TEACHER PREPARATION IN TEXAS

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:

EXEMPLARY FACULTY PRACTICES

The Consortium of State Organizations for Texas Teacher Education
In Conjunction With
Texas Association of Colleges of Teacher Education
&
Education Deans of Independent Colleges & Universities of Texas

Spring 2015
Teacher Preparation in Texas

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS:

Exemplary Faculty Practices

OVERVIEW

The *Quest for Quality Teacher Preparation in Texas (Quest for Quality)* project, formerly a collaboration between the Center for Research, Evaluation and Advancement of Teacher Education (CREATE) and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, has been incorporated into the efforts of the Consortium of State Organizations for Texas Teacher Education (CSOTTE). The purpose of the *Quest for Quality* project is to highlight exemplary quality in university-based teacher preparation in Texas.

In support of the goals of *Closing the Gaps*, the *Quest for Quality* project seeks to:

- Promote and accelerate improvements in university-based teacher preparation programs by identifying exemplary teacher candidates and exemplary practices within existing programs.

- Foster broad scale application of best practices to improve quality and productivity in student recruitment and selection, course content and instructional delivery, field-based experiences, research and development, and school-university engagement.

The nomination of exemplary faculty practices in teacher preparation is an opportunity to highlight quality in faculty innovation and creativity. This initiative is designed to highlight what is done well by identifying exemplary teacher preparation practices in schools of education and arts and sciences in Texas universities. Faculty are invited to submit artifacts with commentary to illustrate exemplary faculty practices they have designed that prepare teachers to excel.
The Texas Association of Colleges for Teacher Education (TACTE) and the Education Deans of Independent Colleges and Universities of Texas (EDICUT), two organizations affiliated with CSOTTE, have taken leadership for the Exemplary Faculty Practices. All university faculty who are involved in teacher preparation in schools of education and arts and sciences to submit nominations of exemplary faculty practices that prepare teacher candidates to excel.

In 1000 words, 4 pages or less, describe specifically what makes the practice exemplary, creative, and/or innovative. An exemplary faculty practice might be the work of a single faculty member, a group of faculty, or a department-wide practice of all faculty.

In addition to the narrative, nominating faculty should provide artifacts such as video/audio and picture media, student products, assessments, course materials or other documentation of classroom activities. The artifacts should be referenced directly in the narrative and should illustrate the exemplary practices that have been developed.

The practices that you illustrate may include one or more of the following:

- Developing knowledge in the discipline
- Modeling pedagogy
- Using technology
- Addressing diversity and equity
- Creating experiential learning
- Investigating, analyzing, and solving problems
- Assessing learning

Included with the artifacts should be a written commentary about your practice which explains:

- The purpose of the practice.
- The strategy/approach used in the practice.
- What makes the practice exemplary, creative and/or innovative.
- How you know the practice accomplishes your goals.
Description of Criteria for Exemplary Faculty Practices

Artifacts illustrating exemplary faculty practices may include one or more of the following:

Developing Knowledge in the Discipline

♦ Provide artifacts that illustrate how your teaching practices develop deep content knowledge in your discipline so that teacher candidates will be exceptionally well prepared to teach in their chosen level and area of education.

Modeling Pedagogy

♦ Demonstrate distinctive ways you model teaching to demonstrate content knowledge and research-based pedagogy so your students may replicate best practices when they assume a teaching role. Illustrate the ways you motivate and generate interest in your classroom so your students will do the same when they teach.

Using Technology

♦ Show the exceptional ways you engage your students in using technology that is current, appropriate to subject areas and a wide variety of learners. Provide artifacts to show how you use technology innovatively in your classroom.

Addressing Diversity and Equity

♦ Demonstrate exemplary approaches you use in your classroom to increase your students’ understanding of and ability to teach students from a variety of cultural, socio-economic, and language backgrounds. Provide examples of ways that you promote diversity and equity in your classroom.

Creating Experiential Learning

♦ Illustrate the exceptional experiences you create in your classroom in which your students practice teach prior to student teaching or internship. Demonstrate how you facilitate your students’ learning from these experiences so they progressively develop their teaching skills.

Investigating, Analyzing, and Solving Problems

♦ Present creative ways in which you teach your students to identify, investigate, analyze, and solve problems that they will encounter when they teach in the field. Provide illustrations that reveal how you teach problem-solving, from data gathering to solutions.

Assessing Learning

♦ Clearly demonstrate innovative formative and summative assessments you have developed to determine your students’ progress. Show how you conduct formative assessments in your classroom to teach your students the ways in which assessment informs instruction.
Steps for Nominating Exemplary Faculty Practices

1. **CSOTTE** extends the Call for Nominations of Exemplary Faculty Practices to Deans of Education and Deans of Arts and Sciences.

2. Deans provide the Call for Nominations: Exemplary Faculty Practices to faculty and/or their peers in teacher preparation in schools of education and arts and sciences.

3. Faculty members and/or their peers should compile and submit artifacts to CREATE, accompanied by commentary, to illustrate their exemplary practice.

4. **Who will review the nominations?**
   
   ♦ TACTE members, along with a team of independent state and national advisors, will review and validate nominated exemplary faculty practices as determined by their fidelity related to the criteria for exemplary practice.

5. **How will exemplary teacher preparation faculty practices be recognized?**
   
   ♦ Exemplary practices will be broadly disseminated and recognized in a variety of venues and media to highlight exemplary quality in university-based teacher preparation in Texas. Practices will be disseminated through the following:
     
     ♦ Annual CSOTTE Conference
     ♦ CSOTTE website
     ♦ Reports to the Commissioner of Higher Education
     ♦ Reports to the Higher Education Coordinating Committee
     ♦ Special purpose reports in electronic and print media

6. **When must nominations be submitted?**
   
   ♦ Date: **May 25, 2015**

7. **Where should nominations be submitted?**
   
   ♦ Include the nomination information cover sheet, page 6, and submit artifacts and accompanying commentary in an email with attached files to Glenda.ballard@tamut.edu or as a package by mail to:

   Texas A&M University-Texarkana  
   Attention: Dr. Glenda Ballard  
   7101 University Blvd.  
   Texarkana, TX 75503  
   Office: 903.223.3073  Fax: 903.223.3120  
   www.tamut.edu/CSOTTE
*Brief Overview of Phases of the *Quest for Quality* Project

The *Quest for Quality* Project seeks to highlight and accelerate quality in university-based teacher preparation programs by identifying exemplary:

- Teacher candidates nominated by universities,
- *Instructional practices of university teacher preparation faculties*,
- Field-based instructional practices in university teacher preparation programs,
- K-12 partnerships
- Faculty research on teacher preparation and teaching quality.
Exemplary Faculty Practices

NOMINATING UNIVERSITY: _____________________________________

Faculty Nominated: ____________________________________________

Dean/Chair: __________________________________________________

Date: ____________________________

FACULTY CONTACT INFORMATION:

Address: _________________________________________________________
_________________________________________________________________

Phone: _______________________ Email:______________________________

Nomination packages must be submitted by May 25, 2015 to:

glenda.ballard@tamut.edu

Texas A&M University-Texarkana
Attention: Dr. Glenda Ballard
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Texarkana, TX 75503
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