

Teacher Preparation Committee Meeting Minutes

March 22, 2010

1:00 p.m. at **Room 204, Shibles Hall, UMaine**

Members Present: Mary Smith, Dennis King, Pam Kimball, Laura McKnight, John Maddaus, Sid Mitchell

Agenda Items:

- Pam introduced our “guest”, Sid Mitchell, who is teaching the Educational Assessment Course for undergraduates. He has been trying to do things a little differently this semester to make it more hands-on and field friendly. Below are some bulleted comments and discussion points:
 - Sid felt it would be helpful to be able to have them take the class while they are student teaching.
 - Dennis noted that we need a foundational base before that semester, but feels perhaps we should be using faculty to teach the seminars so they could deal with previously taught information.
 - Sid noted that he would be starting a section on rubric development after he finished up with standardized testing.
 - Other topics that have/will be covered include:
 - Learning objectives
 - Creating test items to match learning objectives
 - Multiple choice items
 - Short answer items
 - Portfolios
 - Validity and reliability
 - Will address the “Bell Curve” along with the 4 Point Rubric scale
 - Pre-test/post-test – creative examples
 - Pam noted tests that Maine schools use and students should be aware of:
 - NECAP, DIBLES, NEWEA, SAT, Observation Survey, DRA, ARI
 - Might want to think about how courses are structured including student teaching seminars – bringing former instructors back to revisit learning and answer questions in their field now that they are in classrooms.
 - Responses from the field regarding “What should teachers know about and be able to do with assessments and assessment data?” We need to get more information to Sid.
 - Pam will make a list of the assessments each district noted in the past interviews and bring it back to the committee.
 - Pam will check with Curriculum Coordinators for input regarding what new teachers should now know about tests and what do teachers and administrators expect our students (and new teachers) to know about assessments in general.
 - Perhaps we could ask student teachers what assessments came up that they hadn’t heard of before? What did they learn about assessments in classes?

Have they had experiences making assessments successful for all students without “dumbing down” the test? Are our students being asked to answer the same kind of assessments as they are being taught about?

- Agenda topics:
 - Wrap up on assessment topic
 - Info from Curriculum Coordinators
 - May meeting topics

- Next meeting: **Monday, April 12th, 12:45 p.m. at UTC**