

**Central Teacher Education Network (CTEN)**  
**Program Meeting Notes**  
**September 22, 2022, 3:15 – 4:30 pm via WebEx**

**In Attendance:** H. Abadiano, B. Budaj, C. Ciotto, D. DeCarlo, J. DeLaura, A. Greenwell, L. Frazee, R. Fuentes, T. Goh, J. Hernandez, R. Kalder, E. Koulidobrova, A. Loiselle, M. Mackey, C. Mulcahy, J. Mulrooney, J. Nicoll-Senft, F. Rocio., F. Russell, P. Talty, J. Thomas, J. Turner, J. Visone.

**CTEN meeting minutes** - approval of May 5, 2022 minutes. Motion moved (J. Turner and J. Visone). Minutes accepted  
**Announcements (CTEN Director, C. Mulcahy)**

- CESEL call for research proposals due November 1, 2022, by 5 pm.
- Illing Middle School in Manchester is looking for Mentors/Tutors.  
<https://acrobat.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn:aaid:scds:US:4454f06d-464e-3061-b520-e81470392949>

**Dean's Office**

- Welcomed all of us to the Fall semester.
- We are still in unprecedented times. The pandemic has changed many things. Things are not the same as they always were. So people need to forget how things always were. We have had several incidents where faculty reached out to the state, to the Office of Higher Ed, questioning some of the actions the Dean's office has done. I want to remind you that my office always checks first before taking actions. This can make SEPS look bad. If you have a question, direct to the Dean's office first. For example, regarding DSAPs, Paula is our certification officer. She is constantly in communication with the CSDE. Because of the shortage they have made some exceptions and allowed, for the first time, undergraduate to DSAP. This was not CCSU overstepping the state. There is a crisis with the teacher shortage and the state is trying to be as flexible and cooperative as possible to help districts out. And so we are doing our part to protect the education aspect but we are also trying to cooperate to help the state. For the sake of SEPS' reputation don't send emails out before checking first with the Dean's office.
- Barb is new to this job and is doing a stellar job. She got thrown into this position. I want to acknowledge the amount of work she has done to get up to speed. She has done a phenomenal job with our partners. And along that line, she is the contact with our partners. Faculty have been getting pushy with the districts who have communicated with Barb and who have their procedures that they follow. Therefore, there is a delay that we are not used to experiencing. That is not on us. Follow the correct chains. If concerns, I'm happy to hear them.

**General Updates**

- EdTPA updates
  - C. Ciotto send out updated edTPA resources for the 2022-2023 school year. Be sure to them with your department faculty. Please be sure to read through all the changes for this year. They will be noted in the edTPA Errata document. If you have any questions, reach out to Carol.
- TRIO Grants and application info for our students:
  - <https://www.ccsu.edu/trio/SSS.html>
  - In May Jessica Hernandez spoke to us about the Trio programs available to students who are first generation college students and who come from disadvantaged and/or who may also identify with a learning disability.
  - CCSU has two college level continuation pipeline programs which are, Student Support Services and **Student Support Services - Teacher Preparation**. Please be sure to share the Trio link with your undergraduate students.
- CAEP accreditation (C. Ciotto)
  - We have yet to receive a formal final decision from CAEP regarding our Spring evaluation. In response to the feedback that we have received the Dean's office has developed a series of phase-in plans. Because we have not yet gotten final word, it is unclear if or when the plans will be rolled out. This puts us and our programs

at a disadvantage especially in terms of the work CTEN does to assist and support the Dean's office with CAEP based initiatives.

- P. Talty added that the expectation from CAEP is that we will implement the phase in plans. The areas in need of improvement are specifically in partnership to get our partners more involved. A second area is aligning our course assessments. These are not all of them but these are the main ones.
- In response to the question if the delay in response a cause for concern? This does not seem to be the case.
- Field Placements for this semester (B. Budaj)
  - B. Budaj shared information regarding how many students have been placed in student teaching for Fall 2022 and for field placements.
  - There was an orientation was held for student teachers, cooperating teachers and university supervisors.
  - A question about Art placements was asked. B. Budaj will follow up with this.
  - All districts have their own onboarding procedure which includes background check, finger printing, and a drug test.
- NextGen (P. Talty)
  - Currently there are 26 applicants who are in the process of being placed across our 15 partner districts. It is a rolling application process. Our districts range from New Britain and Bristol all the way to Norwalk. More applications continue to come in.

### **Subcommittee Updates**

#### **Chairs for the upcoming academic year are:**

- Appeals and student support: **Jessica Edwards**
- Assessment: **Tan Leng Goh**
- Partnership: **Jeremy Visone**
- Policy and advocacy: **Amanda Greenwell**

### **New Business**

- Because there are several new members in CTEN now is a good opportunity to remind us of the Mission of CTEN as well to look at our goals for the 2022-2023 Academic Year.
  - The CTEN mission statement reads: The Central Teacher Education Network (CTEN) is a community of educators preparing teacher candidates to meet the diverse needs of 21st century students. CTEN prepares teacher candidates who demonstrate excellence in content and pedagogical knowledge, develops and fosters mutually beneficial preK-12 partnerships and high-quality clinical practices, and ensures continuous improvement of the educator preparation program. Essential to the success of this mission is a unified and coherent tripartite relationship whose on-going collaboration is facilitated through CTEN.
  - The tripartite relationship includes SEPS faculty, disciplinary faculty, and our preK-12 partners (teachers, principals, and district wide leaders). We are to be working with all three of these parties consistently to get feedback, engage in discussions and to inform the work we do with our teacher candidates through course work and field placements. As a result of our mission. Much of our work is informed by the standards we need to meet for CAEP accreditation. And while it is not the sole purpose of CTEN, it is one of the primary focuses.
- **Although some of the goals identified for 2022-23 may change once we hear back from CAEP, what we have decided upon for now is the following:**

#### **Appeals and student Support**

- Examine ways to utilize TRIO grants and develop School wide programs to support academic success and community spirit.
- Develop academic supports students.

#### **Assessment**

- Support Phase in Plan as outlined in CAEP report. Possible ways in which they may be actualized
  - align Unit-wide assessment processes and practices to CAEP Standards and edTPA.

## **Partnership**

- Expand, define and fully activate K-12 and University partnerships.
- Review partnership representatives on Advisory Board to include NextGen partners.
- Continue work on developing scaffolded Field-Experience expectations and establish across programs:
  - Monitor expectations for our students during each semester of field experience (What common understandings do students have from the previous semester and what are they being asked to do for that semester)

## **Policy and advocacy**

- Clarify policies on admittance to Educator Preparation Programs, acceptance to student teaching and grade appeals (E.g., CT Code of Professional Responsibility)
- Future Teacher Fellowship Collaborative Bill

Meeting adjourned 3:50pm.