

The mission of the Education Department is to develop reflective decision-makers who are passionate, ethical school leaders, well prepared in the scholarship, methodology, and professionalism of teaching to successfully cultivate the diverse gifts of each student.



Teacher Education Council February 21, 2012

Field Study and Student Teaching

Karen VanMeter reported how our teacher candidates are performing in the field, using information from our revised Field Evaluation Forms. We have learned where many ELL students are. There are very few ELL students in Mishawaka or PHM, but there are many in South Bend. We feel reasonably confident that our students in the South Bend schools get the desired exposure.

Analysis of PRAXIS II

- Kitty Green presented the Praxis II scores for the past 3 years. Our numbers at the secondary level are very, very small—so small, in fact, that ETS will not provide an Institutional Report to us on anything but our Elementary Education major and the English Education program, which is the only one that consistently has 5 (the minimum) for an Institutional Report. Kitty sought and received permission to access the ETS Praxis II database, so she has provided the State and National median scores. She encouraged the faculty representatives present to see how our students compared to the State and National median scores. We concluded that few conclusions could be drawn. Dr. Svelmoe from the History department noted that our students actually do fairly well on the Geography section, considering that we have no Geography course either at SMC or ND.

Common Core Standards

- Kitty passed out the Common Core Standards and led a discussion about what these are and what, if any, implications the adoption of these by Indiana might have on us.

Next meeting: probably in September when we will look at the new standards from NCTE, NSTA, NCTM, and NASST and decide how to get our programs nationally recognized.