MEMORANDUM

TO: Donna Wiseman
Interim Dean, College of Education

FROM: Phyllis Peres
Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs

SUBJECT: Proposal to modify the curriculum of the M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction with Certification (PCC log no. 07000)

In its meeting today, the Senate Committee on Programs, Curricula and Courses unanimously approved your proposal to modify the curriculum in the M.Ed. in Curriculum and Instruction with Certification. A copy of the approved proposal is attached.

The change is effective Fall, 2008. The College should ensure that the change is fully described in the Graduate Catalog and in all relevant descriptive materials, and that all advisors are informed.

CWR/

Enclosure

cc: Carmen Balthrop, Chair, Senate PCC Committee
Sarah Bauder, Office of Student Financial Aid
Laura Slavin, University Senate
Barbara Hope, Data Administration
Denise Nadasen, Institutional Research & Planning
Anne Turkos, Archives
Linda Yokoi, Office of the Registrar
Mary Ann Ottinger, Graduate School
Stephen Koziol, College of Education
David Cooper, College of Education
THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, COLLEGE PARK
PROGRAM/CURRICULUM PROPOSAL

DIRECTIONS:
- Provide one form with original approval signatures in lines 1 - 4 for each proposed action. Keep this form to one page in length.
- Early consultation with the Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning & Programs is strongly recommended if there are questions or concerns, particularly with new programs.
- Please submit the signed form to Claudia Rector, Office of the Associate Provost for Academic Planning and Programs, 1119 Main Administration Building, Campus.
- Please email the rest of the proposal as an MSWord attachment to pcc-submissions@umd.edu.

DATE SUBMITTED 1/28/08

PCC LOG NO. 07000

COLLEGE/SCHOOL_College of Education_

DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM_Curriculum & Instruction_

PROPOSED ACTION (A separate form for each) ADD____ DELETE____ CHANGE_X

DESCRIPTION (Provide a succinct account of the proposed action. Details should be provided in an attachment. Provide old and new sample programs for curriculum changes.)
The proposal is to add one subject area -- TESOL -- to the set of subject-specific areas which are part of the secondary education Master’s plus Certification (MCert) program, a set of alternative certification options offered as an Outreach initiative. See the attached for comparison of the program of studies for the added subject areas in relation to the curriculum of the existing options.

JUSTIFICATION/REASONS/RESOURCES (Briefly explain the reason for the proposed action. Identify the source of new resources that may be required. Details should be provided in an attachment.)
The University and the College of Education have articulated priorities for increasing the options for and enrollment in certification programs in secondary or K-12 education subject areas. The need for certified teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages is very high – in the region, in the state, and nationally. Moreover, school demographics indicate that those needs will continue to increase over the next two decades at least. EDCI offers a graduate TESOL initial certification plus master’s degree option on campus as a part time two year program and dovetails the majority of coursework for that option with a second field certification in TESOL option for classroom teachers already certified in another area. Over the past four years, the Department has duplicated this design in special off-campus cohorts in Montgomery County Public Schools and Prince George’s County Public Schools. We are anticipating limited part-time cohorts off campus for the next several years. The EDCI advising office reports they receive frequent requests from University of Maryland undergraduates, recent UMCP graduates and others seeking to meet the requirements for the master’s degree and teacher certification in TESOL in a compressed time frame. This proposal for added options to the MCert Program is responsive to those requests.

The curriculum will use some of the courses already offered through the existing MCert one year option and will incorporate the year-long internship experience which is one of the special strengths of the MCert option. The specific requirements for this option are consistent with the already approved graduate TESOL certification program and state-approved physical education program, including meeting the state-mandated two reading courses for subject area teachers. Resources for TESOL-specific courses and the graduate Kinesiology courses will come from each Department’s share of tuition revenue, so no new resources are being requested.
I. OVERVIEW and RATIONALE
The current on-campus option in TESOL admits approximately 15-17 new candidates annually and we expect to maintain that level of enrollment, especially for career change individuals who must continue to work while they complete the program requirements on a part-time basis. We expect that we will match that level of enrollment by the 08-09 academic year in the one-year MCert option.

II. CURRICULUM
Catalog description:
The Catalog description for the MCert program will be changed to include TESOL along with the existing areas: art, English, foreign languages, mathematics, science, and social studies. – see below:

The Maryland Master of Education with Certification Program (MCert) for Elementary or Secondary Education is an alternative teacher education program designed for highly educated and capable persons who have completed baccalaureate degrees in a variety of academic fields. Secondary education applicants may be required to take extra courses to bolster their academic content in some concentrations – in order to meet State and professional association requirements. The program admits one cohort (20-25 candidates) in elementary education and individual cohorts in secondary subject areas (e.g., art, English, foreign languages, mathematics, physical education, science, social studies, and TESOL). All options include carefully designed field experiences and guided internships, a focus on academic and professional inquiry and teaching for understanding through subject-based curriculum and pedagogy, and a commitment to understanding and accommodating the needs of diverse students in multicultural classrooms.

Program Goals:

The general goals for these added subject areas are consistent with the general goals for the MCert Program. These are:

1. Teacher candidates have in-depth knowledge of the subject matter they teach as articulated by professional and state standards and the ability to use and represent that knowledge effectively in their teaching.

2. Teacher candidates have knowledge of and can implement instruction effectively, including designing and planning for instruction, carrying out instructional activities important in their teaching areas, assessing students’ learning progress and achievement, and creating supportive classroom environments for all students.

3. Teacher candidates demonstrate appropriate professional dispositions, including making a commitment to meeting the needs of diverse students and acting responsibly as professionals in accord with professional, state, and institutional standards.

4. Candidates demonstrate their abilities to engage in disciplined inquiry on their own practice and on instructional issues.

Admission to this option will be consistent with admissions requirements for the existing TESOL M.Ed. with certification option and the current MCert options. These include: minimum 3.0 undergraduate GPA, meeting of subject area major or prerequisites, passing scores on all segments of the Praxis I examination, strong letters of recommendation, an effective application essay, and a strong interview (if required). Unlike other MCert secondary subject area options, candidates for the TESOL option will not generally have foundational coursework in the subject area as an academic major prior to the start of the program. In the part-time on-campus program, there are two courses – Foundations of Second Language Education (EDCI 630) and English Grammar (EDCI 635) – that are taken by candidates prior to the beginning of their program; in this option, these courses or their equivalents will be prerequisites for admission to the program. As prerequisites, these studies will ensure that applicants have at least minimal background and experience in the field to serve as a foundation for subsequent professional studies and to inform the admissions decision. TESOL candidates will be required to take and pass the Praxis II examination in TESOL before the start of the second semester of their internship assignments.
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