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#### **ABSTRACT**

The lack of clear consensus among cooperating teachers and university advisors about expectations for the student teacher role ties in closely with the confusion that currently exists about the respective supervisory roles. Student teaching continues in many programs to be structured around the traditional triad which has been characterized as lacking clear agreement about the roles played by each member. This paper reports a Canadian replication of American (1964-1971) research seeking to clarify role expectations for the student teaching triad. Subjects were classroom teachers, students enrolled in a teacher training program at the University of British Columbia, and the university faculty who act as field advisors. Results of the study revealed that while the advisors in the American study felt that cooperating teachers should not inform student teachers of the aims and objectives of teaching in the district, the Canadian advisors strongly endorsed the expectation that cooperating teachers initiate student teachers into the ethos and context of the district in which the practice teaching takes place. These different responses appear to reflect the general intellectual, moral, and cultural climate of the times rather than differences between American and Canadian cultures. The implications for teaching and teacher education of those tendencies to move from a more liberal and critial-reflective university-based program to a field-based, practitioner supervised, on-the-job training as the preferred form of teacher socialization are pointed out. (JD)



# ROLE EXPECTATIONS FOR THE THREE POSITIONS IN THE STUDENT TEACHING TRYAD

by

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and

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#### Introduction

Student teaching is considered by many to be the critical component of teacher education (Campbell & Williamson, 1983; Ellenburg, 1981; Freeland, 1979; Funk et al., 1982; Gallemore, 1981; McAteer, 1976). Indeed, Karmos and Jacko (1977, p. 51) maintain that:

Student teaching is the major unifying experience of most teacher training programs. It is a time for the student teacher to explore, experiment, and 'put it all together' before becoming a professional. The future teacher attempts to identify and meet the expectations which come from self, cooperating teachers, university supervisors, students and society in general. Significant others direct and guide role behaviors as they assume the role of coach, either directly or indirectly.

This experience, the quality of which has been found to relate positively to the professional abilities of the supervisors (Switzer, 1976), appears to have a profound effect on student teachers as they change from college students to beginning teachers (Campbell & Wheatley, 1983). Not surprisingly, then, Turney et al. (1982, p. 47) describe student teaching as "the single, most powerful intervention in a teacher's professional preparation." The case for student teachers having an opportunity to apply instructional knowledge and skills in a practical setting is a cogent one. What is not certain, however, is that the outcomes of student teaching are indeed helpful in the development of prospective teachers.

The traditional model of student teaching puts the would-be teacher under the supervision of a cooperating teacher and a university advisor. Together with the student teacher, these supervisors form the student teaching triad. The existence of the triad presupposes differentiated roles undertaken by the various members. This does not, however, appear to be the case in practice. Previous research (see Applegate & Lasley, 1983; Bowman, 1979; Diem & Schnitz,



1978; Ellensburg, 1981; Emans, 1983; Funk et al., 1983; Gallemore, 1981; Grimmett et al., 1983; Horton & Harvey, 1979; Kilgore, 1979; Lipton & Lessor, 1978; Renihan & Schwier, 1980; Yates, 1981; Yoder & Arms, 1981) has found evidence of role confusion and role conflict. In other words, there appears to be a distinct lack of clarity and consensus about who will perform which tasks in the student teaching triad. In some cases, this has led to duplication of function, in others to omission.

#### Problem

Diem and Schnitz (1978) found that student teaching consists of a tripartite partnership in which the relationships among the members remains substantially undefined. Such a nebulous context is problematic for all three members of the triad.

Renihan and Schwier (1970) suggest that conflicting role perceptions and expectations present a major problem for student teachers. In a survey of cooperating teachers and student teachers to determine what they most and least appreciated about their respective partners, Beauchamp (1983) found that student teachers least appreciated their supervisors' "failing to clearly define their expectations of us." Role ambiguity can be particularly problematic when cooperating teachers and university advisors hold different and/or contradictory expectations for student teachers. Frequently, this can lead to the dissonance, in student teachers, reported by Mahon and Lacefield (1978) where they are torn between their own expectations and those of their two supervisors. To reduce dissonance, student teachers generally adopted, on



a temporary basis, the expectations of one or both of the supervisors. This problem is exacerbated when each supervisor holds different and contrasting expectations for the student teacher role. Indeed, the instability of groups consisting of three members (Emans, 1983) can precipitate the formation of coalitions within the triad (Grimmett & Etchell, 1979) where two members play off against the third.

The lack of clear consensus among cooperating teachers and university advisors about expectations for the student teacher ole ties in closely with the confusion that currently exists about the respective supervisory roles. In a study of triad member perceptions of the importance and achievement of objectives in the student teaching experience, Gallemore (1981) found the greatest similarity of views to b between cooperating teachers and student teachers and the greatest dissimilarity in views to be between the cooperating teacher and the university advisor. In addition, she found a distinct lack of relationship between what student teachers achieved and what all members of the triad perceived as important for student teachers to achieve. She concludes:

Perhaps the lack of agreement about perceptions related to these roles is a result of disagreement between the purposes of student teaching. If significant agreement could be reached about expectations for the student teacher, the task of what roles the cooperating teacher and university supervisor would play in helping the student teacher achieve specific competencies might be more easily defined (p. 188).

Applegate and Lasley's (1982) study of cooperating teachers' problems confirms the confusion that exists around the role of the classroom teacher



supervisor. They identify six major problems pertaining to cooperating teachers and call for a clarification of their role:

Cooperating teachers must know what they are to perform and what skills they are to encourage . . . Problems arise for cooperating teachers because of unfilled expectations. (p. 18)

Yates (1981), in a British study examining the effectiveness of student teaching supervision arrangements, found that most cooperating teachers were unclear about their role and that only 18 per cent had a clear understanding of college expectations. Lipke's (1979) study produced a similar finding. In a survey of cooperating teachers, student teachers, principals, and university advisors, she found that all respondents, with the exception of some university advisors, stated a need for improved communication and a clearer definition of roles.

The role of university advisor has been described as being both extremely complex (Zimpher et al., 1980) and almost impossible to carry out (Knop, 1977). This has prompted some (see Bowman, 1979; Ellenburg, 1981; Emans, 1983; Horton & Harvey, 1979) to propose a change in the role of the university advisor, based on the assumption that the current role performance is a waste of resources. The problem with these proposals lies in the fact that they are largely speculative and not empirically based. At this point in time, where there is not clear understanding of which expectations are held by members of the triad for the university advisor role, it would appear premature to label the role performance a waste of resources. Further, as Olson (1981) points out, versity advisors themselves experience intense role conflict and



confusion which may account for the frequent problems they encounter in their dealings with both cooperating teachers and student teachers.

It could be argued that clarity of role definition is a prerequisite for effective functioning in any organizational position. Student teaching, as a vital clinical component of teacher education, continues in many programs to be structured around the traditional triad which research has characterized as lacking in a clear definition of or consensus about the respective roles played by each member. The effectiveness of such an arrangement, then, is open to question, given the confusion that currently exists. Where "the single, most powerful intervention in a teacher's professional preparation" (Turney et al., 1982, p. 47) is constituted within the traditional triad, this represents a serious problem.

#### Studies of Triad Role Expectations

Garland (1982) reports three studies (Garland, 1964; Kaplan, 1967;

Castillo, 1971) that attempted to address this.

conducted to derive triad member expectations for the roles of student
teacher, cooperating teacher, and university advisor. Using a framework for
role analysis developed by Gross et al. (1958), which provided a set of
consistent definitions for examining role conflict and role consensus in
complementary roles viewed as interaction systems, these studies examined the
expectations held by triad members for each role in relationship to the other
two. The general purpose was to assess the amount of consensus or conflict
that existed on role definitions as a starting point for planning and



implementing ways of bringing about increased effectiveness through clarity of and consensus on role definitions.

Garland (1964) assessed conflict and consensus on expectations held for the role of student teacher by cooperating teachers, university advisors, and student teachers. Using a 76-item questionnaire specially constructed and validated for the study, she asked respondents in all three groups of her sample (48 student teachers, 33 cooperating teachers, 19 university advisors drawn from three different student teaching programs) to indicate which functions (taken from the literature on student teacher performance) student teachers should or should not be expected to perform using a four-point scale (absolutely must, preferably should, preferably should not, absolutely must not). The responses revealed significant differences between cooperating teachers and student teachers on four items, between cooperating teachers and university advisors on three items, and between student teachers and university advisors on three items. On the opposite side, she found high consensus (86 per cent or higher in all three groups indicated that the function should or should not be performed) among the three groups on 24 items.

Kaplan's (1967) study used a similar analytical framework to investigate the role expectations for university advisors held by student teachers, cooperating teachers, and university advisors. Using a 40-item questionnaire specially constructed and validated for the study, he asked respondents in all three groups of his sample (88 student teachers, 46 cooperating teachers, 15 university advisors — associated with one student teaching program) to



indicate using the same four-point scale which functions a university advisor should or should not be expected to perform. The responses showed disagreement between cooperating teachers and student teachers on 11 items, between cooperating teachers and university advisors on five items. High consensus among all three groups was found on seven items.

Castillo (1971) conducted the third study using the Gross et al. (1958) framework and the same four-point, forced-choice questionnaire. The focus of this study was on the cooperating teacher role. Using a 50-item questionnaire specially constructed and validated for the study, Castillo asked all respondents (75 student teachers, 75 cooperating teachers, 75 university advisors — a random sample drawn from seven different teacher education programs) to indicate which functions a cooperating teacher should or should not be expected to perform. The study found differences between cooperating teachers and university advisors on 14 items, between student teachers and university advisors on 12 items, and between cooperating teachers and student teachers on nine items. High consensus on seven items was found across all three groups.

Garland (1982), commenting on these three studies, suggests that:

The results . . . clearly demonstrate that consensus on role definitions cannot be viewed as a condition to be assumed. Rather, it must be viewed as a condition to be developed. Only as expectations are examined for areas of disagreement and consensus can a basis for effective role relationships be established (p. 56).

In other words, previous studies have not found much evidence of consensus on the expectations held by incumbents and their respective alter groups which



define the roles associated with the three positions in the student teaching triad. These results may be explained by the fact that only one of the three studies had a sample drawn from a single program, and it could be argued that cross-program consensus is difficult to achieve. The study (Kaplan, 1967) that used only one program did not, however, produce startling findings of consensus. This, then, tends to suggest that even within-program consensus is difficult to achieve, although the particular focus of the Kaplan study (the university advisor role) may account for some of the variance in the sense that this role is a complex one to define. Perhaps the most plausible explanation of these studies' lack of consensus lies in the fact that they were conducted several years ago when the knowledge base for student teaching and its supervision was much more scant than it is today. In other words, the findings of the studies reported by Garland (1982) may be bound by time and (for those who live in a different culture) by the American context. Could it be, then, that a replication of these studies during the 1980s within a single student teaching program in a different cultural (Canadian) context to 14 produce different findings? Further, the problem of how to conceptualize the various roles that make up the student teaching triad, while it has been addressed by the studies of Garland (1964), Kaplan (1967), and Catillo (1971), still remains a concern in the literature. In other words, we still know little about the student teaching triad and the roles each respective member is expected to play.



#### Purpose of the Study

The primary purpose of this study was to determine the role expectations held for all three positions in the student teaching triad by the incumbents of the position and the members of the counter positions. Specifically, the expectations held by student teachers, cooperating teachers, and university advisors for their own role and the roles of the other two were elicited. In so doing, the study was designed to identify the aspects of the expectations for each of the three roles on which the members of the triad registered agreement or disagreement.

A secondary purpose was to replicate in one study, drawing on a large sample from a single student teaching program in Canada, the surveys previously conducted by Garland (1964), Kaplan (1967), and Castillo (1971). Specifically, a comparison of items of agreement and disagreement would enable conclusions to be drawn about whether the definition of student teaching triad roles is bound by time and/or context, or whether certain aspects of the expectations held for the different roles can be said to be constant across time and/or context.

#### Research Questions

- What expectations does each member of the triad hold for his or her position?
- What expectations does each member of the triad hold for the two counter positions?
- 3. On which aspects of the expectations for each of the three roles do members of the triad agree?



- 4. On which aspects of the expectations for each of the three roles do members of the triad disagree?
- 5. What similarities and differences exist between the findings of the current study and the previous studies of Garland (1964), Kaplan (1967), and Castillo (1971)?
- 6. To what extent can the similarities and differences between the findings of this study and the previous studies be explained by a difference in time and/or context?
- 7. Are there similarities and differences constant over time and context that could be the foundation for developing profiles for each of the three roles in the student teaching triad?

#### Method

The three populations involved in this study are the classroom teachers of the province of British Columbia, the students enrolled in a teacher training program at the University of British Columbia, and the university-appointed faculty who act as field supervisors.

The three samples were the personnel involved in the May practicum. There being nothing unusual about this practicum, it was assumed that the three samples were representative of the three respective populations. Table 1 indicates the numbers involved and the rate of return for the distributed questionnaires.



Insert Table 1 about here

The student teaching component of the teacher-training program involves a three-week practicum in May. Students are assigned to various cooperating teachers throughout the province depending on the nature of their program and the availability of appropriate cooperating teachers. University advisors are similarily assigned to various geographic areas to fulfill their supervisory duties. Six hundred twenty-five of the student teachers were assigned at the elementary school level (i.e., grades 1-7) and three hundred twenty-five to secondary (i.e, grades 8-12).

One three-part questionnaire was intended for each person involved in the practicum with the university advisor consenting to distribute all questionnaires to persons in his assigned area. Each person was then requested to complete the questionnaire, place it in a sealed envelope, and return it to the university advisor or send it in by mail.

Data were transferred from the questionnaire to coding sheets, typed into a computer file, and computer analyzed.

#### Results

Every subject responded to one of three triad-specific demographic data sheets and the common three-part questionnaire involving a total of 166 items.



Each item used a four-point, quasi-interval scoring scale. Two items of the demographic data sheet are summarized in Table 2, but it was not the intent of this paper to analyze responses with respect to the demographic data collected.

Insert Table 2 about here

The Garland/Castillo/Kaplan (GCK) research identified role expectations for which the members of the triad (i.e., student, teacher, advisor) were in agreement. Whenever 86% or more registered either in favor or not in favor of a particular item, for each member of the triad, G/C/K ruled consensus. Our (GR) criteria for consensus was the .01 level of statistical significance using the chi-square goodness-of-fit test. The following questionnaire items represent consensus items from both studies or from either study alone.

#### Consensus Items

- A. Role expectations for the student teacher.
  - 1. Both studies: (86-100% criterion)
    - i) work with the cooperating teacher in planning a unit (2)
    - ii) develop written lesson plans for own teaching activities (4)
    - iii) use a consistent format for writing lesson plans (6)
    - iv) revise lesson plans in accordance with the cooperating teacher's suggestions (8)
    - v) seek to acquire an understanding of the characteristics of the community where school is located (20)



- vi) observe children at age levels above and below that to which the student teacher is assigned (21)
- vii) observe children in school situations outside of the classroom (23)
- viii) create own instructional materials in the absence of suitable materials (30)
- ix) teach at some time when the cooperating teacher is not in the room (31)
- x) assume responsibility for guiding the activities of temporary and/or permanent groups (33)
- xi) express own imagination and creativity in teaching (34)
- xii) teach groups of different abilities (36)
- xiii) use community resources in teaching (42)
- xiv) construct, give, and interpret tests (44)
- xv) guide children in developing group standards (48)
- xvi) attend staff meetings (59)
- xvii) keep attendance records (64)
- xviii) be available either before or after school for conferences with the cooperating teacher (73)
- xix) organize a professional file of teaching material of both pictures and subject-matter (76)

#### 2. Grimmett/Ratzlaff only:

- xx) study the cooperating teacher's unit and daily plans (1)
- xxi) study the cooperating teacher's plan before observing a lesson (12)
- xxii) observe in the classrooms of other teachers (18)
- xxiii) assume responsibility for grouping an activity (37)
- xxiv) assume total responsibility for the teaching program before conclusion of student teaching experience (41)
- xxv) use non-test methods of evaluation (52)
- xxvi) visit classroom before student teaching begins (70)
- xxvii) contact cooperating teacher prior to student teaching (71)
- xxviii) discuss activities of student teaching seminars with the cooperating teacher (75)

#### 3. Garland only:

- xxix) submit lesson plans to cooperating teacher prior to teaching (7)
- xxx) work with one child who needs special assistance (diagnosing deficiencies, applying remedial procedures) (32)
- xxxi) develop and maintain pupil progress charts (45)
- xxxii) work at some time with consultants or special tec. (54)
- xxxiii) attend parent-teacher association meetings (61)



#### 4. Grimmett/Ratzlaff: ( $\alpha = .01$ criterion)

- i) plan a unit independently (3)
- ii) prepare daily plans a week in advance (5)
- iii) submit lesson plans to the sponsor teacher prior to teaching (7)
- iv) take notes while the cooperating teacher is teaching (13)
- v) if notes are taken, make these notes available to the cooperating teacher (14)
- vi) observe the teaching of another student teacher (19)
- vii) use a specific form for recording observations of individual and group behavior (24)
- viii) study the abilities of mentally retarded children (25)
- ix) begin teaching by working with a small group (29)
- x) work with one child who needs special assistantce (diagnosing deficiencies, applying remedial procedures) (32)
- xi) organize and conduct a field trip (39)
- xii) follow the same instructional program as that of the cooperating teacher (40)
- xiii) teach at more than one grade level during the student teaching semester or period (43)
- xiv) develop and maintain pupil progress charts (45)
- xv) contribute information to cumulative records (46)
- xvi) participate with the cooperating teacher in pupil conferences (47)
- xvii) conduct group evaluation sessions (49)
- xviii) conduct individual conferences with pupils to discuss their growth (50)
- xix) work at some time with consultants or special teachers (54)
- xx) assume major responsibility for lunchroom supervision at some time (55)
- xxi) participate in parent-teacher conferences (58)
- xxii) become a member of a staff committee or group in an area in which he has special competence (60)
- xxiii) collect money for such purposes as milk, lunch, Community Chest, etc. (66)
- xxiv) evaluate reference books (68)
- xxv) keep a daily log of experience (69)
- xxvi) maintain anecdotal records for children in the classroom (72)
- xxvii) should not settle a disturbance while the cooperating teacher is teaching (16)
- xxviii) should not contribute to class discussions while the cooperating teacher is teaching (17)
- xxix) should not participate in changing school policies (56)
- xxx) should not spend two or three days working with the school rincipal (57)



- xxxi) should not conduct a parent-teacher conference alone (63)
- xxxi1) not sure about attending a conference of the principal and cooperating teacher when the cooperating teacher is discussing some aspect of his work (65)

#### B. Role expectations for the cooperating teacher

#### 1. Both studies: (86-100% criterion)

- i) provide the student teacher with place for personal materials (6)
- ii) introduce student teacher to members of the administrative staff, co-teachers, and other school employees (9)
- iii) involve student teacher in planning and directing learning activities of children (22)
- iv) hold scheduled conference periods with student teacher (40)
- v) evaluate the activities and progress of the student teacher with the university advisor at regular intervals (46)

#### 2. Grimmett/Ratzlaff only:

- vi) develop well-balanced program of student teaching activities for the student teacher (3)
- vii) explain to pupils the responsibility of the student teacher (4)
- viii) invite the student teacher to participate in staff meetings (10)
- ix) explain all school routines, rules, and policies (11)
- x) show student teacher physical set-up of the classroom, school buildings, and school grounds (12)
- xi) inform student teacher of aims and objectives of teaching in the school district (13)
- xii) explain the overall plan of the course of study for each subject (14)
- xiii) explain the principles related to certain teaching techniques (16)
- xiv) demonstrate for the student teacher different methods or procedures of teaching (19)
- xv) share with the student teacher information about the interests and abilities of pupils (20)
- xvi) tell the student teacher proven techniques of classroom management (21)
- xvii) supply the student teacher with copies of the teacher's guide, teacher's manual, textbooks, and other types of teaching aids (28)
- xviii) allow maximum freedom for student teachers as they assume more teaching responsibility (29)



- xix) share with the student teacher ideas, discoveries, and innovations in education (30)
- xx) make the student teacher aware of voice, pronunciation, and level of vocabulary (34)
- xxi) evaluate the progress of the student teacher (35)
- xxii) check unit or daily plans of the student teacher (39)
- xxiii) arrange for the student teacher to observe other classrooms in the school building or district (42)
- xxiv) keep a comprehensive record of the activities and progress of the student teacher (44)
- involve the student teacher in extracurricular activities sponsored jointly by school and community (47)

#### 3. Castillo only:

- xxvi) work with the university advisor in planning the student teaching program (1)
- xxvii) participate actively in seminars and in-service training for cooperating teachers (2)

#### 4. Grimmett/Ratzlaff: ( $\alpha = .01$ criterion)

- i) work with the university advisor in planning the student teaching program (1)
- ii) participate actively in seminars and in-service training for cooperating teachers (2)
- iii) plan for the student teacher the different phases of his training (15)
- iv) prepare a set of observation guidelines for the student teacher (17)
- v) show the student teacher how daily or unit plans are prepared (10)
- vi) instruct the student teacher how to establish "close" rapport with the pupils (23)
- vii) give precise guidance on how different types of teacher-made tests are prepared (24)
- viii) give the student teacher detailed information as to how report cards attendance forms, and permanent records are prepared, used, and kept (25)
- ix) demonstrate operation and use of the different audio-visual equipment and office machines (26)
- x) supply reference books, professional magazines to be used by the student teacher (27)
- xi) assist the student teacher to search for valid principles that would support his activities or teaching methods (32)
- xii) counsel the student teacher about "proper" grooming and decorum in the classroom (33)



- xiii) develop the basic criteria for judging success of the student teacher (36)
- xiv) act with vigilance in protecting the educational welfare of the pupils from the inefficiency of the student teacher (37)
- review the written report of the student teacher about his student teaching experiences (41)
- xvi) help the student teacher interpret his observation notes of other classrooms (43)
- xvii) clarify for the student teacher the provisions of the teachers'
  "code of ethics" (49)
- xviii) take the student teacher to teachers' conventions and other organizational meetings (50)
- xix) should not assume the sole authority in deciding the student teacher's readiness to assume full responsibility in teaching (38)
- should not shield the shortcomings of the student teacher from the critical view of the university supervisor (45)

### C. Role expectations for the university advisor

- . Both studies: (86-100% criterion)
  - i) study the student teacher's unit and daily plans (3)
  - should not designate the total responsibility of evaluation to the cooperating teacher (22)
  - iii) guide the student teacher toward the goal of self-evaluation (28)
  - iv) assist the student teacher's adjustment to public school and university policies (31)
  - v) serve as resource consultant for the student teacher (32)
  - vi) clarify the obligation of the school to the university and the university to the school (37)
  - vii) work with the university faculty in developing the total teacher training program (38)

### 2. Grimmett/Ratzlaff only:

- viii) take notes while the student teacher is teaching (14)
- ix) if notes are taken, make these notes available to the student teacher (16)
- x) should not assume total responsibility for evaluating the student teacher (19)
- 3. Kaplan only: -



### 4. Grimmett/Ratzlaff. ( $\propto = .01$ criterion)

- i) observe children in the classroom assigned to the student teacher (8)
- if notes are taken (cooperating teacher teaching), make these notes available to the cooperating teacher (15)
- iii) share responsibility of evaluation with student teacher and cooperating teacher (21)
- iv) use evaluation procedures designed by the university (23)
- v) assist the cooperating teacher in fulfilling her role (29)
- vi) act as liaison between student teacher and cooperating teacher (30)
- vii) serve as resource consultant for cooperating teacher (33)
- viii) conduct student teaching in-service programs (36)
- ix) should not work with the cooperating teacher in planning a unit(2)
- x) should not take notes while the cooperating teacher is teaching (11)
- xi) if notes are taken, should not make these notes available to the school principal (13)
- xii) if notes are taken (student teacher teaching), should not make these notes available to the school principal (17)
- xiii) should not attend staff meetings in cooperating schools (39)
- xiv) not sure about conducting cooperative planning sessions with cooperating teacher and student teacher (6)

#### Disagreement Items

Table 3 reveals the number of items of disagreement for each member of the triad across both studies. A total of 19 of 76 (25%) student role items produced intra-triad disagreement in one or the other of the studies with only four in common; 26 of 50 (52%) cooperating teacher items with only three in common; 22 of 40 (55%) university advisor items with nine in common.

Insert Table 3 about here



The disagreement items are stated along with graphic indications suggesting both the direction and intensity of the disagreement (Table 4). Solid line segments indicate Grimmett/Ratzlaff (GR) results while broken line segments indicate results from the Garland/Castillo/Kaplan (GCK) studies. A line segment extending from scale value 1 to 2 indicates 'in favor' while 3 to 4 indicates 'opposed'. A line segment between 2 and 3 indicates 'divided response'. The 'o' (GR) and the 'x' (GCK) indicate 'intensity' according to the following scale:

- 1: Absolutely must (AM)
- 2: Preferably should (PS)
- 3: Preferably should not (PSN)
- 4: Absolutely must not (AMN)

Insert Table 4 about here

The information in Table 4 can be summarized in several ways. One way is to investigate the number of dyad differences in direction or intensity within these sixty-seven disagreement items. How many times did any two members of the triad disagree with each other? Table 5 represents a summary of the number of dyad (S-T, S-A, T-A) differences with respect to both direction and intensity for both studies (GR;GCK) separately.



Insert Table 5 about here

The tabled figures point in the direction of least difference, in both studies combined, for the student teacher role and the greatest number of disagreements for the cooperating teacher role. Separating the two studies, one observes a greater number of differences in the GR study for the student role (i.e., more confusion) than there are for the GCK studies. For the cooperating teacher role the reverse is true. Greater confusion is suggested by the GCK data. The advisor role appears to be equally confusing in both studies.

Another way of summarizing the Table 4 information is to identify and investigate the items on which the two studies resulted in role expectations that were opposite in direction to the summary.

Insert Table 6 about here



An exploration of the differences in these findings would facilitate an appraisal of whether the changing conception of the cooperating teacher role is the result of the different contextual variables operative in the situation or whether, in fact, the change is representative of a different "zeitgeist".

#### Discussion of Results

### Differences in Expectations for the Cooperating Teacher Role

Table 6 demonstrates fourteen items on which one of the three groups of respondents in the Canadian study held contrastingly different expectations for the cooperating teacher role from their counterparts in the American research. Of these fourteen items, none was representative of a change in expectations across all three respondent groups. All except one item (36) registered with only one group. Moreover, the major differences in expectations were not with the cooperating teacher respondents but with the student teachers and university advisors. A close examination of the differences between the respective student teacher respondents suggests certain expectations among the Canadian sample that were not present in the 1971 American sample. These expectations clustered around the concerns for cooperating teacher planning and preparation for the practicum (items 4 and 15), for cooperating teacher involvement in the practice teaching evaluation process (items 36 and 39), and for greater emphasis to be placed on cooperating teacher socialization of prospective teachers (items 47 and 50). The items on which the Canadian sample of university advisors registered their



differences all clustered around the theme of the role of the cooperating teacher in the professional socialization of student teachers. These six items suggest a radically different orientation which could be the consequence of the cultural milieu and/or the "zeitgeist" within which the Canadian study was conducted.

### Cooperating Teacher Socialization of Prospective Teachers

Whereas the advisors in Castillo's (1971) American study were of the view that cooperating teachers should not inform student teachers of the aims and objectives of teaching in the school district (item 13), the Canadian advisors strongly endorsed the expectation that cooperating teachers initiate student teachers into the ethos and context of the district in which the practice teaching takes place. By contrast with the 1971 American findings, this suggests that the context of teaching is seen as an important set of variables to be taken into account in the proferional socialization of student teachers.

Further evidence of different expectations held by the American and Canadian advisor groups is found on item 19. The Canadian study found a tendency towards an expectation that the cooperating teacher socialize the student teacher through demonstration of different methods or procedures of teaching. This is in distinct contrast to the American advisors' view that cooperating teachers should not demonstrate models of teaching for their students at all. In the Canadian 1985 sample, then, there is a clear expectation of coaching and modelling, whereas the advisors in the previous study's sample were vehemently opposed to this form of socialization.



The tendency towards coaching as a more directive form of student teaching supervision is evident in the different findings on items 21 and 23. Where the advisors in Castillo's sample were opposed to the cooperating teacher telling the student teacher proven techniques of classroom management (item 21), all three groups in the Canadian sample were in favour of cooperating teachers doing this. Similarly, all three groups in the current study expected the cooperating teacher to instruct the student teacher in how to establish rapport with pupils (item 23), whereas previously the advisors were against this.

If the previous items represented the instructional side of the cooperating teacher's socialization role, then item 27 pertains to the supportive side. Accompanying the tendency in the current study towards greater emphasis on the instructional aspect of the socializing role of the cooperating teacher was an equally strong expectation that such socialization be carried out in a professionally supportive manner. Where the advisors in the Castillo study were opposed to the cooperating teacher supplying reference books and professional magazines for the student teacher to use, all three groups in the current study registered agreement.

The different findings pertaining to the expectations held by university advisors for the socializing aspect of the cooperating teacher role can be summarized as a tendency in the Canadian sample towards a more directive form of supervision together with close, professional support, where the approach is less one of "sink or swim" and more of "on-the-job coaching".



#### Cooperating Teacher role: Defined by Context or Zeitgeist?

The differences in expectations for the role of cooperating teacher between the American (1971) and Canadian (1985) study are important. The subjects in the Canadian survey expected greater collaboration between university and school personnel in the areas of program planning and the evaluation of student teaching while emphasizing a heightened, professionally responsible role for the cooperating teacher in the orientation, socialization, and evaluation of student teachers. The high number of consensus items in the Canadian survey suggests a leaning towards the field personnel taking a more active role in the education of teachers at the pre-service level.

Are these differences in findings the result of the Canadian context? Or are they more appropriately explained as a product of the time in which the Canadian study was conducted? The differences can be said to be a product of the context in the sense that the current study drew on a sample within a single student teaching program whereas the Casti': The study drew on their responses. Further, all respondents in this study were actual members of a triad and active in the practice of student teaching and its supervision at the time of the survey. Our understanding of Castillo's sample (based on Garland 1982 and Dissertation Abstracts International 1971 only) would lead us to believe that a greater emphasis was placed on obtaining a random sample cross the different student teaching programs than on ensuring that each subject was at the time of the survey an active member of a triad upon which



they could base their responses. But these are minor points. It would seem to us that the more plausible explanation for the different findings lies not so much in the context as in the spirit (zeitgeist) of the 1980's. All over the world there has been a trend in this decade towards a more conservative worldview. This cosmic trend has affected education as much as any other phenomenon and specific effects are to be found in teacher education. This trend has culminated in three potent criticisms of the nature and substance of teacher education; namely, (1) that teacher preparation programs are not really that useful (see Joyce & Cliff, 1984), (2) that those who profess teacher education know and do little about the knowledge base that does exist on teaching and teacher education (see Denemark, 1970, Joyce & Cliff, 1984), and (3) that teachers once they become certificated practitioners, consistently move towards a relatively narrow didactic approach to teaching (see Goodlad, 1983, Sirotnik, 1983). The tendencies evident in the 1985 Canadian survey of the cooperating teacher's role in the student teaching triad appear to be related to these criticisms. Student teachers, classroom teachers, and uriversity advisors all perceive the need for the cooperating teacher to play a more active role in the professional socialization of would-be teachers. This stems in part from a general misgiving about teacher education in the university setting where "few teacher preparation institutions use research and development-based innovations even in teacher training" (Joyce & Cliff, 1984, p. 6). It is also an indication that many of the promises held out to practitioners for the improvement of teaching have been largely unfulfilled (Sykes, 1983), resulting in the heavy resurgence of a



teacher-centred didacticism in classrooms - the "tried and true" method that works for busy practitioners faced with high class sizes - towards which teachers feel they must orient and socialize new entrants into the teaching workforce. Ultimately, however, the tendencies found in the present study represent the current questioning of whether teacher preparation should be part of a university program or whether, in fact, the training of would-be teachers is most effectively accomplished in field-based programs under the keen supervision of experienced, professional practitioners.

#### Conclusion

One final question needs to be raised. If the differences in findings (as illustrated by the examination of the cooperating teacher role) between the Canadian and American studies can be said to be more plausibly explained by time than by context, then to what extent are the different tendencies evident in the more recent study appropriate to the effective development of a professional teaching force capable of school renewal? It is not within the purview of this paper to address such a significant question. Nevertheless, the work of Zeichner (1980, 1984), Zeichner and Tabachnick (1981), and Goodlad (1983) would suggest the need for a serious examination of the implications for teaching and teacher education of those tendencies to move from a more liberal and critical-reflective university-based program to a field-based, practitioner supervised, on-the-job training as the preferred form of teacher socialization.



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Table 1
Questionnaires Distributed and Returned

•	Distributed	Returned	Rate
Cooperating teachers (T)	1375	637	46,3%
Student teachers (S)	950	425	44.7%
University advisors (A)	75	54	72.0%



Table 2

Gender and Age of Participants

			Student	Teacher	Advisor
, Gender:	a)	Female	321	371	24
	b)	Male	103	261	29
Age:	a)	Under 20	14	0	0
	b)	20-24	308	2	0
	c)	25-29	70	93	4
	d)	30-39	25	299	9
	e)	40-49	6	170	13
•	f)	Over 49	7	7.7	



Table 3

Number of Intra-triad Role Expectation Disagreement Items

•	Student	Teacher role	Advisor role	Total
Both studies (common)	4	3	9	16
Grimmett/Ratzlaff	12	3	7	22
Garland/Castillo/Kaplan	3	20	6	29
Total	19	26	22	67



TABLE 4: Direction and i student (S); te	ntensity of acher (T): A	disagreeme dvisor (A)	ent items	•
			· •	
Al Student Teacher Role Expectat	(Yes)	2	3 1	(No) 4
G/GR:I) rely on the recommend-	so		1.	-
acions provided by the teacher's manual for a		* *		
lesson. (10)	A		j .   ·	,
2) observe in the classroom for a week before begin-				
ning to teach. (15)				
	Ä			
3) administer a socio-			h	
gram. (28)	- <b>5</b> -			
	T	4.5	f	
			1	
4) correct papers and tests		· ••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••••		
administered by the	<u>X</u>	i	i h	
cooperating teacher.	, <u>x</u>	] ì	<u> </u>	<del></del>
(67)	A		 	
G:5) prepare daily plans a	So	]	I	
week in advance. (5)		İ	<u></u>	
	T		1	
	Αο	<u> </u>	j	
6) contribute information	s <u>o</u>		•	
to cumulative records.	ī o		,! !	
(46)			<u> </u>	
	A		i	
7) and two on their days	S	1	10	
<ol> <li>spend two or three days working with the school</li> </ol>	T	<u> </u>	'×	
principal. (57)	_	~	Jo	
	A	ł		<u> </u>
GR:8) use the same format as	S		!	
that used by the cooperating teacher for	Tr.	 	1	
planning. (9)	T		`{  	
- ·	A		i	



	-2-
TABLE 4. (cont.d)	(Yes) (No)
p) conduct cooperative plan- ning sessions with children. (11)	T
10) maintain an anecdotal record of the behavior of one child during student teaching (22)	S
11) prepare an individual case study, (26)	T
12) participate in one related community agency. (27)	T O
13) do substitute teaching in other classrooms. (35)	S
14) do substitute teaching in assigned classroom. (38)	S 0
15) administer an interest inventory. (51)	SOI
16) requisition supplies and instructional materials. (53)	SO

TABLE 4 (cont'd)	(Yes) (No)
17) attend P.T.A. meetings (61	T A O
18) accompany the sponsor teach	er S o
19) accept social invitations from parents (74)	T O
B. Cooperating Teacher Role Ex	pectations:
C/GR:1) plan for the student tea the different phases of his training (15)	cher S O
2) help the student teacher to develop interest and skill in doing simple educational research (3)	S
3) explain to the student teacher the merits and described merits of the unsolved issues of the profession (48)	T
C:4) explain to the pupils the responsibility of the student teacher (4)	E S



		٦.
TABLE 4 (cont'd)	(Yes) 123	, (No) 4
5) invite the student teacher to participate in staff meetings (10)	SX T X	
6) explain all school routines, rules, and policies (11)	S	* · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
7) show the student teacher the physical set-up of the classroom, school buildings and grounds (12)	S O A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A	
8) inform the student teacher of the aims and objectives of teaching in the school district (13)	S	
9) explain the overall plan of the course of study for each subject (14)	S X	a. vup same
10) explain the principles related to certain teaching techniques (16)	S   T   A	
11) demonstrate for the student teacher the different methods or procedures of teaching (19)	S	anner som se
12) tell the student teacher proven techniques of classroom management (21)	S	



S

(Yes)

1

6. (No)

DYLIN.	rsity superv	1sor (45)	
	-a-x-+		
	ve the stude		-
in ex	tra-curricul	ar activitie	S
	are sponsore		
by th	e school and	community I	-

21) shield the shortcomings of

the student teacher from the critical view of the

TABLE 4 (cont'd)

23) take the student teacher to teachers conventions and - other organizational meetings (50)

GR:24) arrange for contact between parents of the pupils and the student teacher (5)

T A

S

assist the student teacher 25) in finding accommodations in the community (7)

T

S

26) take the student teacher for a tour of the community (8)

A

T

C. University Advisor Role Expectations:

K/GR:1) study the cooperating teacher's unit and daily plans (1)

S

A

10



	-7-	7.
TABLE 4 (cont'd)	(Yes) 2 3	(No) 4
2) observe co-oper teacher prior to placement of student teacher (9)  3) observe co-oper teacher during period of student teaching (10)	S	
	T O	
notes available to the co-oper.	SX	
5) observe in the classrooms of other teachers for purposes of selecting co-oper teachers (18)	SOO	
6) evaluate effectiveness of the co-oper. teacher in this capacity (25)	S O   T x	
7) make this evaluation available to the co-oper. teacher [77]	S   x   x   x   x   x   x   x   x   x   x   x   x   x   x   x   x   x   x   x	
8) make this available to the school principal (27)	S   x	
9) serve as resource consultant for all teachers in the school (35)	S T	
	A	



***	A Branch Branch Market Market Control of the Control	- Louisian III
	-8-	8.
TABLE 4 (cont'd)	(Yes) 2 3	(No) 4
K:10) conduct cooperative planning sessions with co-oper teacher and student teacher (6)	A S	
12) if notes are taken (co-oper.	A X	
available to the school principal (13)  13) assume total responsibility	A S	<u> </u>
for evaluating the student teacher (19)	T A	X
14) share responsibility of evaluation with student teacher and co-oper. teacher (21)	S	
designed by the university (23)	T	•
GR:16) work with the student teacher in planning a unit (4)	S O O O O	
<pre>17) work with the student teacher   in developing lesson plans   (5)</pre>	S O O O O O O O	



	-9-			9
TABLE 4 (cont'd)	(Yes)		3	(No) 4
18) conduct in-service pl sessions with co-oper school staff (7)			<u>o</u> <u>o</u>	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,
19) share responsibility evaluation with the s teacher (20)	tudent T	0		
20) use evaluation proced designed by the school district (24)	ol or		Mary 70-10-7	
21) serve as consultant work local P.T.A. groups (		;       	0	
22) work toward the impro of the total school program (40)	ovement ST	<u> </u>		
> Grimmett/Ratziali:	υ	<u>U</u>		

Garland/Castillo/Kaplan:

к\_\_\_\_\_ х



Table 5: number of dyad differences in direction or intensity for the disagreement items.

	Direction					Intensity					Combined								
	GR GCK				GR GCK			GR			(	ĢCK							
	ST	   <u>SA</u>	   <u>TA</u>	ST	<u>sa</u>	TA	ST	SA	TA	   <u>ST</u>	SA	TA	ST	SA	TA	ST	SA	TA	TOTAL
Student role	7	15	12	5	6	6	1	0	0	0	1	1	8	15	12	5	7	7	54
Teacher role	3	4	5	15	13	17	6	6	6	. 3	6	4	9	10	11	18	19	21	88
Advisor role	9	16	9	10	10	12	3	2	3	3	3	2	12	18	12	13	13	14	82
	_						_		_	—	_	_	—	—					
Total	19	35	26	30	29	35	10	8	9	6	10	7	29	43	35	36	39	42	224



Table 6: Items on which specified triad members responded in opposite directions in the two studies.

# Student role:

	udent respondents	Teacher respondents	Advisor respondents
5	prepare daily plans a week in advance (GR:+) rely on the recom- mendations provided by the teacher's manual for a lesson (GR:+)	28 administer a socio- gram (GR:-) 46 contribute information to cumulative records (GR:+) 67 correct papers and tests administered by the cooperating teacher. (GR:-)	

# Teacher Role:

- 4 explain to the
   pupils the respon sibility of the
   student teacher
   (GR:+)
- 15 plan for the student teacher the different phases of his training. (GR:+)
- 36 develop the basic criteria for judging success of the student teacher (GR:+)
- 39 check the unit or
   daily plans of the
   student teacher.
   (GR:+)
- 47 involve the student teacher in extracurricular activities that are sponsored jointly by the school and the community. (GR:+)
- 50 take the student teacher to teachers' conventions and other organizational meetings. (GR:+)

- 31 help the student teacher to develop interest and skill in doing simple educational research. (GR:+)
- 38 assume the sole authority in deciding the student teachers' readiness to assume full responsibility in teaching. (GR:-)
- 13 inform the student teacher of the aims and objectives of teaching in the school district. (GR:+)
- 16 explain the principles related to certain teaching techniques. (GR:+)
- 19 demonstrate for the student teacher the different methods or procedures of teaching. (GR:+)
- 21 tell the student teacher proven techniques of classroom management. (GR:+)
- 23 instruct the student teacher how to establish "close" rapport with the pupils. (GR:+)
- 27 supply reference professional books, magazines to be used by the student teacher. (GR:+)



### Table 6 (continued)

Advisor role:

				36	develop the basic criteria for judging success of the student teacher. (GR:+)
23	use evaluation procedures designed by the university. (GR:+)	8	observe children in the classroom assigned to the student teacher. (GR:+) observe in the class- rooms of other	21	share respons- ibility of evaluation with student teacher and cooperating teacher. (GR:+)
26	make this evaluation available to the cooperating teacher (GR:+)	27	teachers for purposes of selecting cooperating teacher. (GR:-) make this evaluation available to the school principal. (GR:-)		

