

Board Meeting
March 13, 2007

ESTABLISH MASTER OF EDUCATION (M.ED.) IN MEASUREMENT,
EVALUATION, STATISTICS AND ASSESSMENT (MESA), COLLEGE OF
EDUCATION, CHICAGO

Action: Approve the Establishment of the Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Measurement, Evaluation, Statistics and Assessment (MESA), College of Education, Chicago

Funding: No Funding Required

The Chancellor at Chicago with the advice of the Chicago Senate, the Graduate College, and the College of Education, recommends the establishment of a new degree program, the Master of Education (M.Ed.) in Measurement, Evaluation, Statistics and Assessment (MESA).

The proposed degree is offered through the College of Education's Educational Psychology Area. It is designed to produce graduates with specialized knowledge in quantitative and qualitative methodologies.

This program is targeted to address the current industry-wide shortage of such personnel in government agencies, private companies (test developers, consultants), school districts (assessment coordinators), and academic institutions (research directors, institutional researchers). With the increasing pressure on educational institutions to demonstrate program effectiveness through outcomes-based performance monitoring, the future job growth in these fields is promising.

The curriculum is designed to provide core methodological competency (Research Methods Core). Electives will be offered in psychometrics, statistics, evaluation, assessment, qualitative inquiry, and content area specific research methodology. The range of electives and an option to take courses outside the College of Education provide the student the flexibility to focus on an area of interest to meet specific career goals. For students who may later wish to pursue a doctoral degree, a thesis option is provided. Students must take a minimum of 32 credit hours beyond the baccalaureate.

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 University Senates Conference has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved.

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