Request: School of Teacher Education Proposed Consolidation

Institution: Florida State University  
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New Doctorate Program: Ph.D. in Curriculum and Instruction 
CIP Code: 13.0301


The School of Teacher Education (STE) proposes to consolidate existing graduate degrees (10 independent masters, 10 independent specialist, and nine (9) independent doctoral) to a single masters, single specialist, and single doctoral degree, respectively. The consolidated degrees would each be titled Curriculum and Instruction (CIP 13.0301). Each current, independent degree (e.g., Elementary Education, English Education, Special Education) would thus be subsumed within each of the Curriculum and Instruction degrees as a major at the appropriate levels (Masters degree in Curriculum and Instruction; Educational Specialist Degree in Curriculum and Instruction; PhD Degree in Curriculum and Instruction).

The proposed curricula do not impact existing tracks leading to Master’s level teacher certification. These curricula remain intact as currently approved by the Florida Department of Education and are subsumed within individual majors resulting from the proposed degree consolidations. The consolidation is also revenue neutral, with all faculty and instructional resources that currently exist in support of the multiple degree programs being used to implement the new program and its majors.

The goal of the School of Teacher Education is to create an inclusive pool of faculty possessing graduate faculty status. The school already has an adequate faculty body to implement and conduct the proposed consolidated degrees and their associated majors.

The proposal notes that students currently enrolled in any of the programs proposed for consolidation will be allowed to choose whether to continue with their current program or switch to the proposed program in Curriculum and Instruction. The proposed phase out date is August 1, 2015.

In addition to electronic communications, students and faculty will be invited to attend information sessions that will address their questions and concerns. According to the proposal a total of 26 faculty members will be impacted. Data from the State University System Database show that 278 students will be impacted by the consolidation (219 at beginning graduate level and 59 at advanced graduate level).

The 29 existing independent programs will be terminated effective December 01, 2012, with the phase-out date set for August 01, 2015. Admissions into the proposed program are expected to begin summer 2013.