University Council

April 15, 2022

UNIVERSITY CURRICULUM COMMITTEE – 2021-2022
Susan Sanchez, Chair
Agricultural and Environmental Sciences – Nicholas Fuhrman
Arts and Sciences – Jonathan Haddad (Arts)
Rodney Mauricio (Sciences)
Business – Jim Carson
Ecology – Amanda Rugenski
Education – David Jackson
Engineering – Kun Yao
Environment and Design – Ashley Steffens
Family and Consumer Sciences – Sheri Worthy
Forestry and Natural Resources – Joseph Dahlen
Journalism and Mass Communication – Dodie Cantrell-Bickley
Law – Randy Beck
Pharmacy – Michelle McElhannon
Public and International Affairs – Leah Carmichael
Public Health – Allan Tate
Social Work – Harold Briggs
Veterinary Medicine – Shannnon Hostetter
Graduate School – Wendy Ruona
Ex-Officio – Provost S. Jack Hu
Undergraduate Student Representative – Matthew Jue
Graduate Student Representative – Sarah Burns

Dear Colleagues:

The attached proposals from the Mary Frances Early College of Education to terminate the major in Science Education (M.Ed.) on the Athens and Gwinnett campuses only will be agenda items for the April 22, 2022, Full University Curriculum Committee meeting.

Sincerely,

Susan Sanchez, Chair
University Curriculum Committee

cc: Provost S. Jack Hu
    Dr. Marisa Pagnattaro
PROPOSAL FOR DEACTIVATION OR TERMINATION OF AN ACADEMIC PROGRAM

Date: December 9, 2021

School/College: Mary Frances Early College of Education

Department/Division: Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies Education

Program (Major and Degree): Science Education (M.Ed.) – Athens campus only

Which campus(es) offer this program? Athens, Gwinnett, and Online

Deactivation or Termination? Termination of the Athens campus only

Proposed Effective Date: Fall 2022

Last date students will be admitted to this program: Fall 2018

Last date students will graduate from this program: Summer 2022

Program Abstract:
The Master of Education in Science Education (M.Ed.) focuses on teaching and learning in the natural sciences at the secondary level (Grades 6-12). The program is designed for teachers professionally certified in a secondary science field (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth/Space Sciences, and “Broad Field” Secondary Science) or in Middle Grades Education with a specialization in Science Education. Graduates qualify for a teaching certification upgrade from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission. Students and instructors address the unique challenges and opportunities faced by secondary science teachers today and emphasize an understanding of research-based practices that build on their applied professional expertise developed from classroom experience.

1. State the reasons for terminating the program, and provide copies of any relevant documents.
The Athens campus-based Science Education (M.Ed.) has witnessed drastic enrollment declines since the launch of the online Science Education (M.Ed.). Currently, there are two students in the Athens-based program, which does not meet the university minimum criteria for course enrollments. Because the online program can reach students across the state of Georgia, and because of its capability to allow the students to pursue the degree on a part-time basis while maintaining full-time employment, forecasts for enrollment in the face-to-face, campus-based program are not expected to increase. The department does not have the resources to offer both in-person and online versions of the required courses, and there was a greater market demand for the online option, which as of fall 2021 has 37 students enrolled.

2. What will be done to minimize the impact of the termination of the program upon the personal and professional lives of the faculty and staff involved? Include specific information on: a) how faculty and staff will be notified of the termination, and b) how faculty and staff will be reallocated.
Of the two students remaining in the program, one student will complete the degree in spring 2022 and the other in summer 2022. All faculty within the Science Education program have moved their M.Ed. teaching to the online format.

3. What will be done to ensure that termination of the program does not weaken other programs (graduate, undergraduate, or professional) for which the department may be responsible?
Current enrollment in the online Master of Education in Science Education (fall 2021 enrollment: N = 37), with little or no enrollment in the face-to-face program, suggests that there will be no negative impact on the online program if the face-to-face option is terminated.
Date: December 6, 2021

School/College: Mary Frances Early College of Education

Department/Division: Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies Education

Program (Major and Degree): Science Education (M.Ed.) – Gwinnett campus only

Which campus(es) offer this program? Athens, Gwinnett, and Online

Deactivation or Termination? Termination of the Gwinnett campus only

Proposed Effective Date: Summer 2022

Last date students will be admitted to this program: No students are enrolled on the Gwinnett campus

Last date students will graduate from this program: No students are enrolled on the Gwinnett campus

Program Abstract:
The Master of Education in Science Education focuses on teaching and learning in the natural sciences at the secondary level (grades 6-12). The program is designed for teachers professionally certified in a secondary science field (Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Earth/Space Sciences, and “Broad Field” Secondary Science) or in Middle Grades Education with a specialization in Science Education. Graduates qualify for a teaching certification upgrade from the Georgia Professional Standards Commission. Students and instructors address the unique challenges and opportunities faced by secondary science teachers today and emphasize an understanding of research-based practices that build on their applied professional expertise developed from classroom experience.

1. State the reasons for terminating the program, and provide copies of any relevant documents.
   This proposal is to terminate Science Education (M.Ed.) at the Gwinnett campus only. The Mary Frances Early College of Education was contacted by the Office of Accreditation and Institutional Effectiveness to validate programs offered across University of Georgia campuses for the university’s SACSCOC accreditation process. Science Education (M.Ed.) is approved for the Gwinnett campus, but there are no faculty assigned to, nor are there any students on, the Gwinnett program.

2. What will be done to minimize the impact of the termination of the program upon the personal and professional lives of the faculty and staff involved? Include specific information on: a) how faculty and staff will be notified of the termination, and b) how faculty and staff will be reallocated. Not applicable, as the program is not offered at the Gwinnett campus.

3. What will be done to insure that termination of the program does not weaken other programs (graduate, undergraduate, or professional) for which the department may be responsible? Not applicable, as the program is not offered at the Gwinnett campus.
Documentation of Approval and Notification

Proposal: Termination of Science Education (M.Ed.) at the Athens and Gwinnett Campuses

College: Mary Frances Early College of Education

Department: Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies Education

Proposed Effective Term: Summer 2022

Department:
- Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies Education Department Head, Dr. Roger Hill, 12/9/2021

School/College:
- Mary Frances Early College of Education Dean, Dr. Denise Spangler, 12/9/2021
- Mary Frances Early College of Education Associate Dean, Dr. Stacey Neuharth-Pritchett, 2/22/22

Graduate School:
- Graduate School Associate Dean, Dr. Anne Shaffer, 3/17/22