Potential Actions for the Academic Strategies Committee: Educator Preparation

Work Plan to Develop Data Exchange Mechanism: Employment of Graduates of OUS Educator Preparation Programs

Background

Five of the six OUS Educator Preparation Programs (EPPs) do not now have the ability to obtain information on the licensure and employment of their graduates in a routine, timely and effective manner. Without knowledge of the success of their graduates, Educator Preparation Programs are hampered in distinguishing between the features of their program that have produced effective teachers, administrators, counselors or psychologists and those parts of their programs that may need adjustment. This problem is addressed by Data Development – Employment of Graduates of OSU Educator Programs, the first Educator Preparation action of those proposed at the September 17, 2009, meeting of the Academic Strategies Committee.

The goal of this project is to develop a routine process by which the employment and licensure data provided by the Teachers Standards and Practices Commission (TSPC) to Educator Preparation Programs is received in a format that is usable so that Educator Preparation Program employees can analyze the data in ways that meet program needs.

The Graduate School of Education at Portland State University has demonstrated the value of achieving this goal. PSU Dean Randy Hitz, in an institution specific initiative, has accessed the TSPC data referred to in this project. The data allow PSU to examine retention in teaching of their program’s graduates. In addition to related analyses of the success or problems of their graduates, routine access to the data would permit an Educator Preparation Program to distribute surveys to the program’s graduates and to the graduates’ supervising teachers and employers for analysis of program effectiveness.

Development of this data exchange has been requested by OUS Educator Preparation Programs for several years. Numerous meetings have been held between TSPC and three of the programs (OSU, WOU and PSU). A number of challenges have hampered progress on this work:

- Turnover of technical personnel and data analysts in the Educator Preparation Programs
- Lack of consistently available resources in the Educator Preparation Programs
- Lack of additional available IT staffing resources in TSPC
- Concerns over the security of the data being transferred
- Communication between TSPC and individual Educator Preparation Programs concerning specific data items and their format

The lack of consistently available resources has produced only sporadic and institution specific work on this project, resulting in frustration and hesitance to commit to participation in a system-wide project. Since there is now substantial interest at the state and federal level in data driven improvement of educational programs, it seems time to focus a small amount of resources on a targeted project that addresses these obstacles. This work plan is for such a targeted project.

Context

This project specifically addresses only data exchange between TSPC and OUS’s six Educator Preparation Programs, and so it is distinct from a larger effort of the Joint Boards of Education to develop data exchange among OUS, K-12 districts, ODE, CCWD and the Oregon Employment Division. This TSPC-Educator Preparation Program project does not necessarily or directly involve ODE, CCWD or the central Institutional Research Office of OUS.

This project is also distinct from, but essential for, work by TSPC and Educator Preparation Programs on the design of a statewide survey of Educator Preparation Program graduates. The data exchange process outlined herein is necessary for the distribution of the statewide survey and for collection of the survey results. This data exchange is also necessary to collect data that The Chalkboard Project would like to participate in analyzing.

January 8, 2010
### TSPC-EPP Data Exchange Project

*(TSPC = Teachers Standards and Practices Commission; EPP = Educator Preparation Program)*

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| 1. Agreement on elements of project | • Define steps of the project  
• Identify personnel to be involved at each step  
• Determine if an outside contractor is required | TSPC Director  
Deans of EPPS  
OUS staff | Meetings required;  
meeting agendas  
Attendees for each meeting  
Decide on outside contractor, if necessary | Mid March 2009 | • Travel or Video or Audio Conferencing  
~$1,500/meeting with 8 attendees |
| 2. Ensure secure data exchange between OUS campuses & TSPC | • Institutional and TSPC networks are not compromised | TSPC data managers  
OUS campus IT staff & supervisors | Demonstrate a routine data transfer process that does not disrupt security of institutional networks | Feb - May 2010 | • Travel to joint meetings for EPP & TSPC Information Technology personnel  
~$8,000/5 meetings with 8 attendees |
| 3. Import data into software applications used by EPP administrators, faculty & staff | • Not all EPPs use same version of same software for data analysis within the EPP  
Data from TSPC only as useful to EPP as ability of EPP faculty & staff to conduct their own analysis | Educator Program data analysts  
OUS campus IT staff & supervisors  
TSPC data managers | Demonstrate analysis of transferred data by EPP personnel using their current applications | March – June 2010 | • Release time & travel for EPP faculty & staff meetings w/TSPC data managers  
~$12,000/4 meetings with 12 attendees each |
| 4. Transfer of data useful to EPPs & TSPC | • Data useful to both TSPC & EPPs may be similar, but not identical  
Data &/or format may need adjustment | TSPC data managers  
EPP administrators, faculty and staff | Agreement on data coding & formatting between TSPC & EPP data managers & analysts | April - August 2010 | • Release time & travel for EPP faculty & staff meetings w/TSPC data managers  
~$12,000/4 meetings with 12 attendees |

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1 The successful data transfer process from TSPC to Portland State University’s Graduate School of Education will be a resource throughout this project.

2 If an outside contractor is retained, that individual will replace the personnel listed in this panel and the two panels below this one.

**ESTIMATED BUDGET (Draft only): $35,000 TO $50,000**

- **Total Cost:** Approximately $50,000 for outside contractor or approximately $35,000 without outside contractor
- **Travel:** Estimated $375/meeting (assume meetings in Portland: from EOU – 261 mi; from SOU – 250 mi; from Monmouth – 60 mi; from Corvallis – 75 mi; from Eugene – 100 mi. Total = ~725 mi @ $0.50/mi)
- **Release Time:** $900 for 6 attendees/& 0.5 day/meeting (@ ~$150/0.5 day/attendee @ ~$75,00 avg annual salary/attendee)