

AU Stakeholder Meeting P-12 Teachers Principals

Feb. 8, 2012

Strengths and Weaknesses of AUM Graduates, Interns, & Field Experience Students				
	Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5
Strengths	Professionalism (Dress, Language), Content Knowledge, Inquisitive, Eager to learn, Excellent pedagogy/teaching strategies/methods, Thoroughness in Paper Work (sp. ed.), Variety of assessment methods, Adaptability, Self Confidence, Technology Knowledge and ability to adapt to different environments/adjust, Accepting of criticism	technologically advanced, instructional strategies (creative thinkers - hands-on manipulatives), pedagogy, eager learners, organizational skills, competent in communication skills, energetic, dependable, ethical, well-prepared, professional in appearance, receptive to criticism/suggestions RECOMMENDATION - how to write and read IEP's (modified plans/lessons) in other subjects areas i.e., science/social studies etc.	self confident, knowledgeable in subject areas, innovative, willing and eager, positive attitudes, use more inquiry based instructional strategies, concerned about always doing their best, incorporate lots of hands-on activities	
Weaknesses	Knowledge of AAA, Limited Special Education classes/exposure, Behavior management, Field/Lab experiences limited in diversity, How to deal with parents/guardians, Being complete in documentation,	interview skills, behavior/time management skills, social media on/off hours, prior knowledge with curriculum-working with current textbooks and Alabama Course of Study, leaving personal issues at home and focusing on the students, working with Special Needs/ESL students,	some need additional assistance with writing, more support/guidance from the university during internship, time management, classroom management, more initiative to do things without being asked	self-confidence with classroom management skills; weakness in technology with alternative masters; time management; flexibility; handwriting; separate personal and professional life at school; working with special education students;

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	Notes from large group discussion
Strengths	appearance - specifically their dress; also their conduct - they don't talk about other students (ethical); teacher student rapport is positive in how they discipline students. Administrators see internship as an opportunity for a free interview; technology skills = they are resourceful; great researchers of information; good with powerpoint and smartboards; been exposed to alot so they have confidence to use or move on when tools aren't available; tools have been presented to them; can adapt, have self-confidence. good coming up with hands-on activities; they can use lots of activities to make the lesson real to the students; able to pull in lots of resources besides paper and pencil; they are good at coming up with games to help kids struggling with concepts or for general reinforcement; come up with creative ways of doing things. with special ed- they might be intimidated at first but then have the confidence to move on.
Weaknesses	Some students have poor writing skills - "can't write a sentence;" need to use spell check (elementary-teacher work sample); is a student by student issue; "we shouldn't have to worry about this by the time they get to us"; technology - older students aren't as confident. Field lab experience - one student only had lab experiences at one school- getting a limited view; students in field lab experiences may see only one group of students; secondary lab students don't do anything they just sit there-is that really effective?

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Suggested Solutions	<p>Classroom/Behavior management: try to do too much, try out different tactics/tricks without knowing why; don't have a general understanding of behavior management - just have "cute" things to do; they need to be able to define the behavior. Solution: watching videos and then teaching them to assess the behavior would help; Solution: Take the theory in the ed psych class and see how that looks practically in the classroom, help them make the connection maybe through videos so that it can be discussed even though it's hard to learn without actually having their own classroom. Teach them how to deal with parents/guardians - how to get buy in. Solution: build a positive parent conference time into the intern experience -the intern runs it and tells positive things about the student to the parent - it's enjoyable for all and the intern gets to see the interaction without confrontation. Interview skills - solution: have principal come and do mock interviews in intern meetings; Reading: become familiar with Scott Forsman or other series so they not only know the theory but the practical side of teaching reading - how series set up; how tests made; how to run a small group; planning - need to be able to apply the theories. Solution: encourage students to own their own professional development. Solution: teach LEADERS to support their faculty.</p>
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