

Contact: Diana Gonzalez

**REQUEST TO TERMINATE MASTER OF ARTS PROGRAM IN COMPUTER SCIENCE
EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN IOWA**

Action Requested: Consider approval of the request by the University of Northern Iowa to terminate the Master of Arts Program in Computer Science Education in the College of Natural Sciences.

Executive Summary: The request to discontinue the program is based on lack of student enrollment or interest. In recent years, students have chosen to enroll in the Master of Science Program in Computer Science. This request was reviewed by the Board Office and the Council of Provosts and is recommended for approval. There are no objections to the program termination. This request is consistent with the Board of Regents Strategic Plan strategy (4.1.1) to “pursue opportunities to realize greater efficiency in operations, consistent with best practices in the delivery of education and other services.”

Background:

- ◇ **Description of program.** This Program is designed for students who are interested primarily in educationally-related professional careers in computer science. The teaching emphasis applies knowledge from education to the teaching of computer science.
- ◇ **Reasons for proposed termination.** The last program graduate finished in 2002. There is insufficient interest from students to continue the program.
- ◇ **Program phase-out.** A phase-out of the program will not be necessary because there are currently no students enrolled in the program. If the proposed termination is approved by the Board, it will become effective immediately.
- ◇ **Reallocation of resources.** All program resources will be re-allocated to other offerings in the College of Natural Sciences.
- ◇ **Program alternatives.** In recent years, students have chosen to enroll in the Master of Science Program in Computer Science, which is designed to foster preparation for applied professional careers in the computing sciences. The program emphasizes concentration in a professional sub-discipline, while providing enough breadth and theory to enable the graduate to adapt to developments in the discipline as a whole.