

Board Meeting
July 13, 2006

REDESIGNATE DEGREE TITLE IN ART EDUCATION FROM ED.D. TO PH.D.,
URBANA

Action: Approve the Redesignation of Degree Title in Art Education from Ed.D. to Ph.D., Urbana

Funding: No Funding Required

The Chancellor at Urbana with the advice of the Urbana-Champaign Senate recommends a proposal from the Graduate College and the College of Fine and Applied Arts to change the degree title in Art Education from Ed.D. to Ph.D.

The current Ed.D. degree in Art Education is identical to a Ph.D. degree in terms of scholarly rigor, course requirements, research requirements, quality of work expected, and time to completion. A systematic comparison with the two major Ph.D. programs in art education in the United States shows identical general requirements regarding admission requirements, length of study, coursework load, exams and finals, and residency requirements. Regarding admission requirements, the Urbana campus' Art Education program requires a higher grade point average than peer institutions. Comparisons with the College of Education's Ph.D. program indicate identical general requirements. This proposal seeks only to change the degree title and does not address content or degree requirements.

The Ed.D. is often regarded as a practice-oriented degree primarily sought by administrators. Whereas, graduates of the program at Urbana normally are appointed to teaching positions in higher education for which the Ph.D. is the normally desired terminal degree. The program documentation makes clear that the purpose of the degree is “designed specifically for advanced level art education students who want to pursue scholarly study and research in art education.” The change of degree title would therefore better reflect the outcome, for graduates of this degree program.

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 in this recommendation. The University Senates Conference has indicated that no further Senate jurisdiction is involved.

The President of the University recommends approval, pending further review by the Illinois Board of Higher Education.