

Board Meeting
January 21, 2010

REVISE AND RENAME THE BACHELOR OF ARTS IN ELEMENTARY
EDUCATION, COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, CHICAGO

Action: Approve Revision and Renaming of the Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education, College of Education

Funding: No New Funding Required

The Chancellor at Chicago with the advice of the Chicago Senate, and the College of Education, recommend the revision and renaming of the Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education as the Bachelor of Arts in Urban Education.

The College of Education seeks to rename the Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education as a Bachelor of Arts in Urban Education program and revise the program, including the establishment of two concentrations: Elementary Education (EE) and Education in a Democratic Society (EDS). In general, the program will admit students into the College of Education as freshmen rather than juniors; maintain a focus on teacher education through the continued implementation of an Elementary Teacher Education program (EE concentration) that is more closely aligned to the college mission; and, by offering an alternative concentration (EDS), increase the curricular options available to students who seek a degree in education but do not wish to obtain teacher certification. The revised program will prepare educators who can work effectively in Chicago neighborhood schools and other urban educational and community agencies where they are needed most.

The EE concentration provides the opportunity for students to become teachers for elementary school settings and earn a K through 9, Type 03 certificate. EE candidates are expected to develop: (1) a deep understanding of school and community contexts; (2) a personal investment in under-served schools; and 3) a commitment to critical self-reflection and inquiry into learning and teaching.

The proposed Elementary Education concentration consists of 65 to 67 credit hours, for a total of 129 to 131 credit hours required for the degree.

The EDS area of concentration offers opportunities for students to work as professionals in a variety of settings including school district offices; school boards; after-school programs in civic, religious, and educational organizations; educational foundations; and nonprofit agencies. This concentration provides students with (1) an understanding of educational institutions at multiple levels--from pre-kindergarten through higher education--and the interactions of all of these within particular social contexts; and (2) the ability to use evidence in support of educational ideas and arguments, especially as they are manifest in program development, program assessment, or in support and in working with various populations.

The proposed EDS concentration consists of 60 credit hours, for a total of 124 credit hours required for the degree.

The Board action recommended in this item complies in all material respects with applicable State and federal laws, University of Illinois *Statutes*, *The General Rules Concerning University Organization and Procedure*, and Board of Trustees policies and directives.

The Vice President for Academic Affairs concurs with this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved.

The Interim President of the University recommends approval. This action is subject to further review and approval by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.