

College of Education & Human Sciences  
2020-2021 Advisory Board

July 23, 2020 | Zoom Meeting | 9-11 am

**Attendance:** Dr. Katie Kinney, Dr. Chris James, Dr. Jeff Cornelius, Dr. Lisa Clayton, Dr. Terri Garrison, Dr. Joy Brown, Dr. Matt Campbell, Dr. Lorie Johnson, Dr. Felecia Harris, Mrs. Christy Waters, Owen Foster, Julie Box, Joey Dawson, Caitlin Holland, Stephanie Newland, Eric Kirkman, Heather Mize

**Welcome/Overview of Teacher Education**   
Dr. Katie Kinney, Dean, and Dr. Chris James, Director of Teacher Education, welcomed attendees and provided an overview of the EPP and how operations are continuing despite Covid-19.

**Department of Teaching, Learning and Leadership Updates**

Dr. Jeff Cornelius, new Department Chair, shared updates from the Department of Teaching, Learning and Leadership.

Dr. Lorie Johnson, Director of Continuous Improvement & Accreditation, presented EPP data in a slideshow (attached). Attendees discussed the data.

Dean Kinney invited attendees to share feedback on EPP data, processes, etc.

Julie Box suggested the EPP prepare teachers to have an appropriate social media presence.

Joey Dawson suggested candidates learn to use learning management systems for virtual teaching.

Eric Kirkman suggested candidates need practice managing students while teaching on Zoom or another online platform.

Owen Foster said students and candidates need opportunities to be part of the solution. He suggested the EPP let students and candidates work together to brainstorm and solve problems associated with online learning.

Julie Box said candidates need training in social-emotional/trauma-informed teaching.

Owen Foster said give students and candidates time; don’t feel like you have to cram everything in. Give them time and space to create.

Dean Kinney said everyone is affected by the trauma associated with the pandemic and she encouraged self-care.

Julie Box said wifi access for students is an issue with virtual learning.

Dean Kinney asked what problems the districts anticipated with candidates having access to Schoology. Julie and Joey said it is a user-friendly system but they are unsure how or if candidates can access it.

Stephanie Newland asked if school visitors can access Schoology.

Julie Box said you can upload videos and content to Schoology. She said they are relying on candidates’ knowledge of technology because in this era of virtual teaching no one is a veteran. It is brand new territory. Candidates are helping veteran teachers navigate online instruction.

Jeff Cornelius mentioned the teacher shortage and progress the EPP is making with enrollment.

Dean Kinney discussed efforts to focus on Career Tech. She shared information about the Pre-service Teacher Workshop, RevolutionizED, postedponed to Spring 2021 because of Covid-19, and the men of color recruitment initiative, DistinguishED. She shared that the EPP is actively recruiting diverse candidates to address a shortage of diverse teachers in the field.

Stephanie Newland shared about Workforce Readiness Day and how the Chamber of Commerce partnered with UNA to take UNA candidates on a tour of the workforce. Teachers are the start of workforce development readiness, she said.

Early College was discussed, which targets high school students and offers a reduction in fees and tuition. It has been highly successful.

Caitlin Holland suggested we follow through on an idea she shared last year with the EPP to provide a pipeline for those in other fields or with other degrees to pursue a degree in teaching. She shared her own experience of having a law degree, but wanting to teach and couldn’t do so quickly or easily.

Heather Mize discussed a new career tech teacher training program at Deshler High School and said she hoped to collaborate with UNA.

Eric Kirkman said people are realizing in the pandemic that there is stability in the field of teaching and it may help with recruiting.

Caitlin Holland mentioned a new partnership with UNA giving Chamber members a discount on tuition.

She said we discussed last year offering a joint recruitment initiative in which we promoted teaching as family-friendly, high-demand field, easy pathway and Chamber discount.

The EPP presented the new Recruitment and Retention Plan.

Eric Kirkman said we need to particularly focus on recruiting men into the teaching field.

Dean Kinney said a degree in Instructional Technology will be very useful at this time. She welcomed the Chamber partnership and would love to talk further with Owen about his idea to let students and candidates solve problems.

Owen cautioned to recruit with selectivity, saying we don’t need more teachers; we need great ones. He suggested recruiting even earlier with teacher training programs in middle school.

Attendees separated into breakout rooms for job alike sessions.

**Room #1: Teachers/Instructional Coaches**  
Facilitated by Mrs. Christy Waters, Director of Field Experiences. UNA faculty and teachers attended this session. They discussed the challenges of online teaching, reviewed clinical experiences. Mrs. Waters requested feedback on internships and field experiences. Teachers said they were pleased with interns and their preparation. They discussed the challenges of teaching and interning caused by Covid-19.

**Room #2: Administrators**  
Facilitated by Dr. James and Dr. Cornelius. Dean Kinney attended this session with the administrators and Chamber members. Dr. James shared curriculum and assessments for the Instructional Leadership and Teacher Leader programs. The clinical experience and portfolio assessment for the Instructional Leadership Class A clinical were discussed. Dr. James collected feedback from partners.

Everyone returned to the main room and Dean Kinney closed the meeting by thanking everyone for their continued partnership.