Academic Planning Meeting Minutes

Written by: John Sieverdes

Date: 9-23-22

Thomas Spade - chair
Tom Kunkle - member
George Pothering - member
Dave Boucher member
Von Bakanic – member
Kathy DeHaan - member

Guests:
William Veal
Mark Del Mastro
Emily Beck, Teacher Education
Will McCorkle, Teacher Education

Subject: ML MAT proposal, hurricane plan discussion

Quorum met

Meeting minutes from last meeting accepted by unanimous vote

Primary Topic: Multilingual Learners, MAT proposal.

Thomas Spade: demand for proposal, new resources?

Guest Speakers presentation: [Emily Beck and Will McCorkle spoke on the ML MAT]. Teaching English to speakers of other languages is one of the fastest growing demographics in SC. 765% increase of children entering schools that need this. This program will be a leader in the state and the only one of this type. After teacher licensure, educators can pursue this. NC and GA and other states have this path already. SC does not. This would bridge the gap and remove barriers for this expertise to serve students and give background to do so. There are several practicum courses including teacher in the classroom with mentor ship. Mirrors MED program (for current teachers). 3 sets of courses: Education foundation. Multi-lingual set of courses (15 hours). (EDFS courses already offered). Experiential learning courses. Targeting existing teachers/staff, that are working in schools, ideally bilingual already, but can also use students in teacher ed already.

Thomas Spade: Can other majors enter program.

Emily Beck: Any field can enter the program.

Von Bakanic: How is this different than a certification program.

Emily Beck and Will McCorkle: if you don’t have a teaching license. Then you need PACE or MAT for teacher certification. You need to have a teacher certification first. Example. If you have a history degree and working in that field and want to work to teach English and no teaching license, they need emergency teaching credential. At this time there is no mechanism in the state to have this pathway.
With the MAT, this program will create a way for students to get a teaching licensure with the multi-lingual expertise. Conversations are being had with the SC Department of Education.

Tom Kunkle: Are there different licensures for elementary, others?

Emily Beck: It is a K-12 license. Most graduates will be working with elementary schools; has the most need.

Tom Kunkle: Do we currently have a masters program that leads to elementary licensure. Anything keeping a current student from getting the certificate in multi-lingual?

Emily Beck: Yes, we have the initial certification. We get higher recruitment every year. Overall answers lead to this MAT offering a better package that most importantly includes the experiential learning portion which is not offered in the other certification, thus strengthening the program.

Given the current political environment, and cutting positions; will the state want to create these jobs and what is the pushback to use public funds. Are there training the workforce interest from corporations?

Emily Beck: Will the state fund this? This is title 3 (federal) requirement to be compliance. Hearing from Berkley and Charleston counties, there is such a need and huge caseloads. “Tons” of jobs, students getting multiple offers before graduation at this time who have multi-lingual. CCSD is getting sued currently due to lack of student support in this area.

George Pothering: How language dependent or independent is this program. They don’t have to have a language, or what type of language background is there?

Emily Beck: No requirement, but there are language pockets depending on demographics. Train to have a huge background of different languages. Refuge students, so other languages other than Spanish. Build literacy in a variety of different ways. They don’t have to have that language background, some will have it, others will not. Having cultural sensitivity helps students learn a new language.

Kathy DeHaan: What courses are aimed at cultural competency? Middle east, other cultures.

Emily Beck: Cultural diversity class, that is going to be focused on this; how to reach students in different backgrounds. Current class already offered. How to create spaces of support (EDFS 672) and also throughout the MAT. EDFS 670 instructs how to adapt learning to students of other languages.

Thomas Spade: Any other questions. Any issues with this proposal, concerns, questions? Discussion?

Tom Kunkle: They need an assistant professor, justification.

Emily Beck and Mark Already discussed with provost and Dean, and the Dean says there is a line already being thought of to fill this spot. Dean is supportive and planning for this.

Thomas Spade: May be good idea to look for other grants in support of this. DOE? There may be funding.

George Pothering: SLO 2 (Instructional Planning and Implementation: Teacher candidates demonstrate the ability to plan and implement research-based instruction for ML students). 100% must show expertise, what defines this.
Emily Beck and Will McCorkle: I don’t have the printout and there is a specific rubric and one is based on Praxis scores. It is linked and can provide. [issue resolves]

Thomas Spade: Motion to vote to approve proposal? Motion, multiple 2nds (George). Unanimous vote to approve. Motion passed.

2nd Topic: Hurricane Plan

Thomas Spade: Something ahead of us. Randolph Hall: We have a formal plan in the event of a hurricane. It is intentionally vague. Not specific enough to satisfy the parents. Requesting a little more certainty to come up with some suggestions. Associate provost is here to speak on this.

Mark Del Mastro: I was here 2010, so on record we have an ad hoc plan where the provost would make a unilateral decision to give guidance to the campus usually within 48 hours of a hurricane. Brian McGee was in senate that faculty will give makeup classes if classes are cancelled. Fran Welch was also following model and did consultation, Lynn Ford as well, for storm days (Dorian storm). Fast forward, current provost we should be proactive and look at other models (Coastal Carolina) they have a web page on instructional continuity. A plan has now been made with the Faculty senate, academic affairs, William Veal. Comments and blow back due to not having enough consultation. Current status is that Provost recognizes that the plan should be dynamic. Recent comments show that more consultation should be done and amend the plan. Another important historical component about criticism of storm days. Academic planning did look at storm days but this was difficult and no solution was given.

Thomas Spade: I have used storm days and was the only one in the school of business, seems like trying to meet a requirement and not used. There are power outage issues if you try to use zoom. Zoom works well with Covid, it works, but with storms this may not be a consideration. How specific do you think we can get? Number of missed days and pass/fail.

Mark Del Mastro: The whole purpose is not to be too specific as it would reduce flexibility. The best is to find the happy medium.

Kathy DeHaan: Before we look at how to fix it. What are the problems voiced by faculty, provost, parents?

Mark Del Mastro: Main purpose to ensure the consultations; wasn’t brought up by all faculty. We would like this to be more faculty centered, even if the plan is slightly modified. Main concerns are power outage, designated storm days. Additional ones may emerge though consultations.

George Pothering?: Are we more worried about make up more than 2 days (In chemistry, we have schedules to keep). If we are down for weeks, what are we trying to fix because the plan will be moot.

Tomas Spade: What are kids going to do to stay on track to graduate? This is the concern that seems coming out of the senate?

Mark Del Mastro: Yes, a plan for each professor to make decisions.

Thomas Spade: When this is done, the faculty have had input and not just from the Provost office. So going forward for input from other faculty by Academic planning. Maybe start with member’s chairs first. I can draft an email.
Tom Kunkle: I think you should be the one sending the email as head of the committee.

Thomas Spade: Yes, I can do that share with AP committee before sending it out chairs to get feedback from us. We will get back together and discuss this before sending out.

George Pothering: We should look at national weather service. Evacuation orders, others in Charleston.

Thomas Spade: Let’s see what feedback we get from the chairs first. Motion to adjourn?

Motion passed. Meeting ended.