

MEMORANDUM

TO: Council on Graduate Studies
Council on Teacher Education

FROM: Diane H. Jackman, Dean
College of Education and Professional Studies

DATE: April 20, 2012

RE: Executive Action Item

The following was approved by executive action at the College of Education and Professional Studies Curriculum Committee meeting on April 2, 2012. I concur with the revision and ask the changes be made by executive action. The effective date should be Fall 2012.

Requested Change: to revise the mission statement for the M.S. in Education in Elementary Education.

~~The Department of Early Childhood, Elementary, and Middle Level Education seeks to advance scholarly preparation by providing quality teaching and promoting excellence in research activity in order for graduate students to exemplify best teaching practices for children from birth through age fourteen. The department is dedicated to the preparation of knowledgeable citizens of the 21st century and seeks to empower individuals to meet the challenges faced by professional educators in a rapidly changing society. Candidates for the Master of Science in Education Degree will be prepared to teach in diverse environments recognizing multiple pathways of learning. The Department is committed to enhancing the graduate academic experience in order to create educators who can function effectively in a culturally diverse, technologically advanced, and global environment in order to engage learning at all levels.~~

The Graduate Program in Elementary Education advances scholarly preparation by providing quality teaching and promoting excellence in research/creative activity in order for graduate students to exemplify best teaching practices for children from birth through age fourteen. The graduate curriculum encompasses comprehensive content knowledge and promotes the use of critical thinking and problem solving to cultivate teacher-researchers who are empowered to serve as leaders in the profession. Faculty members challenge students to bridge the gap between theory and practice as they develop the skills required for ethical and effective collaboration and communication within the local school community and a culturally diverse, technologically advanced global environment.

Rationale for the change:

As our department readies itself for our First Choice consultation next fall we realized that our mission statement was never revisited when the new graduate program was implemented in 2006. We have revised our mission statement to better align with our current program goals and our assessments.

cc: Dr. Russell