

President's Commission on Teacher Education

December 8, 2011

7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m.

Foundation Board Room

Meeting Notes

Present: Paul Beare, William Covino, Jody Daughtry, Diana Dille, Carol Fry Bohlin, Ken Magdaleno, James Marshall, Janell Morillo, Sherri Nakashima, Larry Powell, Rich SmithJohn Welty. *Guest:* Robin Chiero, KSOEHD Curriculum and Instruction

Minutes approved as distributed

Advancing Student Interest in Science and Mathematics – Carol Fry Bohlin

November 2011, a proposal was submitted to the Chancellor's Office for 2011-2012 MSTI funding with an anticipated funding amount of \$127,000. This amount will be supplemented with \$75,000 of Teacher Recruitment Program funds. A portion of the MSTI funds will go to supporting the Early Field Experience operated through SMEC and the afterschool STEM programs coordinated by the Office of Community-Based Learning. Both programs seek to excite undergraduates about the possibility of teaching math or science.

This semester, MSTI supported numerous teachers and pre-service teachers in demonstrating subject matter competency in math by offering three 45-hour workshops taught by our mathematicians on the concepts covered on the three CSET math exams. Since September, we have also offered workshops in all of the science areas to help interested students and teachers demonstrate subject matter competency in science. Most are well on their way to earning a Single Subject credential in math or science at either the Foundational or Full level.

Next semester, MSTI is sponsoring a middle school mathematics methods course and a middle school science methods course designed for students or teachers desiring a Foundational-Level Math (FLM) or FL Science single subject credential. CSET workshops in science and mathematics will also be offered.

Carol Fry Bohlin sponsored a session on subject matter preparation programs at a math education conference at Asilomar. This year, three CSU campuses received approval from CTC for subject matter preparation programs in FLM, the first in the state in eight years to be approved! There is some interest in our Math Department about developing such a program for Liberal Studies students, but more of an interest in developing a Mathematics Education Minor so students can earn a Subject Matter Authorization in Mathematics.

The San Joaquin Valley Mathematics Project held three weekend events, including a Technology and Mathematics Conference and a Cognitively Guided Instruction conference. MSTI sponsored pre-service teachers in attending both. Videos from the CGI conference area available on the SJVMP web site (<http://sjvmathproject.ning.com/>). The Math Project is holding its Annual Winter Leadership Retreat at Three Rivers on January 27-29, and teachers and administrators are encouraged to attend. The major theme of all Math Project events is the California Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (CaCCSS-M).

Initial conversations with Chris Roe, CEO of the year-old California STEM Learning Network (CSLNet), and with area mathematics educators have been held about establishing STEM centers in the Central Valley.

Carol Fry Bohlin has been appointed Special Assistant to the Provost for STEM initiatives.

Common Core Standards – Larry Powell

Adopted in August 2010, research was conducted to align the current standards with the CCS. Our standards were clearly superior based on one researcher's assessment. Non-fiction technical vs. literature assessment determined elementary 50/50, grades 6-8 is 60/40, and high school 70/30. The California Department of Education website has detailed information (<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ci/cc/>). An example of the assessment for a high school student was presented to PCTE. In order to take the test, the student is required to have fast internet speed. Implementation dates are projected for 2017/2018.

The point was made that there is an equity issue associated with the need for computers to take the test. Teachers will have to integrate computers into their lesson plans to prepare students for this type of test. States are allowed to determine proficiency levels. An average elementary school will need 24 days to be able to complete the test. Infrastructure implementation for testing requirements is a \$2.5 billion price tag for California.

Environments such as CART are more likely to be successful with Common Core whereas learning environments without the "hands on" models may not be as well-prepared. Start-up costs are astronomical to create an environment similar to CART. Districts are still held accountable to the current standards while being expected to begin preparations for Common Core. Many curriculum directors are trying to figure out how to balance the current standards and test preparation workloads. FCOE is working to increase bandwidth to schools for internet accessibility. Testing implementation is scheduled for 2014/2017. From theory to practice is a big step. Grade levels to be tested have not been determined.

Comments included: this test may hamper people from even considering going into teaching; the challenge is you now have a generation who knows more than the previous generation; and EL is not at all addressed.

Currently Fresno State is not doing anything to prepare for Common Core. It has, although, recently been made a requirement for credential students to teach a technology course.

Additional comments included: hopefully the baby-boomer teachers will be retired by then and digital-minded younger teachers will be able to assist with Common Core; there will be a large shift over this next four years, and other colleges/departments on campus do not feel they need to be responsible for preparing "future teachers". KEEP TOPIC ON AGENDA.

Revised Single Subject Program - Robin Chiero

The school of education and content-specific pedagogy started meeting last May to develop a vision of what a well prepared secondary teacher would look like. The CTC is in the process of looking at standards and realizing they do not keep up with current times. We are focused on

preparing candidates for the co-teaching model, EL, special needs, and reading/writing. Keep the current program at a 2 semester program and they will be recommending a more rigorous field experience as well as soliciting input from districts to discuss possible partnerships. They would like cohorts similar to the multi-subject cohort. Interesting that Common Core has not come up yet in conversations. HR will help identify hiring assessments for competency. Encouraging more creative thinking among faculty/candidates. Course syllabi will be developed in spring so that in the fall it will go for approval and implementation can be determined.

Dr. Welty advised that we should not be adding courses/units at this time. Dr. Nef should also be consulted regarding any requirement changes in programs.

Educational Leadership Institute – Larry Powell

The California state team for the 2011 Education Leaders Institute, Arts Create California, arrived in Chicago on Tuesday, May 10, 2011 to participate in the sixth Education Leaders Institute sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

Established by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), ELI builds on best practices from NEA Mayors' Institutes on City Design. ELI encourages states to develop innovative partnerships including school leaders, legislators, policy makers, educators, consultants, and scholars that will work together to envision a healthy education environment founded on powerful arts education programs.

The mission is to ensure each student reaches his or her full potential by broadening California's educational vision, policy, and practices to promote innovation, economic development, and creativity. Arts Create California is trying to raise \$175 million for schools to integrate arts into curriculum. Through Tom Torlakson's office, a "blue print" is being created. Governor Brown is supportive. There is no state money right now and this will need to be privately funded.

For more information on Arts Create California, visit: (www.facebook.com/artscreatecalifornia)

State/CSU Budget – Larry Powell

Plan for \$200/per student in cuts. For every \$100 we are supposed to receive, we only get \$80. For every \$80 we get, we only receive \$44 and the rest is deferred for the next school year. Districts have to borrow money and an AAA rated district could not get a loan. Many districts will not have enough money to make payroll.

Dr. Welty announced that the \$100 million trigger is going to happen (December 15, 2011). This will be a base-budget reduction not a one-time reduction. We will be facing additional challenges because of this. To get through the remaining months of this fiscal year, campuses will need to take short-term measures such as drawing on one-time reserves, delaying equipment purchases and facility maintenance work. However, starting with the next fiscal year, extremely difficult longer-term tradeoffs will have to be considered, including the possibility of additional cuts to academic programs or further increases in tuition.

Meeting adjourned 8:51 a.m.