

Date: May, 2018

To: Linda Billman, DSAP Chair

From: Jennifer Groman

Re: Release time justification (2017-2018) and request for next year (2018-2019)

This following is a prospectus of my use of one hour release time for the 2017-2018 school year.

Warmly,
Jennifer

Year One Priorities were getting to know the program and systems, updating PR materials, advertising and “selling” the program to individuals and school districts, and establishing relationships with adjuncts. I also knew that updates to the textbooks and syllabi were needed.

Fall Semester, 2017

- Oversaw the hiring of two new adjuncts, Teresa Scherzinger, Kevin Spooner. Fielded many more inquiries
- Updated the Talent Development Program public relations brochure
- Instigated enrollment of and supervised an Ashland University vendor booth at the Ohio Association for Gifted Children Fall Conference in Columbus.
- Traveled to Cincinnati to provide an overview of the program to interested teachers with Gene Linton and Jason Mossman (this cohort starts Fall, 2018)
- Observed a new adjunct in the Cincinnati area teaching EDIS 653
- Provided ongoing email and phone support for inquiries about the program from interested individuals and school administrators
- Sent out personal letters to 100+ school districts (principals, gifted coordinators, gifted intervention specialists) with updated brochures to advertise the program
- Ongoing interaction with advisors, Nancy McGraw, Jason Mossman, and Gene Linton for program oversight, clarifications, updates, improvements and course approvals
- Facilitated EDIS 796, the internship, which tends to be the Program Director’s custody. I observed 3 graduate students this semester.

Spring Semester, 2018

- Oversaw the hiring of a new adjunct, Doug Germann, fielded many more inquiries
- Preparations for and meeting with adjuncts for the “Synchrosium I” to update and synchronize what all instructors are teaching and update them all on new directives from the state, including the Ohio Assessments for Educators exam.
- Travel to Medina to provide an overview of the program to interested teachers with Kendra Wisdom. This cohort is still considering options.
- Provided ongoing email and phone support for inquiries about the program from interested individuals and school administrators

- Updating program syllabi – EDIS 650 updates are completed. EDIS 651 updates are in progress. New textbook, updating Knowledge, Skill and Disposition statements to align with NAGC/CEC, OAE and AU competencies and standards
- Updating program measurables - instigating two ongoing and culminating components to the program: a Resource Notebook with artifacts from each course and an ongoing Statement of Philosophy paper to show teacher growth.
- Organized and facilitated a practice test session with Pearson for the OAE Gifted Assessment, at the Columbus Site.
- EDIS 796 – we had 17 students taking the internship, so I had to work with and train adjunct Janet James so we could divide these. She observed seven from the Northwestern cohort, I observed 10 from Northwestern (West Salem), Columbus, and Cincinnati. In addition, there were two MEd students working on the 781 practicum, in Columbus and West Salem. These course are almost exclusively facilitated by the program director.
- Ongoing interaction with advisors, Nancy McGraw, Jason Mossman, Stephanie Litman, and Gene Linton for program oversight, clarifications, updates, improvements and course approvals

Priorities for the 2018-2019 school year if provided release time include continuing current coordination, communication, and program updates, adding preparation materials for the OAE Gifted Assessment, expanding the program to Cleveland and possibly Western Ohio and adding a Summer Fast-Track program in Columbus. Here are a few details.

- I hope to facilitate a “Synchrosium II” for adjuncts to discuss updates to EDIS 652 and EDIS 653.
- I hope to update EDIS 652 and EDIS 653.
- I hope to organize materials into a teacher preparation module for the proposed OAE Gifted Assessment. This could be done in collaboration with the University of Cincinnati.
- I have proposed a Gifted Endorsement Fast Start program starting in Summer of 2019 at the Columbus Site and would need time to adapt the coursework for it.
- I have proposed that we start the coursework sequence in Cleveland, which would involve adjunct training and oversight.
- I expect that the time spent doing recruitment and public relations, collaborating with advisors, the administrative assistant, and day-to-day communications associated with directing the program would continue.

A couple of “In My Dreams” priorities are:

- I would like to create a system of tracking and communicating with graduates of the program.
- Writing an Advanced Creativity course (EDIS 655) for graduates of the program who wish to continue studying creativity.
- Bringing experts to Ashland to hold inservice training sessions on either the Murphy-Meisgeier Type Indicator for Children or the Torrance Tests of Creative Thinking – or both for local teachers, coordinators, and others who are interested.