

Arkansas Tech University
Professional Development Grant
Final Report

Association of Teacher Educators 94th Annual Meeting
St. Louis, MO
February 14 – 18, 2014

Stephanie P. Pepper, Ed.D
Assistant Professor of Early Childhood

B. Restatement of Professional Enhancement Opportunity

The Association of Teacher Educators (ATE) 94th Annual Meeting, “Advancing Teacher Education that Matters in Teaching, Learning, and Schooling,” was held in St. Louis, Missouri, February 14 – 18, 2014. My presentation was entitled “Maximizing What Matters in a Minimum Amount of Time: How to Energize a Curriculum Course for Alternative Licensure Teacher Candidates”. Additionally, as I have recently done, I presented with Dr. David McCarthy on various topics concerning the use of technology in teacher education programs. These “technology” topics were presented throughout the conference and included:

- 1) “Explore an Exemplary 21st Model for Technology Education within a College of Education”
- 2) “Explore Great Web 2.0 Technology Tools to Enhance your 21st Century Classroom”
- 3) “Explore the Latest and Greatest Technology Tools to Enrich your 21st Century Classroom”

C. Brief Review

My increased responsibilities as a member of both the Planning and Credential Committees within ATE’s professional organization have allowed me to interact with professionals from across the United States and Canada. Each of my presentations and committee assignments has served to help keep me well-informed about Teacher Education and current initiatives, both on the national and international stage.

D. Summary of Experiences

The topics discussed at this 94th Annual Meeting allow me to effect change in ATU’s current College of Education curriculum as our department transitions to a new certification, kindergarten through sixth grade. I assisted with implementation of the “21st Century Room” – a demonstration room focused on how technology will evolve in this century and the subsequent effects upon the classrooms, teachers and students. As a faculty member, I strive to return from meetings and conferences with tools to keep ATU’s Education curriculum abreast of current initiatives, implementable technology enhancements, and to maintain parity between our On-Line and Face-to-Face Classrooms.

Besides attending sessions, I enjoyed the interaction with other colleagues in my own sessions. I attended many informative sessions where current research was presented, past goals reviewed and future developments in education explored. Discussion centered on teaching techniques, policy and procedures, state and national initiatives and the use of technology in teacher education programs. One ongoing challenge we face as teacher educators is staying current within our field, keeping abreast of new technology and incorporating it into the college curriculum – seeking to elicit the best from our students while keeping them motivated, without stifling creativity, requires constant vigilance, new ideas and innovative approaches.

E. Conclusion

The theme of the conference, “Advancing Teacher Education That Matters in Teaching, Learning, and Schooling,” proved to be representative of the sessions, associations and experiences provided that supported the conference. One of the highlights of the conference was attending the General Session and hearing Dr. Marilyn Cochran-Smith’s keynote address. As always, when attending conferences, I attend with the dual purpose of, first, seeking new information to enhance ATU’s Teacher Educator Program and, second, striving to increase my level of professional involvement within ATE’s executive membership.

Name Tag



Program Session Page

Tuesday, February 18, 2013

Multiple Paper Sessions	8:15-9:30 a.m.
<p>456 Preparing Teacher Candidates for Successful Self-Evaluation of Instruction: Rolling Out edTPA via PDS Participants will review five edTeacher Performance Assessment instructional rubrics, view video clips of teacher candidate performance, and consider ways to prepare and inspire candidates in our current high-stakes environment. Ann Epstein and Wen-Chiang Chen, University of Wisconsin - La Crosse</p>	Sterling 3
<p>457 Preservice Teachers' Understanding of Active Learning in a TEAL (Technology Enhanced Active Learning) Classroom The researcher will present student experiences with active learning in a technology enhanced classroom (TEAL). Student perceptions of how technology can support active learning will be shared. Lynn Kelting-Gibson, Montana State University</p>	
<p>458 "Maximizing What Matters in a Minimum Amount of Time: Preparing Alternative Licensure Teacher Candidates" Setting priorities becomes a matter of utmost importance when teaching alternative licensure students. This presentation offers methods to help you energize your teaching, organize a curriculum course and prepare candidates. Stephanie Puckett Pepper, Arkansas Tech University</p>	
<p>459 History in Action-The Legacy Lives: A Study of the Impact of an HBCU on Teachers Historically Black College and Universities (HBCUs) and the quality of Teacher Education programs nationwide continue to be questioned; this presentation examines the experiences of HBCU teacher education graduates and the impact on current career practices. Tehia V. Starker, University of North Carolina Charlotte; Helena Mariella-Walrond, Bethune Cookman University; Allyson L. Watson, Northeastern State University; Lakin Scott, University of North Carolina Charlotte</p>	Sterling 2
<p>460 Program-Related Differences among Student Perceptions of Teacher Preparation Programs The purpose of the present study was to determine whether differences in current student perceptions of three diverse teacher preparation programs existed by utilizing a self-assessment tool. Danielle Blairrington Brown, University of Nevada - Las Vegas; Hersh Waxman, Texas A&M University; Beverly Alford, The University of Mississippi; Kayla Braziel Rollins, Texas A&M University</p>	
Single Paper Sessions	8:30-9:10 a.m.
<p>461 Planning and Using a Professional Learning Network for the Contemporary Study of Leadership and Policy Throughout Our World We will provide information about the Global Leadership and Policy Professional Learning Community. This digital network is designed to encourage global interactions about leadership and policy issues with leaders around the world. Rachael Rossi, Shushma Marwaha, Walt Polka, Niagara University; Jeffrey Rabey, Depew Union Free School District; Kelly Banda, Buffalo Public Schools; Michael Reilly, Hohl Industrial</p>	Sterling 4
<p>462 Professional Development in Preschool Literacy that IS making a Difference! This presentation has two overall goals in that it will present creative ideas for implementing exciting and relevant professional development of classroom teachers and second, it will highlight the research proven strategies that promote literacy success in early childhood education. Tammy R. Benson, Donna Wake, University of Central Arkansas</p>	Sterling 7
<p>463 iPad- apps and Classroom Instruction What are the implications for using tech tools such as ipad in teacher education? Come discuss various instructional strategies that can be used by using ipad in your classroom. Simin Cwiek and Tahsin Khalid, Southeast Missouri State University</p>	Sterling 5