

College of Education – Elimination of the School Counseling Programs

Comment [t1]: Top Margin .3

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Comment [t2]: Title of Item, Underlines

This is a recommendation of the Academic and Student Affairs Committee that the M.Ed. in School Counseling and Ph.D. Specialization in Counselor Education and Supervision in the College of Education, be eliminated effective June 30, 2004.

Comment [t3]: If more than one page, please use "header" for the item name

Comment [t4]: Font: Times New Roman; Size: 12

Comment [t5]: ALL CAPS & UNDERLINE

BACKGROUND:

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For many years, the College of Education had an exceptional school counseling program. The graduates of the program have been recognized in the field for their strong academic preparation and leadership abilities.

Comment [t7]: ALL CAPS & UNDERLINE

Within the past decade, two of the three faculty members in school counseling have retired. The College elected to hire faculty members into areas of concentration other than school counseling. In 2002, the one remaining faculty member in school counseling relocated to another university. No new students have been admitted to the programs since 2001-02. The last cohort of master's students in school counseling graduated in Spring 2003. The remaining Ph.D. students have sought alternative advisors and will soon be completing their dissertation defenses.

Following Faculty Handbook rules governing the Reorganization, Elimination, and Consolidation of Programs (RCEP), in March 2003, a formal review of the School Counseling Programs was initiated under Faculty Code Section 26-41. In June 2003, the Faculty Council and the Program Identification Committee (PIC) for the College of Education recommended that the School Counseling Programs be eliminated. The work of the Faculty Council and PIC was supported by an independent study of the viability of moving the School Counseling M.Ed. program to a self-sustaining program. It was concluded that a self-sustaining program without tenure-track faculty, and without a linked Ph.D. program to provide supporting mentors for master's students, would likely be marginalized within the College of Education. Further, such a program would compete with 12 other programs in the state that prepare school counselors, would require an annual cohort of students at least twice as large as any the College has attracted in recent years, and would have to be offered at a high tuition rate in comparison with other institutions in the state. It was concluded that the demand for school counselors can be filled by other state-based education programs and that the elimination of the degrees will have limited affect on the overall College curriculum and no affect on the College faculty.

In February 2004, the RCEP Committee for the College of Education's School Counseling Programs submitted its report to President Huntsman. Consistent with Section 26-41C, the Committee conducted an open review, which included comment from faculty, students, community professionals, and members of the public. The Committee concluded that the elimination of the M.Ed. in School Counseling and the Ph.D. Specialization in Counselor Education and Supervision is a rational step that makes sense given the current economic climate. The review of the School Counseling Programs was presented to the Senate Committee on Planning and Budgeting, which endorsed the elimination recommendation.

VII. STANDING COMMITTEES

A. Academic and Student Affairs Committee

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In an ideal world, a College of Education would offer a school counseling program. However, current economics prevent that at this time. It is important to note that many other such opportunities exist elsewhere in this state for students to receive educational degrees in this area, critical to the success of students in the K-12 environment.

NOTE: Please Use a Header. Text should be Upper and Lower Case, and the title should be Underlined (per example here). When setting up your header, choose “Page Setup”, “Layout”, and “Different First Page” so the header does not print on the first page.

Attachments: RCEP Committee Report
Report of Comments from Open Review

A-5/205
5/21/04

2/215

Comment [kak8]: List the titles of all attachments & enclosures

Comment [kak9]: List the titles of all attachments & enclosures

Comment [t10]: For BoR Office

Comment [t11]: For BoR Office

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