

# **MASTER OF EDUCATION IN EDUCATIONAL STUDIES (MES)**

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Annual Report  
July 1, 2015– June 30, 2016

Prepared by E Simmt

### Terms of Reference

1.1 Advise the Dean of Education and the Master's of Education in Educational Studies Director in all matters related to the Master's of Education in Educational Studies program.

1.2 Review new Courses or Programs prior to submission to the Graduate Academic Affairs Council.

1.3 Review Calendar changes prior to submission to the Graduate Academic Affairs Council.

### Composition

2.1 Statutory Members

2.1.1 Director, Master's of Education in Educational Studies, who shall be Chair

2.1.2 Associate Dean (Graduate Studies) Faculty of Education

2.1.3 Department Chairs from Educational Policy Studies, Educational Psychology, Elementary Education and Secondary Education, School of Library and Information Studies (revised May 16, 2016)

2.1.4 The Dean of Education

### Procedures

3.1 An annual report will be presented to the Dean of Education in July of each year.

3.2 The terms of reference shall be reviewed on an annual basis with revisions presented to the Dean of Education.

3.3 Quorum will be those in attendance

3.4 The Advisory Board will meet a minimum of two times per year, more if required.

Approved  
MES Advisory Board November 22, 2011  
Faculty Council December 6, 2011  
(Board reports directly to the Dean for future revisions)  
Dean September 23, 2015  
Dean May 17, 2016

### Faculty and Staff

The MES is administered by a small staff including:

- 0.5 FTE academic director (seconded from the Faculty)
- Academic advisors (IB and EdA&L) on an ad hoc basis
- FTE graduate secretary (continuing staff)
- FTE program administrator (continuing staff)

Courses are taught by experienced instructors and professors with PhDs. In 2015-2016 we contracted 17 different people: 5 on faculty, 4 retired from the professoriate, 3 from other faculties and 5 experienced sessional instructors.

### Major Accomplishments

42 students graduated from the MES at 2015 fall convocation.

63 applications were received for 2015 cohorts. Admission was offered to 52 candidates.

4 students have applied for eligibility for IB advanced certificate.

The introduction of 2 new regional cohorts was a major accomplishment: Grande Prairie (11 students); Bonnyville (18 students)

UA Cohort: 23 (3 International Baccalaureate)

### Graduate Program

Year 1 and year 2 face-to-face residencies: each 3 weeks in length (6 credits)

4 on-line compulsory courses taught over fall and winter

4 electives taught on-line in spring session and 1 in fall 2014 and winter 2015

In total 28 classes taught by 17 different instructors.

Department courses that are open to all students and are taught on-line or in spring and summer session are recommended to our students as potential electives.

### Building our Community Interface

Second year MES students conducted research assignments in Alberta schools and post secondary institutions exploring issues of teaching, learning, leadership and school improvement.

Building Relationships with Red Deer College and Grande Prairie College to host ongoing cohorts.

RECRUITMENT (Face to Face)

Hosted information booths at five teachers' conventions:

- Central Alberta
- Greater Edmonton
- North Central

- Calgary
- Central East Alberta –Mighty Peace
- Ontario Teachers' Association

and 3 IB sessions at IB coordinator workshops in Edmonton area.

Participated in the Faculty of Education Graduate Open House and the FGSR Grad Expo

RECRUITMENT (advertising)

- ATA Newsletter
- Email to all school jurisdictions in Alberta
- Email to post secondary colleges and institutes in Alberta
- Used pre-recorded videos to advertise program through email

### Internationalization

- Second year Tanzanian cohort
- International Baccalaureate cohort
- Preliminary discussions about a cohort in Belize

### Graduate Student Awards

- 12 students fully funded by the Building Capacity for Mathematics Teaching in Rural and Remote Communities in Tanzania project

## Learning Environment

### Course Renewal and Development

- EDU 503 was refreshed with updated readings (some readings specific to specific cohorts, for example rural education) and assignment instructions were modified for clarity. EClass was reorganized to reflect modifications to content. Minor adjustments to EDU 510 with more to come in next year.

### Facilities and Equipment

- Summer face to face sessions are held on campus, at two regional colleges and one school district office.
- Students participate in the on-line elements of the program from their homes and schools.

### Technology Integration

- eClass is a critical tool used in the MES program.
- Adobe Connect is used for synchronous sessions.
- One synchronous and/or face to face sessions is incorporated into most of the on-line asynchronous courses
- As many as possible readings for the courses are made available to students via eClass. E-books are used whenever possible.
- Technical support and professional development is provided by the program administrator to course instructors.

## Graduate Student Training

TAs are hired for both the face to face and on-line courses in the MES program. This is a source of training and support for doctoral students in departments. TAs have been recruited from Educational Psychology, Elementary Education, and Secondary Education.

## Innovation and Priorities for 2016-2017

Refresh EDU 510 in collaboration with current course instructors.

Explore potential Ft McMurray cohort for 2017 and the feasibility of ongoing cohorts in Red Deer and Grande Prairie with the intention of establishing those cohorts with the collaboration of the regional colleges.

Develop a protocol for working with departments: to include academic support, course offerings, faculty member participation, funding.

Explore special topic cohorts with departments.

## Membership and Meetings

Chair – Elaine Simmt, Director, Master's of Education in Educational Studies

Dean of Education – Randolph Wimmer

Associate Dean, Graduate Studies – Jill McClay

Chair, Educational Policy Studies – Diane Oberg

Chair, Educational Psychology – Jacqueline Leighton

Chair, Elementary Education – Maryanne Doherty

Chair, Secondary Education – Florence Glanfield

Chair, School of Library and Information Studies – Toni Samek

September 23, 2015