

# OUR SPA STORY

American University  
School of Education, Teaching and Health

# Our Timeline

Fall 2012: First SPA Submissions

- CEC
- NAEYC
- NCSS
- NCTE
- NCTM

Fall 2013: Third SPA Submissions

- ACTFL

Fall 2014: Second Resubmissions

- ACEI
- NCSS
- NSTA
- NCTM

Spring 2013: Second SPA Submissions

- ACEI
- NSTA
- TESOL

Spring 2014: First Resubmissions

- CEC
- NAEYC
- NCSS
- NCTM

SPRING 2015: NCATE Legacy Visit

Fully recognized in all SPAS except CEC (still in process) and ACTFL (low enrollment)

# Major Themes

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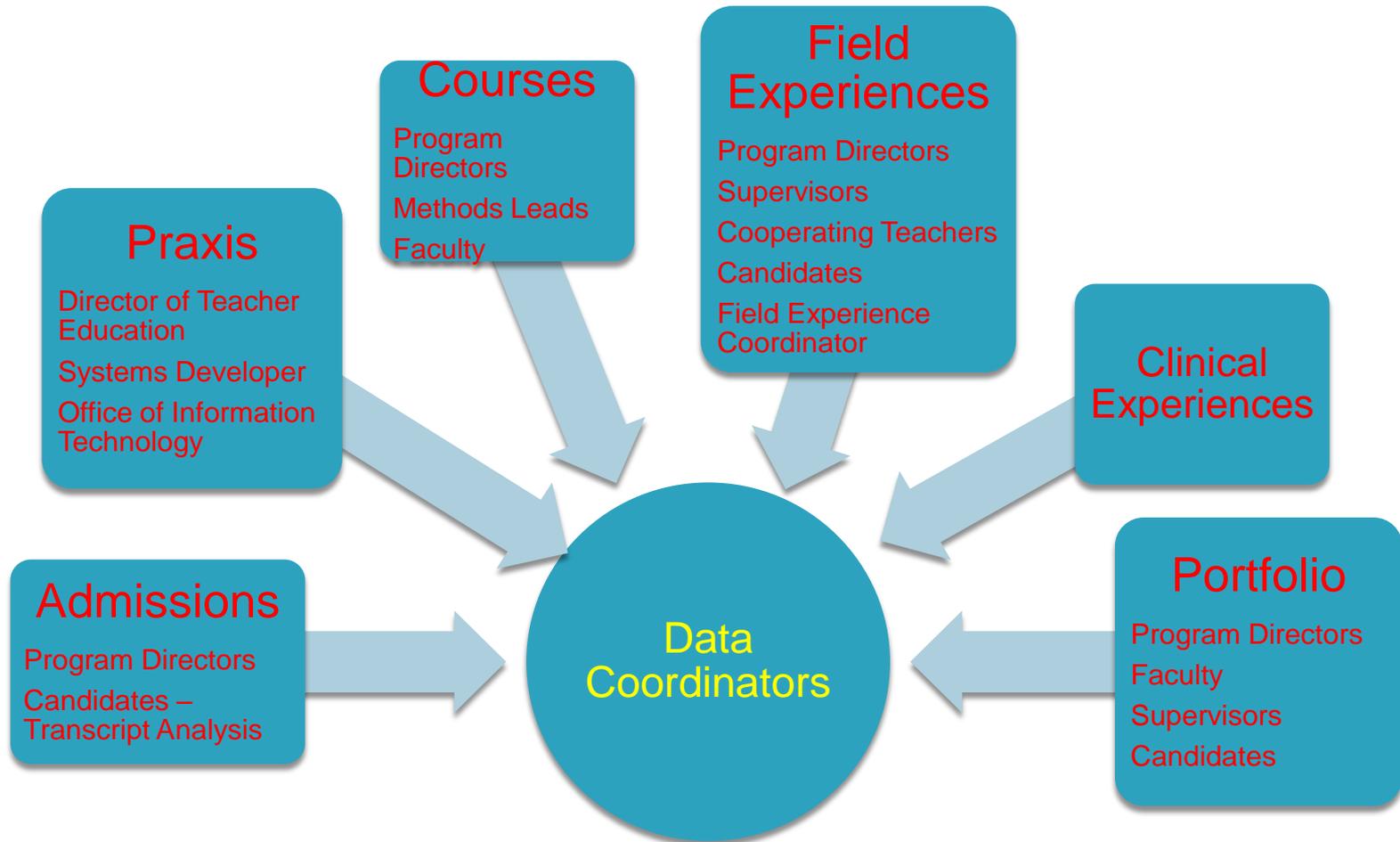
- People Matter
  - ▣ SPA Writers
  - ▣ SPA Contacts
  - ▣ Data Coordinators
- Process
- Product: Change Can Be Good



# People Matter: SPA Representatives

- Utilize SPA Representatives
  - Attend conference presentations at CAEP and at content conferences
  - Review SPA conference presentation slides and notes
  - Sign-up for SPA Webinars
  - Email SPA Representatives, especially when responding to conditions

# People Matter: Data Collection



# Process

- Low enrollments
- Do I stick to the new standards or adapt to the new ones?
  - ▣ Do I need one semester of data or not?
- The pedagogical chicken vs. egg debate: What comes first: standards or assessments?
- Why am I not fully recognized when I was recognized 6 months ago?
- Think of the reviewer when you are presenting your report – don't make them hunt for anything.
- Don't expect to get recognized in the first round.
- Answer only to the conditions.
- When you are recognized, address the final feedback in curriculum meetings.

# Product: Change Can Be Good

- Restructuring Early Childhood curriculum
- Key Assessments are now at multiple gates throughout the student's tenure
- Assessments
  - Unit: Parent Conference Assessment
  - Program Specific: Impact of Student Learning
- System Discussions
- Smoother Accreditation Visit