21st Century Educator Preparation: How University System of Georgia's Colleges of Education Prepare Teachers to use Technology

Dr. Angela Coleman
Assistant Vice Chancellor, Educator Preparation
University System of Georgia

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Complete College Georgia

- Statewide effort to increase attainment of a high quality certificate or degree
  - Multiple partners including Technical College System of Georgia, Office of the Governor, Complete College America

- College completion is an imperative for a prosperous economic, civic and cultural future for Georgia

- Plan focuses on 5 main areas:
  - College and Career Readiness
  - Transformation of remediation
  - Shortening the time to degree
  - Restructuring delivery
  - Effective use of analytics, metrics, and data

<u>USG Colleges of Education</u>

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- 22 Institutions have teacher education programs
- Must pass GACE Basic Skills examination
- Background check prior to in-school placement
- Secondary teacher candidates major in their chosen discipline

<u>USG Educator Preparation Achievements</u>

- Increased production of highly qualified teachers by 40% since 2005
- Increased access to program offerings in middle and south Georgia
- Dedicated partnership to align educator preparation with K-12 curriculum

Technology and Educator Preparation Overview

Recent Changes
- In 2013, the Professional Standards Commission (PSC) revised 505.3.01 rule to reflect the digital age
  - Includes increased expectations for teacher preparation programs to provide meaningful technology based experiences for pre-service teachers
    - *Candidates must demonstrate satisfactory proficiency in computer and other technology applications and skills and …. In integrating technology into student learning*
  - Requires educator preparation programs provide a pre-service teachers exposure to online teaching
    - *Candidates shall be exposed to the specialized knowledge and skills necessary for effective teaching in a distance learning environment*

Integrating Technology into the Classroom

Technology Requirements for Teacher Candidates
- Many USG Colleges of Education are using the GaDOE SLDS to help prepare students
  - Students use real scrubbed data to identify instructional interventions, lesson planning and differentiation

Virtual Instructor Endorsement
- Designed to prepare K-12 teachers to teach in virtual school environment
  - Candidates acquire pedagogical skills
  - Ability to design instruction using technology
- Graduate-level endorsement program, typically requires teacher to already be certified
  - Expect revision to PSC Rule 505.3.85 that will allow for this endorsement to be embedded into undergraduate teaching programs

Post-Secondary Virtual Course Offerings

- **eCore (electronic core-curriculum)**
  - Allows for USG students to complete first two years of college online
  - Courses transfer to any USG institution
  - Courses are offered by affiliate institutions within the USG and are fully accredited
  - https://ecore.usg.edu/
- **Georgia On My Line**
  - Navigation tool Georgia's 31 public institutions that offer **online** higher education programs
  - Can receive Associates, Bachelor's, Master's, and even a Ph.D. at a USG institutions
- **Galileo: Georgia Library learning Online**
  - 150 databases which index approximately 70,000 periodicals and scholarly journals
  - Increase access to scholarly resources for all students
- MOOCS: Massive Open Online Course
  - Georgia is a national leader
  - Emerging work with significant research currently underway

System-wide and Campus-level Efforts

- Kennesaw State University is one exemplar of how USG Colleges of Education are embracing the use of technology for instructional purposes
- All Colleges of Education require teacher candidates to have exposure to online learning and training on using technology in the classroom
- Highlights include:
  - E-portfolio
  - Data Analytics/SLDS exposure and training
  - Students learn to develop lesson plans that fully incorporate technology to support student learning

Thank you!