

Submitted by: Keith E. Whitfield, Provost

## **DISCONTINUANCE OF EIGHT MASTER OF EDUCATION MAJORS IN TEACHER EDUCATION AND THE JOINT MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAM IN SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION AND HISTORY**

### **Recommendation**

It is recommended that the Board of Governors approve the discontinuance of the following Master of Education majors, effective Fall 2016:

- Bilingual-Bicultural Education
- Early Childhood Education
- Elementary Education
- Foreign Language Education-Secondary
- Mathematics Education-Secondary
- Science Education-Secondary
- Social Studies Education-Secondary
- Special Education
- Joint Master's Degree program for the Master of Education in Social Studies Education-Secondary and the Master of Arts in History.

### **Program Description**

The Masters of Education program is one of the routes by which teachers holding a provisional teaching certificate can meet the academic requirements for the professional educator certificate. These graduate programs are for teachers and other professionals interested in gaining additional content and pedagogical knowledge.

### **Rationale**

The discontinued majors will be consolidated under a new broad major of Teaching and Learning with concentrations in each of the eight areas. This change is made to unify the master's program with common goals and learning outcomes under the umbrella of "teaching and learning" and to create a more robust and diverse learning experience for students by drawing upon the varied expertise and experiences of the faculty and student body. Additionally, this change will help to increase the division's efficiency in advising and support services for students.

### **Accommodations for Current Students**

With the exception of the Joint Master's Degree, all current students in the discontinued majors will be transferred into the new major of Teaching and Learning. Currently, there are no active students in the Joint Degree program (the last student graduated in May 2016). A recommendation for the establishment of the new major in Teaching and Learning is being presented as a separate but related request for approval. Following approval by the Board of Governors, the Associate Provost and Dean of the Graduate School will approve the concentrations for the new major.

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### **Approvals**

The faculty of the Teacher Education Division, the College of Education Faculty Assembly, the Dean of the College of Education, the Graduate Council, the Dean of the Graduate School, and the the Provost have approved the discontinuance of these programs. In addition, the request for the discontinuances of the Joint Degree program was approved by the faculty and Chair of the Department of History, the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Faculty Council, the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the Graduate Council, the Dean of the Graduate School, and the Provost.