Proposal for an External Degree
The University of Georgia

Institution: University of Georgia Date: March 1, 2006

College/School/Division: College of Education

Department: Department of Mathematics and Science Education

Degree (please indicate whether this is a stand-alone degree): MEd and EdS (stand-alone degrees)

Major: Mathematics Education

CIP Code: _____

Proposed Start Date: Fall 2006

The proposal for an External Degree must include a brief narrative that addresses the following points and completion of the attached Addendum for Distance Education Delivery of New Programs.

1. Assessment

The eight school superintendents in the Griffin Regional Education Service Agency area have indicated the need for degree programs to provide elementary school teachers with enhanced mathematics content and pedagogical knowledge. We have sought to start a program in area counties for over a year using other funding sources and have a pool of 15 teachers that have expressed serious interest thus far (e.g., applying to the Graduate School). Because this degree program will draw from a wider geographic area than we had been mining, we anticipate sufficient enrollments to warrant offering the degree programs.

2. Admission Requirements

The admissions requirements will be the same as for the on-campus degree. Namely, MEd applicants will be required to have GRE scores of 400 (verbal), 400 (quantitative) and 850 (verbal + quantitative), a 2.5 undergraduate GPA, and 3 letters of recommendation. All EdS applicants will be required to have GRE scores of 450 (verbal), 450 (quantitative) and 950 (verbal + quantitative), a 2.5 undergraduate GPA, an appropriate graduate degree, and 3 letters of recommendation.

3. Program Content

The basic curriculum of the program will be equivalent to the on-campus program. The MEd program will consist of one course in the foundations of mathematics education,

one course in mathematics education curriculum, one course in mathematics education teaching/learning, 6 courses in mathematics content, one course in mathematics education research, and two internship courses. In addition to these courses, EdS students will complete a course on supervision and will have the option to complete a course to prepare for National Board certification.

4. Student Advising

Each student will have a faculty advisor. A degree program assistant will also support the program and assist students with paperwork.

5. Resident Requirements

No more than 6 hours of credit may be transferred into the program. There is no requirement for full-time study as the students are employed full-time and pursuing the degree part-time.

6. Program Management

Program maintenance and quality: We have offered this program off-site in two other places and have a committed cadre of faculty in mathematics education, mathematics, and statistics to teach these courses. The degree programs are subject to review by the Georgia Professional Standards Commission and the National Council for Accreditation in Teacher Education.

Timetable: The program will begin in Fall 2006, and students will graduate in the summer of 2009. We will offer one course each fall, one course each spring, and two courses each summer. Academic year courses will be offered in the evening one night per week. Summer courses will be offered in short session format (daily for 4 weeks).

Program Review: The Department of Mathematics and Science Education will undergo Program Review during the 2006-07 school year, and this program will be reviewed.

Duplication: Columbus State University and the University of West Georgia offer graduate degrees in mathematics education. We believe that these universities are sufficiently far away from Griffin to minimize competition for students. The Griffin Regional Education Service Agency offers professional development courses for teachers (but not for graduate credit). We believe that our degree programs will attract different students than the courses offered by RESA that do not lead to graduate credit or a degree.

7. Library and Laboratory Resources

The CAES Griffin Campus Library, a branch of the University of Georgia Libraries, is located on the first floor of the Stuckey Building. Existing library holdings at the Griffin site are not geared toward education courses. However, the library does provide on-line access to all Elsevier, Kluwer, Blackwell and Wiley Journals, the GIL on-line

catalog, the GALILEO on-line databases, and document delivery service. Thus, we anticipate providing photocopies of printed resources, utilizing electronic resources, and encouraging students to use resources that are available at their work sites.

8. Budget

This is an existing degree program, so there are no program development costs. The budget request submitted to the Provost includes $86,000 in state money for a degree program assistant ($28,000), a full-time tenure-track faculty member ($55,000), and search expenses for the faculty position ($3000). The program will be operated as a tuition-return program with all additional expenses (such as travel, computers, furniture, telecommunications) covered by excess tuition returns. For the first year (FY 07), we have budgeted $1500 for travel, $7500 for computers and software, and $6300 for administrative supplies (including furniture) to get the program started. In subsequent years, excess tuition return monies will be used to support graduate teaching assistants, travel, necessary upgrades to computers and software, etc. No additional expenses are anticipated for subsequent cohorts.

9. Program Costs Assessed to Students

Students will pay tuition and applicable fees only.

10. Accreditation

The program will be reviewed as part of the regular accreditation of the College of Education by NCATE and the university by SACS.