March 28, 2008

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 (PCC log no. 07033)

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. 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
DATE SUBMITTED____

COLLEGE/SCHOOL  College of Education

DEPARTMENT/PROGRAM  Department of Curriculum and Instruction

PROPOSED ACTION (A separate form for each)  ADD____ DELETE___ CHANGE  

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 proposed action is to drop the requirement of a second seminar paper for the MEd with a reading specialization.

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 MEd in reading education was originally designed to require two seminar papers. One of the seminar papers was imbedded in EDCI 663, while the second paper was completed independently of a course and in close collaboration with the student’s advisor. In our review of student work, we have concluded that completing two seminar papers is somewhat redundant; that one seminar paper growing out of work in several courses and developed in close collaboration with the student’s advisor will enhance the quality of student work.

APPROVAL SIGNATURES - Please print name, sign, and date

1. Department Committee Chair
   ___________________________  11/14/07

2. Department Chair
   ___________________________  12/13/07

3. College/School PCC Chair
   ___________________________  3/28/08

4. Dean
   ___________________________  3/28/08

5. Dean of the Graduate School (if required)
   ___________________________  3/28/08

6. Chair, Senate PCC
   ___________________________  3/28/08

7. Chair of Senate
   ___________________________  3/28/08

8. Vice President for Academic Affairs & Provost
   ___________________________  3/28/08

VPAAP 8-05
DESCRIPTION

Reading Education currently requires students to complete two seminar papers for graduation. One of these papers is imbedded in EDCI 663, while the second paper is completed as independent study in close collaboration with the student’s advisor. Both of these papers are typically literature reviews. We propose to change the graduation requirement to one seminar paper developed independently of a course and in close collaboration with the student’s advisor rather than two seminar papers. To provide additional support to students in writing a literature review, we have developed a rubric and a short handbook that we are sharing with students at the beginning of each semester.

RATIONALE

In our review of student work, we have concluded that completing two seminar papers is somewhat redundant; that one seminar paper growing out of work in several courses and developed in close collaboration with the student’s advisor will enhance the quality of the seminar paper. Our program prepares students for state certification as reading specialists. It is important that we maintain an optimal balance between scholarship and praxis. Having students focus their efforts on reviewing research in one area across several semesters will better maintain that balance.

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