

# Educator Preparation Stakeholders' Council (EPSC) Meeting Agenda Wednesday, October 19, 2022 4:15-5:45 pm

Zoom meeting link: https://gcsu.zoom.us/j/91920606146 919 2060 6146

**Present:** Joe Peters, Nicole DeClouette, Mike Newton, Nancy Mizelle, Javier Francisco, Angela Criscoe, Tina Holmes-Davis, Kevin Hunt, Laurel Tucker, Leah Bodnarchuk, Winston Tripp, Charm Pace, Devante Sanders, Chris Greer, Gloria Wicker, Cully Hollinshead, Rachel Bray, Andrea Christoff, Leila Montgomery, Shanquita Lewis

Regrets: Joanne Previts, Dianna Hollins, Claire Garrett, Pam Longino, Noris Price, Melvin Middleton, Keisha Foston, Runee Sallad, Catrena Lisse, Rickey Edmond, Grace Cummings

Guest: Kim Muschaweck

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- Welcome back long-time members of the EPSC and new members! We so appreciate you all for agreeing to serve on the EPSC this year.
- O As a reminder, the main purpose of the Educator Preparation Stakeholder's Council is to share responsibility for continuous improvement of Educator Preparation Program (EPP) candidate preparation and P-12 student achievement. I will mention the other council charges as we proceed through the meeting.
- Introductions

# Georgia College Undergraduate Admissions Update ......Javier Francisco

- o 1,500 freshmen for Fall 2022 was the goal; Board of Regents (BOR) selected 23 out of 26 institutions to be test optional, excluding University of Georgia, Georgia Tech and Georgia College in March. This resulted in 1,370 freshmen students for Fall 2022.
- o Loss of revenue due to smaller freshmen class size; effect will be felt in two years
- o Numbers are also down for returning and graduate students, overall decline for all enrollment
- o Retention rate of 80% from Fall 2021 freshmen class, giving an upward trend for this year
- o In September, the BOR made 24 out of 26 institutions test optional, including Georgia College. Because of this, we currently have over 3700 applications for Fall 2023.
- o 183 Education applications & 58 incomplete applications that are also pre-education; over 230 students have applied with Education as their intended major
- o Diversity is strong for the incoming Fall 2023 class of applicants
- o Early Action decisions will be released prior to Thanksgiving
- o Transfer student numbers are up also

#### Employer Education Initiative ...... Angela Criscoe

o Angela is the Executive Director of the School of Continuing and Professional Studies

- The original initiative was to increase graduate enrollment, and to find a way to connect school districts, businesses and agencies with our current graduate programming and certificates while gathering information from the employers that will help inform future programming
- Over a month ago, the initiative began with a development of an employer list and collaboration with the deans. A third party vendor took the list and an email campaign began with sending out weekly emails to the various employers about the Employer Education Partnership.
- o <u>www.gcsu.edu/eep</u>
- Most of the connections have been with school districts. So far, only one business has contacted Angela.
   There will be a greater push to connect and partner with businesses and agencies.
- o Two-way partnerships with some counties to get their teachers in our programs and getting our students in their school districts.
- o Para-professional pathway is needed in the school districts and conversations are being had to see if the COE could offer that.

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- Enrollment Data
  - As experienced nationwide, and discussed by Javier, our enrollment at Georgia College is down.
     This includes the College of Education where we have had a significant drop in graduate enrollment. We are currently looking at strategies to regain enrollment to 2020 levels.
- o Budget
  - Again, like Javier stated, because enrollment is down, the Georgia College budget will be reduced by the University System of Georgia. Initial figures are for a 6 million dollar plus cut in the 2024 fiscal year. We are funded on a two-year lag which means enrollment for 2021 generates the fiscal year 2023 funding. We are okay for this year because of banked federal Covid-related funding, but will need to do reductions for FY24. Graduate enrollment is important since the USG funds graduate hours at \$800 per credit hour as opposed to undergraduate at \$200 per credit hour.
- o Enrollment Strategies
  - o Paraprofessional to Special Education Teacher Program
    - One of the enrollment strategies we are looking at to bring up enrollment is a paraprofessional to teacher program in Special Education. This program will be unique in that it will be the only Georgia College program to be offered online so that working professionals can participate in courses. They can earn the equivalent of an associate's degree that includes 18 hours of education courses and 42 hours of core courses. From there, they will complete the 18 additional hours of core and 42 hours of special education courses to receive a bachelor's degree with certification.
  - Intern to Teacher
    - We are also exploring an intern to teacher program. These programs are for select candidates to become teacher of record in their senior year and get paid by a district. Again, this program would require some adjustment since candidates would not be available for daytime courses.
  - Double Bobcat Pathway
    - Another option that we are working on is a double bobcat similar to UGA's double dog program. Undergraduates can take up to 12 hours of coursework that can be applied to a graduate program. The advantage is that these courses at charged undergraduate tuition and students can use Hope financial aid.
  - o GMC
    - Our transfer agreement with GMC is signed and we look forward to a great relationship with GMC.
- Makerspace
  - Assistive Technology Devices

The Makerspace continues to acquire new technologies. Currently, we are ordering assistive technology so that our candidates can become familiar with this type of equipment as they transition into classrooms as the teacher of record.

#### o Courses

• We currently have two courses that will relate to the Makerspace. One is a GC1Y course for undergraduates and the other is an IT special topics course for graduate students. The graduate course will be offered in the spring and, if approved, the undergraduate course will be offered next fall.

#### o Dean Resignation

One final update is that I will be stepping down as Dean at the end of the current academic year. I have agreed to stay on an additional year to help with a transition for the incoming Dean but plan to retire in May of 2024 to be able to spend more time with my grandchildren who live in Kentucky.

# Department of Professional Learning and Innovation .......Nancy Mizelle

- o GREAT Grant
  - O We are in the third year of the Georgia Residency for Educating Amazing Teachers (GREAT) Grant. This was initially supposed to have been the final cohort of the grant. However, permission has been granted to continue with a fourth cohort. The grant is to prepare middle grades Math and Science teachers in high needs areas, specifically in Middle Georgia.
- o Ed.D. in Curriculum and Instruction Program
  - Started its fourth cohort this summer. The second cohort completed its coursework this summer.
     27 candidates currently enrolled in all four cohorts combined, with each cohort being at different phases.
  - o Ed.D. handbook is updated and can be found on the webpage.
- Lounsbury Lecture Series
  - o The series will continue Thursday, February 9, 2023 in Peabody Auditorium with Dr. Carl Glickman, Professor Emeritus of Education from UGA, as the keynote speaker

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- Another of the EPSC's Charge: Clarify and define expectations for EPP candidate entry, preparation, exit, and induction
  - o Often those expectations are set for us by the Professional Standards Commission (PSC).
  - As far as candidate entry goes, PSC removed the GACE Program Admission Assessments (PAAs) effective July 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Until recently, we really have not done a formal Induction Program. Kim Muschaweck, Assistant Professor of Special Education, has been invited to speak about the induction program that she began.
  - Two issues that are being realized are the number of open positions for Special Education teachers and the retention of Special Education teachers.
  - First year Special Education teachers getting the support they need to keep them in the field via a mentoring program. May 2022 graduates first met in July to prepare them for the upcoming school year, and they have met twice since the school year has started, with one more meeting left before the end of the year.
  - The support for Special Education teachers is being funded by a grant. The support will continue through the Spring semester.
- o Partnerships and Field Placements Nicole DeClouette (for Claire Garrett)
  - o All Pre-education students are back in field placements for first time since pre-COVID.
    - We are very excited about this as we know how important those pre-education course field experiences are to introducing students to the profession and in helping students to sort through some of the differences between the different cohort programs (by content area and grade level) before its time for them to apply
    - We thank our school district partners for working through this with us

- o FGE Day
- Our last EPSC meeting was March 8 and on March 9, we had the first Future Georgia Educators Day at GC.
  - 190 high school students from 11 school districts attended
  - First time Baldwin County High School and Washington County High School students attended FGE Day!
  - Georgia College President, Cathy Cox provided a welcome
  - Keynote address was presented by the 2022 Georgia Teacher of the Year, Ms. Cherie Bonder Goldman.
  - Following the opening ceremony, high school students participated in a college fair (featuring 12 universities) and various workshops led by GC faculty and teacher candidates.
  - Annual state competitions in the categories: Prepared Speech, Impromptu Speaking, Job Application and Knowledge Bowl.
  - Claire Garrett, led the organizing for this event, so we are grateful for the time and energy she put into making this event successful
- One of the EPSC's Charges is to: Maintain coherence across clinical experiences and academic components of educator preparation and share accountability for candidate outcomes

### Call Me MiSTER Updates ......Melvin Middleton

 We are very happy to introduce our new Call Me MiSTER director, Dr. Melvin Middleton. Dr. Middleton received his Ed.D. from FL State university. He had a family emergency, so he was unable to meet with us today.

# Assessment and Accreditation Updates ......Mike Newton

- CAEP Accreditation
  - o In May 2022, we received approval and accreditation from CAEP.
- GA Professional Standards Commission New Standards
  - o Newly revised standards that we are engaging with professional learning to meet.
- o Summative InTASC Teaching Evaluation (SITE) Instrument
- o Preparation Program Effectiveness Measure (PPEM)
  - o It was a rating process given to all of the educator provider programs by the GaPSC. We have done a Level 4 for several years since the implementation. Ratings have now been done away with, but data will be provided.
  - Student Growth Percentage dilemma in relation to Milestone Scores
    - Response: Dr. Wicker states that since COVID, they've had to work really hard to bring those test scores up. However, the teachers are doing everything they can to help the students with this.
    - Response: Cully Hollinshead was taught in his MAT program to not rely so much on the end of course tests or Milestones to see the students growth but rely more on active artifacts that shows that students are learning. Student growth is talked about but not viewed from overall assessments but from day-to-day assessments.
- O Possibly a new Teacher Evaluation Instrument is on the horizon. If any districts are used in the pilot, please let us know how that goes

Discussion	•••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••	Nicole DeClouette
Spring Meeting	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	. Nicole DeClouetto

• We would like to hold a face-to-face meeting and dinner in the spring. I will be in touch early in the semester as we know how busy spring gets. As always, though, if you have any questions or suggestion or concerns before the spring meeting, please email me or Dean Peters.

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# EPSC Charge: Through the purposeful exchange of ideas, the John H. Lounsbury COE EPSC will:

- 1. Share responsibility for continuous improvement of Educator Preparation Program (EPP) candidate preparation and P-12 student achievement
- 2. Clarify and define expectations for EPP candidate entry, preparation, exit, and induction
- 3. Maintain coherence across clinical experiences and academic components of educator preparation and share accountability for candidate outcomes
- 4. Share assessment results of P-12 students and EPP candidates and evaluate effectiveness, generate improvements, and identify innovations based on data; and
- 5. Seek opportunities to expand candidates' knowledge, skills, and dispositions related to technology and diversity.