Wichita State University

College of Education Overview

Mission and Vision. The mission of the College of Education at Wichita State University is to prepare education and other professionals to benefit society and its institutions through the understanding, the facilitation and the illumination of the learning process and the application of knowledge in their disciplines. The College of Education’s vision is to prepare competent, collaborative, reflective professionals. Under-girded by fundamental beliefs in the dignity and inherent worth of all people and in the central role of education in a democratic society, the College of Education is committed to professional preparation programs that are experiential, collaborative, problem-based, and reflection-oriented, outcome-based and research/best practice-guided, to an institutional culture that is technology-rich, values diversity, encourages innovation, and promotes professionalism, and to graduates who have the professional knowledge, skills and dispositions to become effective practitioners and advance professional practice.

College Leadership. The College of Education has four departments—three of these with new leadership since the last accreditation visit. College-level leadership remains mostly the same, with Jon Engelhardt and Randy Ellsworth continuing to serve as Dean and Associate Dean respectively and Lori Miller appointed as an Associate Dean in May 2003. Outside their leadership roles in the College of Education, the Dean serves as head of the Professional Education Unit and the associate deans play major roles in the operation of the unit and its governance. Filling a new administrative position in the college and unit, Orpha Duell serves as Unit Assessment Coordinator.
College Characteristics and Context. Bachelors degrees are offered in CDS, CI and KSS; masters degrees in CDS, CI, KSS and ACES, a PhD and AuD in CDS, and an EdD in ACES. As of Fall 2003, over 1,900 students registered in undergraduate and graduate programs in Education (10% of the total University enrollment and 29.4% of the total graduate enrollment). In Spring 2004 candidates were taught by 44 faculty, 16 unclassified teaching professionals and about 80 adjunct faculty. The College operates (a) an Education Support Services Center (ESS) for advisement, certification/licensure review, records control, and student field placement and coordination; (b) a Center for Physical Activity and Aging to promote and study fitness for senior citizens; and (c) a Speech-Language-Hearing Clinic serving community speech, language, and hearing needs.

For Fall 2003, total fulltime and part-time enrollment was 2200, consisting of 1258 (57.2%) initial level candidates and 942 (42.8%) advanced level candidates. Seventy-five percent of Education undergraduates are female, and 28% attend part-time. Minority candidates make up 11.5% of undergraduates and 6.8% of graduates. Of those undergraduates admitted to WSU, 5.5% of new freshmen indicated intended majors in Education, and 16% of newly admitted WSU students indicating a major in Education were minority (up from 7.9% in 2000).

About 41 percent of candidates admitted to teacher education (i.e., took CI 311) in Fall 2003 completed most of their lower-division/general education coursework at another post-secondary institution, principally a community college (34% of admitted minority candidates). For May 2004 graduates in teacher education, for those students transferring credits from another institution (74%), the median number of credit hours transferred is 52. (Note: WSU works closely with areas community colleges and has established articulation agreements. Substitutions for any courses offered at other institutions, including community colleges, are approved by faculty.)

For Fall 2003, the average age of students entering undergraduate teacher education is 25.7, 82.5% are women, 97.3% are from Kansas and 9.9% are minority. Over the past 12 years, while peaking in the mid-1990s, the number of Education courses enrollments annually has remained fairly constant at about 15,500, graduate and undergraduate combined. (Enrollment Trend Table Supporting Document)

As of Fall 2003 there were 48 teaching faculty in the College of Education, 59% of those tenured and 24% probationary. The college also employs 9 master practitioners (unclassified professionals) as teaching faculty and 97 adjunct faculty in teaching or supervisory roles. About 80% have terminal degrees in their discipline.

Most undergraduate program coursework is offered during daytime hours, whereas most graduate program coursework is offered at 4:00pm or later. Significant graduate level coursework is offered at the WSU Westside Center location, including the entire Library Media (endorsement) program, Undergraduate professional coursework associated with the PDS delivery option of the initial teacher preparation program is taught in partnership
with school faculties at 7 elementary, 1 middle school and 1 high school sites. At any
given time, a number of cohorts of students pursuing a masters degree in Curriculum &
Instruction attend coursework team-taught by WSU faculty and school-based master
practitioners over several semesters at school sites as distant as the towns of McPherson,
Wellington, Hutchinson, Newton, Winfield and Chapparal as well as greater Wichita
locations. (Site-Based C&I Masters Degree Data Supporting Document)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Number of Sites/Cohorts</th>
<th>Enrollment</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2000-2001</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>171</td>
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<tr>
<td>2001-2002</td>
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<td>5</td>
<td>163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003-2004</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>132</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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In 2002-3, over 370 Education courses were computer-mediated using Blackboard,
representing 21.3% of all such courses taught at WSU. One of the first WSU colleges to
pursue the broad instructional use of technology, 77% of Education faculty report being
comfortable with using computer-mediation (through Blackboard) to teach and 71% report
modeling the use of this technology with their students. (MRC Annual Report
Supporting Document) As of Fall 2003, 94% of Education students report being
comfortable with computer-mediated coursework; seventy-eight percent report that
Education faculty expect them to use Blackboard in coursework and that 81% of
Education faculty model using this technology. (Student Technology Survey Supporting
Document) Several Education faculty have projects underway in which video technology
is used to connect students to other students and discipline experts globally. (Education
Global Ed Report Supporting Document)

In May 2004, 161 students graduated from the COE with bachelors degrees (17.3% of
WSU bachelors degrees earned) and 156 students received masters degrees (60.7% of the
WSU total)—teacher education and non-teacher education programs combined. Of those
bachelors degree graduates, 79% were female, the median age was 24, and 8.7% were
ethnic minorities. Of masters degree candidates, 80% were female, the median age was
33, and 5.1% were ethnic minorities. Through the Office of Education Support Services
in the College, 293 students were recommended for one of the state licenses/certificates
(or endorsements) as professional school personnel.
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Supporting Documents