Update on the edTPA Task Force

May 2016 Board of Regents Meeting

Overview of the April 21, 2016 Meeting

- The first meeting of the edTPA task force was held on April 21, 2016
 - Regent Kathleen Cashin, Senior Deputy Commissioner Jhone Ebert, and Deputy Commissioner John D'Agati
- Appendix A provides a list of attendees
- The group asked that discussions regarding the task force go beyond addressing the "issues and concerns raised by the field" to include a discussion regarding alternatives to the edTPA

Overview of the April 21, 2016 Meeting

- The task force was provided with the following materials to guide their discussion:
 - An overview of updated data on edTPA
 - A summary of issues and concerns raised by the field
 - An overview of survey results from the edTPA Institution Survey which was sent to all New York State institutions of higher education
 - An overview of other states using the edTPA and in what capacity
 - Alternatives to the edTPA

Concerns

- The following are the main topics that were raised by members of the task force:
 - The "high stakes" nature of the edTPA
 - Concern that certain edTPA handbooks (specifically Library Media Specialist and Students with Disabilities) are not addressing the needs of certification
 - The compounding effects of implementing Common Core and the new certification tests at the same time
 - Decreases in enrollment of students in teacher prep programs
 - Concerns related to how the edTPA is scored and who is scoring the edTPA
 - Cost of the edTPA

Positives

- While the task force mainly focused on concerns related to the edTPA, members also raised some "positives"
 - One member pointed out the fact that the edTPA is performance based which is a positive—and this institution has experienced success with revising their curricula rather than "teach to the test"
 - Another member pointed out that, while the edTPA is "high stakes," so is the profession of teaching students
 - One member identified the edTPA as the "best" thing that happened at their institution, explaining that their pass rate has improved dramatically, and that Stanford is dedicated to making improvements to the edTPA

Suggestions from the Task Force Members

- Increased flexibility for institutions in implementing the edTPA (more local control)—raising a discussion of whether the test should be formative, summative, or a combination
- Looking at other state policies and what works and does not work for them
- Exploring the possibility of regional scoring in New York to inform institutions where program changes may be needed in order to improve continued implementation of edTPA
- The idea that there should be options available for institutions in implementing the edTPA—"one size does NOT fit all"
- Overall, there was a consensus that there should be a performance assessment for teacher certification—but that options should be made available to teacher prep programs regarding the kind of performance assessment that is required, and that improvements are necessary

Next Steps

- Looking forward, the task force members will work to develop options for a performance assessment
- The group agreed to an open distribution of contacts for all members in attendance, as well as the creation of a shareable workspace so that members can continuously discuss and collaborate
- Ultimately, the group will review the "universe" of options related to future performance assessments, and will then work to narrow the options into the viable alternatives that can be presented to the Board of Regents for consideration
- The next meeting of the edTPA Task Force will be held on June 3, 2016

edTPA Task Force Membership

Appendix A

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Dean, School of Education Adelphi University

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Associate Professor of TESOL CUNY Hunter College

April Bedford

Dean

CUNY Brooklyn College

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District Superintendent of Schools Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES

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Natasha Cooke-Nieves

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Jamie Dangler

UUP Vice President for Academics Chair, UUP Teacher Education Task Force

Emily Drum

Teacher Candidate

Michael Fabricant

Hunter College and the Graduate Center

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Madonna Figura Simon

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David Gerwin

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Jennifer Klein

Department of Special Education CUNY Hunter College

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Associate Professor of English and Director of English Teacher Education Stony Brook University

Maritza Macdonald

Senior Director of Education and Policy American Museum of Natural History

edTPA Task Force Membership

Appendix A

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Alexandra Murphy

Teacher Candidate

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