

Exploring Connections in Teacher Education

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USC

Notes from Roundtable Session – Advising and Counseling

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Session I - Current Challenges

- State teacher preparation requirements that are constantly changing
- Ensuring consistency in both the quality and accuracy of information shared with prospective teachers by counselors/advisors
- Confusion/clarification in roles – Counselor vs. Advisor – “who” dispenses “what type” of information?
- Ensuring that students get Early Fieldwork opportunities
- Securing ‘buy-in” from discipline faculty to support the development and delivery of ‘teacher ed’ courses.
- Early identification of prospective teachers on the CC campus; database tracking
- Difficulty in providing communication with students (need to explore alternative areas such as text messaging, Facebook, MySpace, etc)
- Basic Skills and remediation needs of students
 - Difficulty with creating an efficient pathway through community college when student needs much remedial work in English, Math, and Reading.
- Difficulty with passing CBEST
- Helping counselors and students navigate the multiple sets of requirements (community college, university, state, federal, etc.)
- Lack of time to advise students
- Lack of available information on Single-Subject Matter Preparation Programs (needs to be printed in Univ. catalogs)

Session I – Promising Strategies

- Work with Community College Articulation Officer and Universities to get as much information as possible on ASSIST.org
- Provide Dual Enrollment Opportunities for community college students to take classes concurrently on University campuses.
- Mandatory advising
- Teach University courses on community college campuses and allow students to enroll using cross-enrollment
- Develop a comprehensive website that can be accessed by both counselors and students that contains the most updated advisement information
- Develop Education course at the community college that allow students to explore both elementary education and secondary education areas without penalty. (Some Universities only articulate courses that are specific to multiple subject OR single subject field work experiences. Additionally, CSU limits the amount of Education coursework that can transfer at six units)

Session I – Immediate Next Steps

- Update and maintain websites to ensure information is accurate and current. This pertains to both University and Community College teacher education programs.
- Establish mechanism for immediate electronic updates (text or email)
- More group advising sessions by CSU teacher ed staff to prospective students provided on community college campuses.

Session II – Current Challenges

- Lack of a pathway in Orange County for Career Technical Education
- No shows – students not coming in for advising
- Lack of clear and regular communication between community colleges, institutes of higher education (IHE's), and the CTC.
- The current teacher preparation process is very complex!
- Lack of common pathway (i.e., Lower-Division Transfer Pattern) makes advising difficult.
- Need to adapt advising strategies to fit the 'new learners'
- Students need support through the remediation and college development process
- Lack of information on single subject matter preparation programs
- Difficulty in keeping all counselors current
- Turf wars between Universities and Community Colleges in the advising process
- Experiencing community college counselor bias toward one university over another. (e.g., discouraging students in the university selection process)

Session II – Promising Strategies

- Cross-training among high school, community college, university counselors/advisors.
- Providing students with counseling appointment reminders
- Offering students orientations/information sessions to the various aspects of the transfer process – teacher pathway, transfer admission, financial aid, scholarships, etc.
- Setting high program expectations
- Providing on-line counseling

Session II – Immediate Next Steps

- Joining ACCCTEP (get info from accctep.org)
- Provide joint (community college, CSU, UC, CTC) professional development training for counselors in teacher education
- Utilize counselors in learning communities where they can interact with students in the classroom.