REQUEST FOR NEW PROGRAM AT IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY:
MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING: SECONDARY EDUCATION

**Action Requested:** Consider approval of the request by Iowa State University for a Master of Arts in Teaching: Secondary Education in the College of Human Sciences.

The Council of Provosts and Board office support approval of this program.

**Description of proposed program.** The Secondary Education major within the MAT degree will allow departments at Iowa State that currently offer a post-baccalaureate program for educator preparation (e.g., students complete additional undergraduate coursework to complete program requirements) to give students the option to complete this work as a Master of Arts in Teaching degree. The program is designed to support individuals who already hold a bachelor's degree as they complete the additional requirements (including student teaching) needed to be recommended to the Iowa Board of Educational Examiners for licensure as a secondary (grades 5-12) teacher. Currently, educator preparation faculty in English Education, Family and Consumer Sciences Education, and World Languages and Cultures Education have expressed interest in making this option available to their students.

**Academic objectives.** Students will complete the coursework and field experiences needed to be recommended for secondary teacher licensure in the state of Iowa.

**Relationship to existing programs at the institution.** The MAT major in Secondary Education will mesh with existing undergraduate educator preparation programs at Iowa State. As is currently the case in secondary mathematics and science, dual-listed courses, particularly in instructional methods, will provide a means to meet varying student demands without increasing resource demands. The programs are not duplicative, as they provide students with an additional option (to pursue a program leading to recommendation for teacher licensure) at the graduate level.

**Relationship to existing programs at other colleges and universities.** The proposed major is an extension of existing undergraduate programs at Iowa State. ISU offers the only Family and Consumer Sciences Education program in the state. English Education and World Languages Education programs are also offered at the University of Iowa, University of Northern Iowa, Drake, and several private colleges and universities in the state.

**Unique features.** It is appropriate that Iowa State would prepare secondary education teachers as part of our land grant mission to meet the needs of the the state of Iowa, the nation and the world.

**Resources to establish a high-quality program.** Because this is an extension of an existing program, the existing ISU personnel, facilities and equipment are adequate to continue the current high-quality program. In the event that significant numbers of students are attracted to the program, the units within ISU's Educator Preparation program will seek additional resources to support this demand. Instructors for all dual-listed (undergraduate/graduate) courses will have graduate faculty or graduate lecturer status.

**Student demand.** These students will be identified through existing methods, primarily inquiries from individuals who have completed bachelor's degrees and wish to make a career change to
teaching. Providing an MAT option will allow students more choices (currently only the post-bac option is available) and allow us to retain students at ISU who currently opt to go to other institutions where they can complete a comparable program and complete a master’s degree along with the educator preparation requirements.

Workforce need/demand. According to the U.S. Department of Education’s Teacher Shortage Areas website (https://tsa.ed.gov/#/home/), Iowa has shortages of secondary teachers in the areas of Family and Consumer Science and in World Languages.

Cost. The department has the necessary faculty and coursework in place to offering the program.

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Accreditation. No additional accreditation is required for this major.

Evaluation plan. This program will be incorporated into the university’s normal academic review process. That review process assesses whether the program is achieving its mission, providing high quality academic experiences, and fulfilling the enrollment and success metrics identified for the program. In addition to the academic program review, as a part of the college budgeting process the program will be monitored annually for achievement of enrollment goals. Assessment of learning outcomes will be monitored to ensure students are meeting the desired learning objectives and for continual improvement of the program.

Date of implementation. August 2021.
December 9, 2020

Dean Laura Jolly
E262 Lagomarcino Hall
Iowa State University
901 Stange Rd.
Ames, Iowa 50011

Dear Dean Jolly:

I am in support of the three new majors the Iowa State School of Education is proposing. As was the case for our double degrees, these new majors (one undergraduate and two graduate) ensure students are acknowledged for having completed teacher preparation coursework aligned with these proposed new majors through the School of Education. This documentation recognizes teaching as a profession while also acknowledging the importance of content expertise for those preparing to enter the teaching profession.

As you note in the proposal, the second undergraduate major would acknowledge the additional work being completed by your teacher candidates compared to students pursuing the content-area program but not educator preparation. The MAT in Mathematics Education major as proposed ensures Mathematics Education degree candidates’ major more accurately reflects the work they are completing. The MAT in Secondary Education graduate major will provide candidates completing educator preparation the opportunity to receive a Master of Arts in Teaching degree for the work they have completed.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this proposal. We look forward to Iowa Board of Regents approval so that you can move forward with these majors – majors that recognize the completion of professional education requirements as well as disciplinary majors.

Sincerely,

Daniel L. Clay, Ph.D., MBA
Dean and Professor
December 7, 2020

Dean Laura Dunn Jolly
College of Human Sciences
Iowa State University
E262 Lagomarcino Hall
901 Stange Rd.
Ames, Iowa 50011

Dear Dean Jolly:

Thank you for email inquiry requesting a letter of support for your proposal to offer three new majors – one undergraduate and two graduate – in educator preparation at Iowa State University.

We understand the need to revise current programming and that the proposals moving forward are not for a new programs, rather they are proposals to offer majors or change the major for existing programs. The undergraduate second major in education would acknowledge the additional work completed by your current secondary candidates compared to students pursuing the content-area program but not educator preparation.

Both MAT programs are not new programs, rather new pathways to a degree through an existing program: MAT in Mathematics Education (shifting the degree candidates receive to better reflect the work they are completing) and MAT in Secondary Education (for candidates already completing the educator preparation program to receive a degree).

We support you and your faculty in the development of these revised avenues for students at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Thank you for your continued commitment to the profession of teaching.

We wish you continued success in these endeavors.

Sincerely,

Colleen S. Mulholland [electronic signature]

Colleen S. Mulholland, Ed.D., NBCT
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