MASTER OF EDUCATION IN
EDUCATIONAL STUDIES (MES)

Annual Report
July 1, 2016– June 30, 2017

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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 Sciences

2.1.4 The Dean of Education and the Vice 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.

Faculty and Staff

- 0.5 FTE academic director (seconded from the Faculty)
- Academic advisors (IB and EAL) on an ad hoc basis
- 1.0 FTE graduate secretary (continuing staff)
- 1.0 FTE program coordinator (continuing staff)

In this reporting period:

- 17 adjunct and professors emeritus(a) were contracted to teach 13 courses (26 sections).
- A new FTE Program Coordinator was hired.
- An interim Graduate Secretary was hired for a one-year period (to backfill a Medical Leave) with an option to extend to a second year.

Major Accomplishments

MES Convocants

Fall 2016 61 convocants
Fall 2016 12 convocants (Tanzania)
Spring 2017 18 convocants
Applications
46 applications for admission were processed; admission was offered to 38 candidates; 37 candidates accepted.
- 30 registered for Year 1 Summer Residency
- 7 students deferred registration to Summer 2018

Graduate Program
- 4 3-credit, core courses completed in two 3-week summer residencies
- 4 3-credit core courses taken online in sequence with cohort
- 2 3-credit, graduate-level electives (We recommend University of Alberta, Open Studies courses as potential electives)

Building our Community Interface

RESEARCH
- 79 Year 2 students conducted research assignments in Alberta schools and post secondary institutions in the areas of teaching, learning, leadership, and school improvement. Students are encouraged to share their research projects with their schools/districts.

RECRUITMENT (face-to-face)
- Hosted booths at 6 teacher conventions in Central/Northern Alberta and at the annual Canadian Principals’ Association Conference in Saskatoon, SK.
- Presented at the Alberta Association of IB Educators Annual General meeting in Red Deer, AB.

RECRUITMENT (print)
- ATA Magazine advertisement
- Redesigned pamphlets

RECRUITMENT (digital)
- Redesigned website to optimize the user experience, minimize time-sensitive content, and highlight partnerships.
- Emailed all school jurisdictions in Alberta

PARTNERSHIPS
- International Baccalaureate Organization
- Red Deer College (new 5 year agreement signed by all parties)
- Grande Prairie Regional College (new 5 year agreement signed by all parties)

Internationalization
- 12 students in the Tanzania Project convocated.
- The IB stream continues to attract 3-5 students per year.
- MES continues to attract international students and Canadians working abroad, most recently from Japan, Egypt, Taiwan, China, and Turkey.
- All core courses and electives were reviewed to ensure readings reflected global perspectives.

Graduate Student Awards
- 12 fully-funded students (Building Capacity for Mathematics Teaching in Rural and Remote Communities) in Tanzania project
Learning Environment

COURSE RENEWAL AND DEVELOPMENT
- All core courses and electives were refreshed to ensure alignment with evidence-based practices and copyright compliance.
- An MES eClass template was collaboratively developed to enhance the learner experience.

FACILITIES AND EQUIPMENT
- Summer Residencies were held on the Edmonton UofA campus, two regional colleges (RDC and GPRC) and one school district office (Northern Lights).

Technology Integration
- eClass is an essential tool; instructors are encouraged to make use of its multiple features to optimize the learner experience.
- All readings for the courses are available to students in eClass.
- Instructors are encouraged to integrate video and interactive technologies into their instruction.
- eBooks are available for seven of eight core courses and three of four electives.
- The Program Coordinator provides technical support and professional development to instructors.

Graduate Student Training
- MES has hired University of Alberta graduate students as TAs for both face-to-face and online courses.

Innovation and Priorities for 2017-2018
- Investigate the possibility of an Augustana Campus cohort for East Central Alberta.
- Expand recruitment catchment area to Southern Alberta and Saskatchewan.
- Expand IB stream recruitment efforts to South American regions.
- Optimize use of technology for recruitment (i.e., virtual information sessions).
- Optimize return-on-investment of recruitment efforts (i.e., presentations at teacher conventions).
- Incorporate a mathematics cohort into the MES topic stream.
- Explore using the MES infrastructure to facilitate new revenue-generating programming.

Membership
Chair – Elaine Simmt, Director, Master’s of Education in Educational Studies; Bill Dunn, Acting Director (Jan 1 - Jun 30, 2017)
Dean of Education – Randolph Wimmer
Vice Dean of Education - Lynn McGarvey
Associate Dean, Graduate Studies – Jill McClay
Chair, Educational Policy Studies – Larry Prochner
Chair, Educational Psychology – George Buck
Chair, Elementary Education – Maryanne Doherty
Chair, Secondary Education – Florence Glanfield
Chair, School of Library & Information Studies - Toni Samek