

Nov. 10, 2015

Notes from meeting with College of Education Community College Leadership (CCL) concentration faculty

Participants:

- Joe Johnson (outgoing program coordinator, previous CC president)
- Craig Campbell (new faculty, incoming program coordinator)
- Darlene Russ-Eft (at CCL since 2002)
- Andreas Schmittner (Grad Council Rep, author of this report)

After a brief personal introduction the CCL faculty gave a brief introduction of the CCL concentration, which has been a distance learning program for a long time. Students are typically working professionals. They take about two courses per term, most of which are now hybrid courses with 2 face-to-face meetings. Each face-to-face meeting includes about 8 hours of class time.

The program has responded to all five recommendations of the review panel.

1) A clear distinction was made between PhD (research at university) and EdD (applied scholarship in leadership and policy). Most (~90%) students are now enrolling in the EdD program. Admission to the PhD program is restricted. Only 3 out of 8 faculty can advise PhD students. However, since this was changed as a response to the review quite a few legacy PhD students are still in the pipeline and will graduate in the near future.

2) The move to hybrid courses has benefitted students by providing more continuity to the learning process, bridging between the face-to-face meetings. This involved a lot of time commitment for the faculty to learn e.g. Canvas and change the courses, but this was seen as a worthwhile effort.

3) Replacement of the portfolio project with a comprehensive exam has benefitted students by removing a hurdle that often consumed a lot of time and caused delays. This change has sped up the time to graduation.

4) The venue for face-to-face meetings was changed from the remote Silver Falls location to Wilsonville, which has improved internet connectivity. This change was also perceived as a positive one for many students and faculty.

5) Technology has been incorporated in the learning outcomes and students learn to use Canvas, social media and other programs.

The CCL faculty now meets regularly 4 times per term to discuss curriculum issues. Finally the CCL leadership was excited about a new incoming faculty member (who's name will be revealed in December) and thinks that it is moving towards increasing publication rates since many EdD students now publish papers.