on their commitments due to emergency issues or leaving the University, etc. Boling raised the possibility of language that would make rescheduling possible if circumstances are "exceptional and unforeseen." Bellini agreed that this policy is directed at faculty, and if they are not physically present, they must be available. Boling proposed to revise the language as suggested and bring them a vote during the next meeting.