LEGISLATIVE REPORT

SUBJECT: Annual Report on the Teacher Education Coordinating Committee (TECC) submitted on behalf of the TECC by the Department of Education moderator for 2013-2014.

REFERENCE: Hawaii Revised Statutes 304A-1202

ACTION REQUESTED: TECC is required to submit an annual report to the Legislature on activities relating to: 1) the development of strong teacher training programs at accredited institutions of higher learning in Hawaii and 2) addressing issues and concerns regarding teacher preparation and other educational matters related to improving education in the State of Hawaii.

REPORT: The Superintendent of HiDOE and the Dean of College of Education, University of Hawaii at Manoa (UHM) co-chair the TECC chair role, alternating the role of moderator each year. TECC membership consists of representatives of Hawaii state approved teacher preparation units (SATEPs). Programs include Brigham Young University at Hawaii, Chaminade University of Honolulu, Hawaii Pacific University, Teach for America, University of Hawaii at Hilo, University of Hawaii Leeward Community College, University of Hawaii at Manoa, University of Hawaii-West Oahu and the University of Phoenix-Hawaii. By statute, the HiDOE and the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HSTB) are members of the committee. Other entities that have been invited to participate include Hawaii P-20 Partnerships for Education, University of Hawaii Community Colleges/Early Childhood Education, University of Hawaii System Office of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost, Arkansas State University, iteachHAWAII, Kaho’iawai, Kahuawaiola, and Western Governor’s University.

The TECC met once per month from September through May for a total of nine (9) meetings. Agenda items consist of matter of mutual concern of the Institutions of Higher Education (IHE), the Hawaii Teacher Standards Board (HSTB), and the Hawaii Department of Education (HiDOE).

The attached report, signed by the Superintendent of Education and the Dean of College of Education, University of Hawaii at Manoa, is hereby submitted pursuant to HRS 304A-1202.

RECOMMENDATIONS: N/A
Teacher Education Coordinating Committee Report (TECC)  
2013-2014 Annual Report

The annual report of the Teacher Education Coordinating Committee (TECC) is submitted to the Hawai‘i State Legislature in compliance with the provisions of Section 304A-1202, Hawai‘i Revised Statutes. Section 304A-1202 states:

An advisory committee to be known as the teacher education coordinating committee [will] identify, study, take action, or make recommendations on matters of education of common interest to the department of education and the institutions of higher learning in Hawai‘i.

The membership of the committee shall include the superintendent of education and the dean of the college of education of the University of Hawai‘i, who shall serve in alternate years as chairperson of the committee.

TECC membership consists of representatives of Hawai‘i state approved educator preparation programs, who prepare teachers and other education professionals. These programs include those of Brigham Young University at Hawai‘i; Chaminade University of Honolulu; Hawai‘i Pacific University; Teach for America; University of Hawai‘i at Hilo; University of Hawai‘i Leeward Community College; University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa; University of Hawai‘i–West O‘ahu; and the University of Phoenix–Hawai‘i. By statute, the Hawai‘i State Department of Education (HIDOE) and the Hawai‘i Teacher Standards Board (HTSB) are members of the committee. Other entities that have been invited to participate include Hawai‘i P-20 Partnerships for Education, University of Hawai‘i Community Colleges/Early Childhood Education, University of Hawai‘i System Office of the Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs/Provost, Arkansas State University, iteachHAWAII, Kaho‘iwai, Kahuawailola, and Western Governor’s University.

The Dean of the College of Education, University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa and the Superintendent of the Hawai‘i State Department of Education, co-chair the TECC, alternating each year. UHM Assistant Superintendent Stephen Schatz chaired the meetings for the 2013–2014 year.

The TECC met monthly from September 2013 through April 2014, for a total of 8 meetings. HIDOE and HTSB provided monthly updates on priorities, developments, and issues for discussion. In addition to meetings of the committee of the whole, TECC organized several working groups (Using Google Docs, Incorporating Hawaiian History, Language, and Culture in EPPs, IHE Graduate Assessment/Employer Survey, Aligning edTPA with EES, legislative issues). The following major items were addressed during the year.

- The P-20 Council approved college, career, and community (CCCR) definition was presented and discussed. TECC members were urged to include the CCCR definition in their respective programs.

- Received, reviewed and discussed reports from HIDOE on the Hawai‘i Educator Preparation Program Data Collection, Analysis and Reporting Project; provided
feedback to HIDOE on process and product as well as additional data required by State Approved Teacher Educator Programs (SATEP).

- Reviewed and discussed the Superintendent’s invitational priorities and identified teacher effectiveness as one of the major TECC issues to be considered during the year. A TECC working group was organized around teacher effectiveness issue. A portion of each TECC meeting agenda was dedicated to discussion of measures of candidate effectiveness and the HIDOE Educator Effectiveness System (EES) aimed at aligning teacher effectiveness evaluations. HIDOE also provided educator preparation programs (EPP) with data on how their graduate teachers are performing in the field. TECC members made recommendations for improvements and connecting HIDOE employee data to respective EPPs.

- Another TECC working group focused on legislative issues. Members met with Senator Jill Tokuda and Representative Takashi Ohno to discuss issues of concern. TECC continued to follow legislation on early learning with members providing testimony as appropriate. The position statement supporting legislation on early childhood education unanimously adopted in 2013 was used to support testimony. TECC conferred with legislative education committee leaders and provided testimony through the 2014 legislative session in support of early childhood education legislation and other EPP/HIDOE issues.

- Members worked throughout the year on improving Hawaiian history, language and culture emphasis in all EPPs. A work group met and reported regularly, drawing upon the Hawaiian Education Program Policy developed many years before. State law requires the perpetuation of Hawaiian language, culture and history. Teacher candidates must be prepared to meet these requirements in their teaching. The work group submitted proposed language changes for HTSB administrative rules designed to strengthen Hawaiian language, literacy, and culture provisions. The work group also proposed surveying EPP needs and possibilities for collaboration to share resources, increase professional knowledge, and propose ideas for development.

- HIDOE “Teacher Effectiveness System”. TECC members were provided an overview and update on the EES. Members were referred to the EES website for core professionalism/philosophy that guides the development of the evaluation system. The objective is for the system to match evaluation practices in the field related to SLOs (Student Learning Outcomes), with administrators and teachers having a common understanding. Key aspects of the training processes of the system as well as Charlotte Danielson inter-rater reliability, observation, and evidence are multiple measures used to document teacher proficiency were reviewed.

- Several meeting agendas focused on the training and alignment of EdTPA/PPAT, new teacher candidate evaluation systems required for licensing by the HTSB, and the EES. Discussions and joint working groups will continue over the next year in an attempt to make smooth transitions for new teachers possible.
• HIDOE presented TECC an update on highly qualified teacher (HQT) status highlighting the core academic content areas and the other rules that apply to a teacher being highly qualified. Teachers must have a bachelor’s degree, full Hawaii state license, and assignment to match the grade level of license. Science is generalized but the social studies content area is broken down into four areas. Praxis II exam, National Board certification, or the High Objective Uniform Standard of Evaluation (HOUSE) can all be used to meet content verification. HIDOE works closely with HTSB each year to be sure there is alignment.

• A major focus on the Spring 2014 TECC meetings was on English Language Learners (ELL). Preparation of teachers with ELL understanding and skills has become a major statewide issue. HIDOE and College of Education faculty made joint presentations aimed at increasing the level of awareness and deepening commitment of EPPs in this area. ELL preparation is an HTSB requirement for licensing. While attending to ELL needs are found in policy documents, insufficient attention may result in a civil rights issue. TECC proposed a new working group on ELL to further research state needs and make recommendations for action.

• IHEs worked with HIDOE to review existing Memoranda of Agreement related to placing pre-service students in HIDOE schools for clinical experiences. A generic Educator Preparation Program Affiliation Agreement was developed to be used by each IHE in specifying agreements and expectations of partnerships with HIDOE related to teacher preparation.

• TECC Meet-the-Candidates Event and Recruitment Fair. The event, hosted by HIDOE at Waipahu High School, provided opportunities for teacher candidates to interview with school principals seeking to fill vacant positions. Some candidates were offered position on the spot; others received offers at a later time.

Meeting dates for the 2014–2015 academic year were established (see attached). Future agenda items include
  • Hawai‘i Educator Effectiveness Program
  • Teacher Candidate Evaluation; EdTPA/PPAT Implementation Updates
  • English Language Learners
  • Early Childhood Education
  • Legislative Committee Chair meetings upcoming legislative agenda

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn S. Matsuyoshi
Superintendent
Hawai‘i Department of Education
TECC Co-Chair

Donald B. Young
Dean, College of Education
University of Hawai‘i at Mānoa
2012–2013 TECC Chair
APPEND
Position Statement on Committing to Early Childhood Education
Meeting Summaries (8)