

Central Teacher Education Network (CTEN) Meeting Minutes

February 27, 2025, 3:00 – 4:15 pm HB 316 and via Zoom

In Attendance: H. Abadiano, B. Budaj, C. Christian, C. Ciotto, B. Clark, A. Correia, D. DeCarlo, B. Flinn, A. Fournier, A. Greenwell, T. Goh, M. Gunter, S. O'Connor, C. Ross (guest), P. Talty, J. Thomas, J. Turner, L. Zidani-Eroglu

CTEN Meeting Minutes - Approval of December 5 minutes. Motion moved (J. Turner & S. O'Connor). Minutes accepted.

Announcements:

- (Re)introduction of Interim CTEN Director – J. Visone
- Recognitions:
 - B. Budaj – Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Math Teaching
 - J. Werblow – Fulbright Scholar Award in Spain
 - J. Turner – recently interviewed by CNN regarding HPS student who did not receive literacy services
- Upcoming Meetings: Spring 2025
 - Thursday, March 13, 2025 – CAEP Workshop in lieu of CTEN meeting (3:00pm – 5:00pm) in Barnard Community Room
 - Thursday, May 1, 2025
- Additional CAEP Workshop Dates:
 - Wednesday, April 23: CAEP Data Dinner in Barnard Community Room (4pm – 7pm)
- EPP Annual Faculty Meeting:
 - If announced, new SOE Dean may be able to attend
 - Meeting may take place following commencement to allow for any scheduling challenges

Dean's Office:

- Dean Search Update (P. Talty)
 - Final hiring form was completed. An offer is set to go out in the coming weeks.
 - Three (3) candidates were invited for on-campus interviews. One (1) candidate withdrew application prior to final interview.
 - The decision is with the President and Provost.
 - New Dean would begin July 1, 2025
- Strategic Planning Update (P. Talty)
 - Still in the planning process. Invitation will be sent soon.
 - Brief survey will be sent out to SOE faculty & EPP Program Coordinators for input to the committee
- Residency Program Update (P. Talty)
 - In process of building next cohort for Special Education. M. Mackey & A. Fournier have met one-on-one with prospective students for planning.
 - Buck Foundation funding for one (1) more year.
 - Districts are fronting money for Special Education candidates over a 14-month master's program.
- edTPA Replacement Update (P. Talty)
 - Vouchers are available to cover Spring 2025 student teachers.
 - No additional funding from the CSDE or Governor's Office for vouchers.
 - edTPA is no longer a requirement for teacher certification
 - Adopt CCAST for student teaching
 - Ex. SCSU and University of Saint Joseph are currently using CCAST (4 total in the state).
 - No cost to student or CCSU
 - Aligns with CAEP accreditation needs
 - Decision needs to be made ASAP (today or by May meeting)
 - In Fall 2025, disciplines that offer student teaching in the Fall semester only, will need to be included in potential pilot to be reported for CAEP data.
 - This discussion was brought up at several fall CTEN meetings (since CSDE announced edTPA was not part of certification). MOU was not signed at that time, but it was signed over winter break.
 - Training:

- CCAST training will be need for University Supervisors (currently 45) and to include Program Coordinators.
 - Ohio State offers training to align with standards.
 - Is training available now?
 - MOU is signed, but we have not joined officially. Training would need to be scheduled.
- Compensation:
 - Is there a budget to support training? Possibility. Dean's Office will check.
- Replacing edTPA & Student Teaching Assessment
 - Yes – replace both
- CCAST Questions
 - Will this be a graduation requirement?
 - Is there a cut score?
- Set aside time at the March 13 meeting to discuss CCAST. Use the 1st hour of the CAEP workshop.
 - Thursday, March 13: 3pm – 5pm
- Field Experience Update (B. Budaj)
 - Placement have become an increasing challenge at Central and across other universities.
 - Barb will be retiring effective Monday, March 17, 2025
 - Placement of 243 students (not including student teaching)
 - At least one (1) request has been made for each student
 - 203 students have been placed or are in the final stages on onboarding/interviewing
 - 40 student placements are waiting for responses from student and district.
 - Some are on the 3rd district request
 - We are continuing to encourage student to check the CCSU email daily and follow all instructions (especially highlighted in yellow for action).
- Secondary Bridge Document Update (B. Budaj)
 - First meeting of four (4) sessions took place on Monday 2/24
 - Berlin, CREC, Cromwell, Manchester, Meriden, Newington, and West Hartford.
 - Next meeting: Tuesday, March 11 (virtual)
- CAEP Update (C. Ciotto)
 - In full swing of preparation phase.
 - Standard 1 workshop was held in the Fall.
 - Standard 2 workshop was held on Wednesday, 2/26
 - Standard 3 & 4 workshops will be held in next 2 sessions. Potential Standard 5 if time allows.
 - Working with the CTEN Assessment Subcommittee to spearhead work for each of the standards. And work with other subcommittees where applicable to not duplicate efforts and starting to collect evidence that is needed in preparation for the next self-study report.
- Spring Professional Program Application Cycle Update (D. DeCarlo)
 - Application closed on February 10
 - 80 applications in total
 - Compared to past years: Spring 2024 cycle - 86 applications and Spring 2023 cycle - 79 applications.
 - Average GPA 3.26
 - Departments are in interview and review stages (decisions are due March 14 to Dean's Office)
 - A. Fournier was a big help with this application cycle in the GPA check, application tracking and other details.
- Spring Student Programing Update (D. DeCarlo)
 - Advising for the Sophomore Year (for 2nd semester freshmen in secondary education or K-12)
 - Tuesday March 25 & Thursday, March 27
 - Praxis II Planning (what is Praxis II, how to register, & when to take. Not tutoring)
 - Wednesday, April 9 & Thursday, April 10
 - Professional Program Application workshops
 - Tuesday, April 22, Wednesday, April 23, & Thursday, April 24

Guest Speaker:

- Ethel Walker School Summer Horizons Program (J. Thomas & Carol Ross)
 - Summer Program at Ethel Walker is looking for teaching assistants across all disciplines.
 - Reschedule Carol to May 1st meeting, since she had to leave this meeting for another meeting.

Subcommittee Reports:

- Research Reassigned Time (RRT)
 - No Report. Work was completed in the Fall.
- Partnership (L. Scharfenberger & M. Gunter)
 - Meeting next week.
 - Work discussed by B. Budaj earlier in the meeting updates
- Assessment Subcommittee (C. Ciotto)
 - See CAEP Update in Dean's Office
- Strategic Planning, Policy & Procedures
 - No Report.

CTEN Areas of Focus for 2024-2025:

- Reorganize CTEN subcommittee structure to align with SED reorganization
- Engage in CAEP Accreditation Work
- Provide input about possible alternatives to the edTPA assessment
- Provide input about the SED strategic plan
- Ensure programs are current with legislative changes to teacher certification
- Engage with District Partners to create Secondary Collaboration Bridge document
- Position CCSU as leader in Connecticut for teacher preparation

Meeting adjourned at 4:18 pm.