

# DISCUSSING DISPOSITIONS

THE WHY AND HOW BEHIND ASSESSING  
DISPOSITIONS IN THE TEACHER EDUCATION  
PROGRAM AT WINTHROP UNIVERSITY

TAKE A SECOND TO  
THINK...

**What are  
dispositions?**

# WHAT THE SCHOLARS SAY...

The professional virtues, qualities, and habits of mind and behavior held and developed by teachers on the basis of their knowledge, understanding, and commitments to students, families, their colleagues, and communities. Such dispositions-of character, intellect, and care-will be manifest in practice, will require sophisticated judgment in application, and will underpin teachers' fundamental commitments to education in a democratic society, such as the responsibility to set high standards for all children, harbor profound concern for each individual child, and strive for a classroom and school environment of high intellectual and moral quality.

(Sockett, 2006, p. 23).

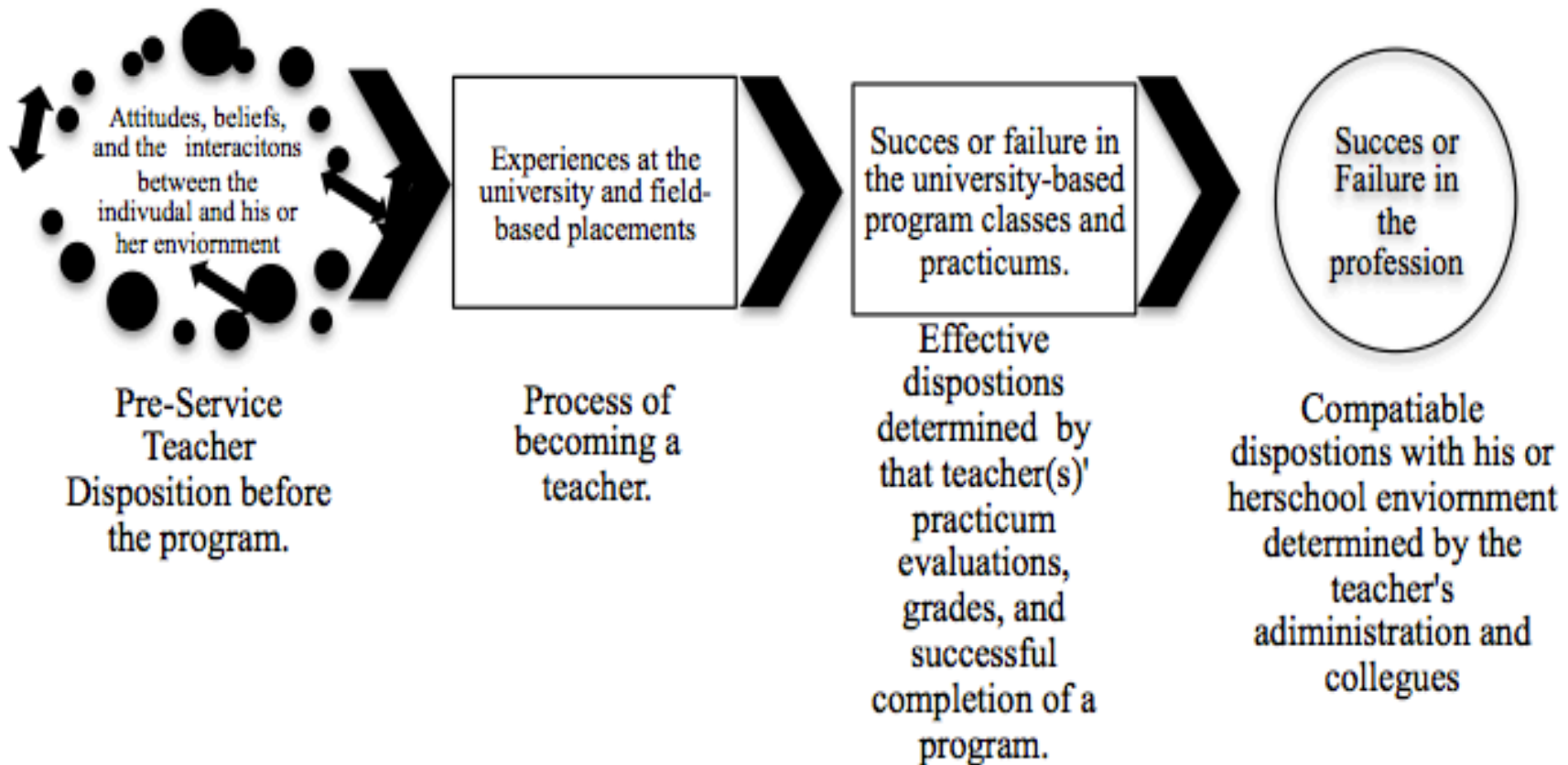
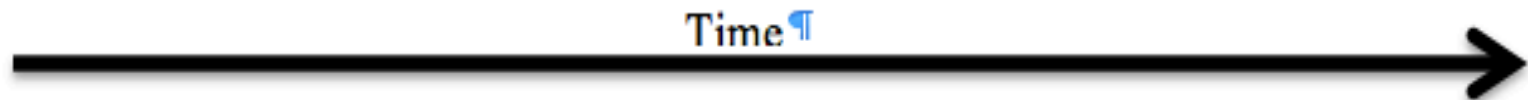
# WHAT THE FEDS SAY...

**Professional attitudes, values, and beliefs demonstrated through both verbal and non-verbal behaviors as educators interact with students, families, colleagues, and communities. These positive behaviors support student learning and development. NCATE expects institutions to assess professional dispositions based on observable behaviors in educational settings.**

**(NCATE, 2006, para. 13-14)**

**[organization now called CAEP]**

# ANOTHER WAY OF LOOKING AT IT...



# WHY ARE CERTAIN DISPOSITIONS IMPORTANT FOR A TEACHER?

**Take a second to think  
about your favorite teacher  
EVER...**

**-What was he or she like?**

**-Why was he or she your  
favorite teacher?**

# WHY DO WE (FACULTY AT A UNIVERSITY) ASSESS DISPOSITIONS?

- **One factor is that it is required...**
- **Another is that, as we have discussed, dispositions are VERY IMPORTANT to understand, especially for future teachers.**
- **This process should start early, in fact, it starts now!**

# HOW DO WE CONDUCT OUR ASSESSMENT?

- **Let's take a look at what is on LiveText...**
- **Because dispositions and/or behaviors change over time, we plan to conduct this assessment more than once.**
- **So what does this mean for you?**



THANK YOU!  
ANY  
QUESTIONS?