

**USU PROFESSIONAL SCHOOL COUNSELOR EDUCATION PROGRAM
FACULTY MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, April 25, 2018, 5:15 -6:30 PM

EDUC 391, USU SLC Center 143

**Camille Odell, Amy Kleiner, Chris Chapman, Vonda Jump, Marilyn Hammond, Megan Stone,
Kathy Bitner, Tom Wiltbank, Sandra Ameel, Beverly Pickup**

1. Report on USBE Licensure Meeting

Licensing – Utah will accept online students for licensure.

The updated 2016 CACREP Standards were approved.

University of Utah recently went through accreditation – AJ Metz had a lot of pressure to be accredited with the Masters of Psychology program. Standards are close to CACREP so those standards were approved at the state level as well.

Mark LeCelle-Peterson is coming next week, Wednesday, May 2. Our inquiry brief needs to be written by the end of the summer and the site visit will be next spring. The School Counseling Program is accredited with CAEP until 2019.

2. Enrollment Cap Question

Update on applications. We have 68 applications. The deadline is next Tuesday, May 1. Out of the 68 applications 31 are complete. Currently, there is a teacher shortage in Utah. The University of Phoenix program is no longer available in Utah. Their program was graduating the same amount of students as our program. The University of Utah currently have 12 students in their program with no plans to add more. Argosy currently have 2 students in their program. The Argosy program is expensive. All of these factors could lead to a counselor shortage in Utah and cause school districts to hire those who have a degree from another program.

Should we increase the number of students we accept to the program? How many are you willing to teach in Kaysville?

Comments/Discussion:

Amy – There is a big in Utah for Elementary counselors. But I feel like accepting more students to a cohort could reduce the quality of teaching we provide. Do we have to respond immediately? Fifty is a lot of students in the Kaysville cohort.

Kathy – I do not see a huge difference once you pass 45 students. Take qualified applicants to 38 – 40 in Kaysville. We could create a hybrid program – some courses online and some in person.

Tom – Currently Kaysville has 36 students and it is crowded with 36 students in the classroom they are in now. There is a class right next door. That's the biggest space with the divider open. Fire code allows 51.

Camille – What do you think if we accept 48 knowing we will drop down to 42? Every year we have students who do not accept our offer, defer to the next year, or do not meet the requirement of their conditional acceptance.

Amy – Do we have to react now? Can we wait a year and see how the numbers go?

Camille – This is a critical time because legislation passed the bill to fund elementary school counselors. We will not accept more students unless the faculty are comfortable.

Tom – As a teacher I am uncomfortable with more students. I like to connect with students. We could set up a site in Kaysville and another site in Salt Lake or Logan where it's needed to meet the need of more students.

Camille – Why do you feel okay teaching 58 students in the statewide cohort but uncomfortable adding more students in Kaysville?

Amy – The distance cohort is difficult – especially for the experiential courses.

Vonda – Are there any other advantages to increasing the program enrollment besides the shortage?

Camille – No

Kathy – I am using my TA more as a co-teacher for the new course. This could be an idea for others to feel more comfortable with a larger group of students. Kathy – Tom shared a comment. One of the concerns we have as acting counselors is we will be working with people who go elsewhere to find an education. I have worked with people from all different programs. There is a clear difference between counselors. I worry that someone who is stellar doesn't get in so they go to a different school and don't get the same quality of education

Camille – Maybe Holly Todd, Lillian Jensen, Kim Herrera need to address this on a state-wide level. At the licensure meeting, this potential counselor shortage did not come up. It came up in conversations later.

Kathy – We might not see an increase in applicants because of our admittance standards.

Camille – We won't accept anyone who does not meet our admittance requirements.

Amy – I have been on a selection committee. If we have a stellar group – we will increase the numbers. But if we don't have stellar applications – let's not move up the numbers.

Camille – Do you feel the need to take a vote? Or we can let you know when we have all the information in next week?

Vonda – Let's wait to see how the candidates look before we decide if we need to increase the amount of students we accept.

Camille – We will let you know about the number and quality of applications that we have. I am feeling compelled to talk about this at a state level. We can see how it plays out for a year and explore our options.

3. Graduate Survey Results

The results of the graduate survey were attached in the email sent out to you today. We had great results from the survey. The survey is on a scale from 1 – 5 and our lowest was a 4.2.

4. Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 15, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM, USU's annual *Empowering Teaching Excellence (ETE)* Conference. USU Taggart Student Center

Please register for the course

We will meet as a faculty and attend USU's annual ETE conference. This year the title is "*The Art and Science of Teaching*." We will meet during lunch, and possibly afterwards for about 30 minutes to get the new academic year underway, including an update on our fall 2018 Kaysville cohort. This workshop will be our fall faculty retreat, and we will NOT have a September faculty meeting.

If you live outside of Cache Valley, your mileage is covered. Here is a link to the conference, including a registration link. PLEASE REGISTER RIGHT AWAY!

<https://empowerteaching.usu.edu/conference>