

Sue,

The expedited packet is lengthy because of the many consultations we completed. Below is a summary of the changes that I hope is helpful to you and the Senate. Please let me know if you have questions.

Jill

C&I is proposing parallel changes to Elementary Education, Middle Level Education, and Early Childhood Education, because all three majors share courses (Professional Sequence and Methods, at the very least). Plus newly licensed teachers should have the same preparation if they will be teaching the same classes, such as K-3 classrooms that fall under both Elementary Education and Early Childhood Education.

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We have to plan for when students will be recommended for licensure, not when they enter the university or program. Students beginning as freshmen this fall would not be able to complete the current program (an extended program) before the implementation date of Sept. 1, 2015, unless they opted to take summer school one or more semesters. The Board of Educational Examiners will not "grandfather" students in based on the date they started at UNI or when they declared their major. In fact, we will have to monitor current freshman and perhaps some sophomores to be sure they have been recommended for licensure prior to Sept. 1, 2015. We'll also need to make sure that transfer students currently at community colleges understand that the new endorsement requirements are likely to affect them as well.

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The new endorsement requires students to have both methods in BOTH PE and Health education. Students could previously choose to take methods in one area or the other. We have simply required students to take an existing combined methods course that the School of HPELS has been offering as an option for some time. The other option was to require students to take separate methods courses (5 hours) in health and PE.

* Another new requirement adds drama methods to the music and art methods requirement. The current 210:123 Expressive Arts course already meets the minimum requirements because drama has been a part of this course for over 20 years. Meetings with the Fine Arts faculty included an invitation to develop courses in the three areas, or one collaboratively taught course, to meet the requirement as an alternative to 210:123 so that students could have a choice.

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The majors have "increased" through the addition of 1 additional content course in science, and 1 additional content in math. The alternative was asking math and science faculty in CNS to "compact"

their current courses. This would require them to make major changes that would only serve elementary education students. The revised major provides students with more content knowledge in these two key areas without placing a huge curriculum revision burden on faculty.

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The revised major actually eliminates the requirement that students have a 24 hour area of specialization or additional endorsement. This means that the changes that have been made actually move the elementary education program from being an extended program to being 128 hours or less, with a few hours for electives.

* The proposed changes for Middle Level courses are the result of new interpretations by the BOEE of curriculum exhibits; those interpretations mean that the current program is no longer in compliance with state requirements. Middle Level Dual Majors can no longer choose between Elementary and Middle Level versions of some courses, but must in fact take both. So one course is being expanded from K-6 to K-8, and another Middle Level course is dropping from 3 to 2 hours--both are efforts to keep the Middle Level major at an acceptable length.