

Board Meeting  
May 17, 2007

REDESIGNATE AREAS OF THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION INTO THE  
DEPARTMENTS OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION, EDUCATIONAL  
PSYCHOLOGY, EDUCATIONAL POLICY STUDIES, AND SPECIAL EDUCATION,  
COLLEGE OF EDUCATION, CHICAGO

**Action:** Approve the Redesignation of Areas of the College of Education into the Departments of Curriculum and Instruction, Educational Psychology, Educational Policy Studies, and Special Education, 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 reorganization of the College of Education into the Departments of Curriculum and Instruction, Educational Psychology, Educational Policy Studies, and Special Education.

Over the last decade, the College of Education has grown in both size and complexity. Much of this growth has been desirable and intentional, but in the Office of the Dean, it translates into numerous day-to-day decisions regarding human resources, budget, space and facilities tied to programs, centers, and partnerships. While the present structure--essentially, one large department--was effective a decade ago, the present environment of the College strongly suggests that decision-making must be distributed beyond the Office of the Dean.

Local and State mandates and expectations increasingly place demands on the College. These demands, as well as the constrained budget environment, raise the expectation that the Dean's role focus more on external constituencies for the development and advancement of the College. To accomplish that, the College must adopt an administrative model in which faculty share responsibility.

Without a formal departmental structure, the College has not had a mechanism for decentralized authority to make fiscal and human resource decisions. A formal departmental structure allows academic decision-making that is closer to the disciplines. In addition, the present structure has limited this College's opportunity at the campus level. Much of the campus-level faculty participation in governance and access to resources occurs through departmental representation.

For these reasons, it is important for the College to move some decision-making authority, and accompanying resources, to department chairs within a departmental structure.

In this structure, the department title "Educational Policy Studies" is being proposed in place of the current "Policy Studies" because it better represents the identity of the department and makes it more recognizable among other campus programs.

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.