

Central Washington University
Administrator Certification Program
Follow up study Results
2006-07

In compliance with WAC 181-78A-400(3) a follow up study of the 2006-07 interns in the Administrator Certification Program was conducted. Twelve students completed their internship in 2006-07 academic year and were mailed a questionnaire soliciting feedback on their experience in the Administrator Certification Program. Of the 12 students whom the questionnaires were sent to, 50% responded. A follow up questionnaire was sent to the students who did not respond at first. Again, no response was received. The frequency tables below show a summary of response to the questions.

As to the question, which program did you complete, 83% completed the principal and 17% completed the Program Administrator as shown in Table 1. Fifty percent of the students who participated in the survey are males and 50% are females as shown in Table 2. In reference to the question "what job position did you hold upon entering the School Administrator Preparation Program, 67% were teachers and 33% were others (School Counselor, TOSA) as shown in Table 3. The question on what position did you hold upon completion of the School Administrator Preparation Program, 33% are still teachers, 16% full time administrator, and 50% others (Instructional coach, Dean of students, school counselor, and special education director as shown in Table 4.

The question on what is your current job position, 33% are teachers and 68% are others (Instructional coach, Dean of students, school counselor, and special education director as shown in Table 5. In response to the question "what was most influential in your choice of CWU for the School Administrator Preparation Program, 17% said colleague, another 17% said personal inquiry, and 68% said others (personalization, familiarity) as shown in Table 6.

The subjects of the follow up study were asked to circle the number which represent their level of satisfaction of the school Administrator Preparation Program. Fifty percent said average, and 50% said high as shown in Table 7. The subjects were asked to circle the number which represent their level of satisfaction of instruction in the School Administrator Preparation Program. 16% said it was low, another 16% said average, 50% said above average, and 18% said high as shown in Table 8. The subjects were asked to rate their Administrative Internship Experience by circling the most appropriate number. 33% of the subject rated their internship experience as above average and 68% rated their internship experience as high as shown in Table 9.

In response to the question "if you are currently employed in an administrative position, how well did the program prepare you, 50% were neutral, 17% average, another 17% above average, and 17% high as shown in Table 10.

As for the strengths of the Administrator Program, these are comments from the follow up study: "The hands-on work of working each day with the Principal and his roles. Buck Evans was phenomenal. Meeting with him monthly gave me the support necessary to have a successful internship. His passion for his students is unparalleled. Great opportunities to learn by hearing from those in the field. My mentor was amazing! Flexible for busy working folks. High quality instructors. Personalization - Ability to self design with-in."

Suggestions for strengthening the Administrator Preparation Program are: "Nothing, it worked great for me. Coursework that is grounded in preparation for being a principal - rigid, research-based, practical. Jack needs to retire. Increased communication between university and interns.

More mentor time - great year!"

Further comments: "Not employed as an administrator. I reference very little of what I learned at CWU. Just hired into Sp Ed. Admin. position. Summer school Principal."

Would you recommend this School Administration Program to others? Yes- 90%; No – 10%.

Other comments you wish to share regarding CWU Administration Preparation Program? Thanks to Nancy and Dr. Pappas for all the support. Update your program and get more student-centered. I would like to see more mentor meetings to collaborate.

Actions Taken

Based upon the feedback received from the students who completed their internship program during the 2006-07 academic work, the following actions have been adopted to build upon noted strengths and address issues pertinent to our students and program.

The department scrutinized the feedback provided from the students.

During the spring of 2007 an aggressive effort was launched to restructure the faculty within the department.

A new full time faculty member with previous building and district administrative service was hired to replace adjunct members of the department. The intent of this move was to increase the opportunities for total department communications, streamline continuity and adding perspective to the department and experiences for our students.

A recommitment to the use of accumulating and using hard data to drive the decisions of the department members was enacted.

Program Committee meetings held during the summer of 2007 were used to clarify process and product concerns within the department.

These steps enabled the Educational Administration instructors to share concerns, voice opinions, induct new members, and to begin the new school year with an esprit de corpse lending itself to a feeling of being proactive rather than reactive